



# FRAZIER SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## RETURN TO SCHOOL FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

(July 30, 2020)

*The purpose of this document is to offer answers to many of your frequently asked questions. While it may not provide all specific details, the administrative team is working tirelessly to prepare for this school year in partnership with our community and our staff.*

### WHAT IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS THAT AREN'T ANSWERED HERE?

Contact your child's building principal via email or by phone.

Mr. Mike Turek- [mturek@fraziersd.org](mailto:mturek@fraziersd.org)- 724-736-9507x103

Principal Grades K-8

Mr. Jason Pappas- [jpappas@fraziersd.org](mailto:jpappas@fraziersd.org)- 724-736-9507x 112

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Mrs. Amanda Law- [alaw@fraziersd.org](mailto:alaw@fraziersd.org)- 724-736-9507x 102

K-8 Assistant Principal, Special Education Coordinator

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Director of Transportation

### UPDATED SCHOOL CALENDAR

- The updated school calendar is available on the district website [District Website](#)

### REOPENING GUIDELINES

Why is Frazier unable to open 5-days a week to all students?

- Currently, the social distancing guidelines in place from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania prohibit us from being able to provide all social distancing (such as 6-feet of space when unmasked and eating).

### **Why did Frazier not open under a Hybrid Model**

- We believe that it is impossible to replace in-person instruction. However, with the COVID-19 information changing daily we felt it was important to get our teachers, students, and parents comfortable with our new virtual platform in the event we are forced closed, or need to close due to a COVID-19 outbreak within our district.

### **When will more information regarding the virtual school day be available?**

- District administration has prepared a tentative schedule for our virtual school day and will make it available after board review.

### **How will I notify the district of the choice of educational options for my child?**

- Parents will be asked in the near future to complete a digital form to notify the district of their choice of educational options for when we return to either a hybrid model, or traditional school schedule.
- If you do not complete the form we assume that your student will be returning to our school district and using district transportation.

### **How will this fall be different than the education my child received in the spring?**

- Our teachers are being trained on virtual instruction and providing live face-to-face interaction with your student. Students will be able to interact with their teachers by asking questions, either live or at a later scheduled time due to office hours, google meets, and zoom calls.

### **What can I do to help prepare my child for school?**

- Help model healthy behaviors such as social distancing, proper mask-wearing, and proper handwashing. Practice wearing masks prior to the start of the school year.
- Start to reestablish a routine (consistent bedtimes and wake times) approximately one week prior to the start of school.

### **Given the effects of online school or in-person guidelines (such as social distancing and masks), how will the district address making school engaging and fun?**

- We believe with our professional development that will be provided prior to the start of the school year, we will be able to provide an engaging, rigorous curriculum while providing appropriate supports if needed. We will also have our counselors and social workers available to service your child's social and emotional needs.

### **When the district moves back to face-to-face in person instruction, will my student be able to stay in the Frazier Online Learning Academy.**

- Yes. Students will be able to choose either option for their students depending on the comfort level with the current COVID-19 levels or exposure.

## **FRAZIER ONLINE LEARNING ACADEMY**

### **What will the Frazier Online Learning Academy platform look like?**

- The Frazier Online Learning Academy platform will mimic our in-person instruction and curriculum. Online learning will be synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

### **How will this fall be different than the education my child received in the spring?**

- Our teachers are being trained on virtual instruction and providing live face-to-face interaction with your student. Students will be able to interact with their teachers by asking questions, either live or at a later scheduled time due to office hours, google meets, and zoom calls.
- Frazier purchased additional technology to improve our teacher's ability to engage our students remotely and will be providing additional supports to improve our remote delivery

### **What is expected of me as a parent if my child is part of the online program?**

- As with any form of instruction, parental involvement and support is no different in a virtual setting as it is in a traditional classroom. Research shows that no matter how the instruction is delivered, parent involvement and support is essential in a child's success.

### **Will there be a schedule for the school day through the online option? Specific times for specific areas of coursework?**

- Yes, the brick and mortar classroom activities will attempt to mimic instruction occurring in the online platform. There may be slight discrepancies between grade levels, however we will provide a structured virtual schedule for all grade levels.
- Students will experience both synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

### **Will teachers be offered training to conduct online instruction?**

- Absolutely. The main reason for our change to the school calendar is to provide professional development focusing on providing engaging on-line instruction.

