

Frequently Asked Questions of the Wyoming Area Board of Education

(These questions were sent to the Wyoming Area Board of Education. Questions and answers will be added as they are received. Some wording of the received questions may have been changed because some were repetitive.)

1. If there is a case of Covid in the district, will families be notified?

The district will follow CDC Guidelines and the directives of the Department of Health. Families will be notified of any cases and the procedures to be followed by the district.

2. Will there be an educational plan for students that may have to be quarantined?

The educational plan is being completed by a curriculum team. Addressing the needs of quarantined students will be considered as the plan is being finalized.

3. What will happen if parents decide that they do not want their child to wear a mask?

Masks are required on buses, upon entrance to school, in hallways and while moving around the classroom. Students may remove masks while at their desks, six feet socially distanced and seated while using their desk shield. They also will use desk shields in the cafeteria and be in assigned seats and may remove their masks for lunch. A doctor's note is required for any exceptions. If a child has compromised health, individual discussions will be held to best accommodate a student's educational needs and protect other students.

4. What if a child travels to an area outside of Pennsylvania? Will they be quarantined?

The district will follow suggested CDC guidelines. If Self Quarantining is suggested, the district will follow suit. The district would work with families to provide educational needs. It is also suggested that families follow guidelines and avoid travel to "hot" areas.

5. Will CDC guidelines be followed?

The Wyoming Area School District Health and Safety Plan includes following CDC guidelines.

6. Who is the district point of contact should a child become ill with the virus?

The school superintendent and the building principals will be the points of contact.

7. Who is enforcing social distancing on school buses?

The district is working closely with the transportation company to plan for social distancing on buses. There will be one student per seat, unless there are family members. Family members may sit together. All students will wear masks. Buses will be loaded with the back of the bus filled first. Students will get off the bus from the front first. Drivers will wear masks and buses will be sanitized after each run. Principals will assist with loading of buses, upon dismissal. Parents will receive written directives from principals about bus safety. Violations will be addressed by the district and families will be alerted, if necessary.

8. What PPE will be provided in classrooms?

All classrooms have hand sanitizer dispensers. Wipes will be provided in every classroom. Gloves will be provided. Desk shields are provided. Frequent sanitization will be done. Daily sanitizing will be done. Masks will be utilized. Products will be readily available at all times.

9. What is the plan for extra-curricular activities, other than sports?

Decisions for extra-curricular activities will be made as we get closer to the beginning of the school year.

10. Could parents enroll in a cyber program until they feel comfortable returning to school?

Wyoming Area does have a cyber platform. Anyone interested may contact Robert Gallela, Curriculum Director, at rgallela@wyomingarea.org

11. What about students with pre-existing medical conditions?

Parents are asked to contact their building principal. The building principal will discuss each individual situation. Parents will be asked to provide documentation of such a condition where applicable.

12. How will chrome books be protected?

Cases will be provided for the chrome books.

13. Can students participate virtually five days a week, if we do not want cyber school?

At this point, our model is hybrid. Teachers will be preparing student on-line work to fit the hybrid model. The other option is to participate in the Wyoming Area Cyber School.

14. What about dress code?

Our principals will provide information. Please call your building principal with any individual questions. Otherwise, the dress code will remain in effect.

15. Are you shutting down school should someone get sick?

Each situation will be evaluated following CDC guidelines and the recommendation of the Department of Health.

16. Will related arts classes still be taught?

Yes, but the types of activities will be considered to keep the safety of all in mind.

17. What material will be taught during virtual lessons?

The curriculum team is in the process of finalizing those plans. Parents will receive details and the educational plan will be posted to our website. This plan is separate from the Health and Safety Plan.

18. Can parents choose cyber or cyber-charter (other than the Wyoming Area Cyber School)?

Yes, parents may choose another option. We have suggested the Wyoming Area Cyber School because it mirrors the Wyoming Area curriculum and affords the child a Wyoming Area diploma.

19. Will lunches be pre-packaged?

Yes, lunches will be pre-packaged.

20. How are kids supposed to carry their books without backpacks?

The "no backpack rule" is at the Secondary Center, only. The building principal will have those discussions with the classroom teachers. There is also a plan that a majority of work will be accessible on-line.

21. Why did the board have a meeting that was virtual for the public.?

The board was respecting the "no more than 25 people at an indoor gathering."

22. Why is the district opening?

The district has been advised to have a hybrid option or a fully opened option. The district is prepared to virtually educate if we are ordered to do so and/or circumstances require the same.