### **Will my child need to attend on a daily basis?**

- Yes. Per the Pennsylvania Department of Education, all students must participate in 180 days of instruction for the 2020–21 school year.
- Daily lessons will build upon each other so it is essential to stay on track with the assigned workload.

### **What supports are available via Frazier Online Learning Academy to my child?**

- Teachers will be available via email, by phone, or by appointment for virtual meetings/reinforcement.
- All Frazier students have access to their school counselor and/or social workers.

### **How much of the school day would be the live teacher instruction?**

- Live instruction will be available to students in the online setting.
- Live instruction / interaction will depend on the teacher's lesson plans for that day and may vary from class to class.

### **When the district moves to a face-to-face, in person, instructional model will we be able to choose to stay in the Online Learning Academy? What would the transition look like if we chose to move to the hybrid, or in-person model?**

- The goal of our Online Learning Academy is to mimic our in-person instruction and curriculum, meaning that they get the same lessons on the same days.
- This will allow your child to change easily between the hybrid and online options at any time.
- Once the school year begins, and we return to face-to-face, in person instruction, you will just notify your child's counselor if you would like to change your instructional option.

### **Will my child need to spend 7 hours a day on his/her device?**

- The amount of instructional time will depend on many factors, including your child's age, the content to be delivered, and the means with which the teacher is delivering such material.
- As a general guideline, younger students will have less screen time than older students.

## **SANITATION/STERILIZATION PROCEDURES**

### **What steps is the district taking to ensure the facility is clean?**

- Frazier has purchased state-of-the-art cleaning technology that will kill viruses both in the air and on surfaces. This is now a regular part of our cleaning routines.
- District employees were retrained on updated cleaning protocols.
- The district will be cleaning all facilities nightly, limiting visitors and outside groups from using facilities, and cleaning frequently-touched surfaces throughout the day.

- Additional hand sanitizers will be available for use in all classrooms, cafeterias, and playground areas.

## **HEALTH and SAFETY when in-person instruction resumes (students physically in the building)**

### **What happens if a student or teacher becomes symptomatic during school hours?**

- First, the student or teacher will leave the classroom immediately and report to the nurse's office or designated room.
- The nurse will assess the student/teacher, including a temperature check and questions about any pre-existing conditions that may explain the symptoms.
- As the situation warrants, the nurse will contact a parent/guardian to arrange for transportation off-site.
- Staff and students with elevated temperatures will leave the building regardless of cause.
- The student or teacher's desk area will be sanitized prior to further usage.
- The student or teacher will need to follow the CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health's guidance on returning to school.
- The school will continue to operate as normally as possible until additional information becomes available on the student or teacher's status. There are many common reasons other than COVID-19 that could explain someone not feeling well at any particular time. Notifications would not be warranted in the absence of further details.

### **Will students and staff have their temperatures checked upon entry?**

- Students will NOT have their temperature checked upon entry. Students/parents/guardians/caregivers are required to perform a symptom screening prior to arriving at school or the bus stop each day. (Click the link for the PDE [Screening Tool](#))
- Should a student or staff member show evidence of a fever exceeding 100.4° F in the nurse's office, proper health protocols will be followed for exclusion from school.

### **Protocol for a Confirmed Case on Campus**

- Notify DOH or local health officials and emergency management personnel.
- Determine if a temporary suspension (2-5 days) of in-person instruction is warranted.
- Clean and disinfect all areas thoroughly per CDC guidance
- Communicate case or exposure information with students, staff, and faculty.
- Ensure continuity of education and research for all those impacted by any temporary suspension of in-person operations.
- Ensure continuity of safe housing for affected students.
- If individuals were in close contact with someone who became infected with the disease, follow CDC guidance
- Work with local public health officials, if possible, to determine when routine operations can resume on campus

### **If and when we get a vaccine, will it be a requirement for school? Or optional, like the flu vaccine?**

- Vaccination requirements are set by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, not the local school district.
- If/when a vaccine is created, should the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education mandate such a vaccine, it will follow the same laws regarding school vaccinations as all other required vaccines.

### **What will be the protocol if a student or staff member tests positive or has exposure to someone that tests positive?**

- In every building, we will identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.
- School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.
- Safety procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility, are developed and will be instituted.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use them before cleaning and disinfection. Wait 24 hours before you clean and disinfect. If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as possible. Ensure the safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met state DOH criteria to discontinue home isolation.

**What if my child has allergies or another chronic medical condition that often mimics some of these same symptoms?**

- Parents should communicate ahead of time (if possible) with the school nurse and alert them to these conditions so that a plan is in place in the event symptoms develop during school. For example, in order to differentiate between asthma and COVID-19 related shortness of breath, when a student uses his/her inhaler, the symptoms should improve as expected. Or a student with chronic allergies having a mild cough and runny nose whose symptoms may be explained through clear improvement with an antihistamine

**ATTENDANCE**

**Will attendance be tracked in the same way as it has in the past? If a student is COVID-19 positive, they will exceed 10 days of absence.**

- Should a student test positive for COVID-19, we will work with the family to obtain medical documentation that shows the need for the absence.
- We are working with other districts and the Pennsylvania Department of Education to determine what flexibility can be provided while still meeting our legal mandate.
- An update relevant to this year will be provided once a comprehensive review is complete.

**MASKS**

**Will the district make masks or face coverings mandatory for students/staff and enforce it?**

- The District will be adhering to Governor Wolf's mandatory mask-wearing order as long as it remains in effect. Acceptable coverings are outlined in the order issued by the Secretary of Health, Dr. Rachel Levine:
- Children two years and older are required to wear a face-covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team.
- Additionally, the District will be providing face shields for students and staff as an option and masks for those who do not have their own. Please note that students will have ample/scheduled opportunities to remove their face covering and will be granted breaks as requested.

**If mandatory, what will happen if a student or staff member refuses to wear a mask?**

- All students and staff in attendance at school are expected to follow all CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines regarding masks.

**If everyone is required to wear a face shield, can the shields be left at school to be sanitized daily? This would allow for proper cleaning and also eliminate anyone forgetting to bring it to school each day.**

- No, students will be required to wear or have their face mask or other devices with them at all times. The school will sanitize school equipment and other items. Frazier will not engage in cleaning student or staff devices.
- If students are required to wear the mask or other device on the bus and they do not have one with them a mask will be provided for them.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Will school-provided transportation be available or will it be up to the parents to drop off and pick up?**

- Frazier will continue to offer bus transportation for those who need it.
- Parents are encouraged to drive their children to and from school when possible.
- To the extent possible, we will attempt to socially distance all students while riding district transportation.
- We also support your decision to transport your child to school rather than have him/her ride the bus.

**If a bus driver tests positive, what will be the protocol for the students that were on that bus?**

- The same guidelines for teachers or any other individual who would test positive will be followed.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use it before cleaning and disinfection. Wait 24 hours before you clean and disinfect. If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as possible. Ensure the safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met state DOH criteria to discontinue home isolation.

**How often will buses be sanitized?**

- Buses will be sanitized at least once daily.
- When possible, we will encourage the opening of windows and roof vents to maximize ventilation within the bus.

## **FOOD SERVICE**

**Will my child be able to receive grab and go meals as we did last spring during the shutdown?**

- The district is planning on providing meals as they did during the spring closure ordered by the Governor's office.

**Will CTC students attend in person while Frazier is providing on-line instruction?**

- Frazier students who attend the CTC will still attend during the 2020-2021 school year, regardless of the selection of education (hybrid or full online instruction).
- The Westmoreland County CTC is currently developing a plan to meet the needs of all CTC students that adheres to all current safety guidelines and mandates.
- Frazier will provide transportation for students to attend CTC.

## **Pre-K**

**Will Pre-K be offered on-line or in person?**

- We will continue to work on a plan to get the Pre-K students back into the building as soon as we finalize enrollment numbers and see if social distancing can occur within the brick and mortar setting.

**Will my child who is in AP course or has a lab associated with that course be able to access those labs?**

- We are working on a plan to offer labs to students where it is part of the plan of study requirements.

**PLEASE KNOW THAT CHANGES OCCURE DAILY AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO UPDAT YOU AS WE RECEIVED GUIDANCE AND INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE.**