



February 10, 2021

SLSD Parents and Guardians,

On Monday, February 8th the Board of School Directors received a presentation that outlined the next phase of in-person instruction within the Southern Lehigh School District. The Board of School Directors voted to amend an existing motion related to the physical distancing of students in elementary school buildings to allow for an update within the instructional model. Listed below is a summary of information related to this update;

#### **Phase 4 Instructional Model Update**

- 4-Day Per Week In-Person Instruction for students in Grades 1-12, **STARTING ON MARCH 1**
  - Limited to students who are currently enrolled in the Hybrid Instructional Model.
  - Students currently enrolled in the Fully Remote Model **WILL NOT** be able to transition to in-person instruction **AT THIS TIME**.
  - Students currently enrolled in the Hybrid Instructional Model **WILL BE** able to transition to the Fully Remote Instructional Model.
  - School buildings **MAY BE ABLE** to accommodate additional instructional model transition requests for students enrolled in the Fully Remote Model who are seeking an in-person instructional model for the Fourth Marking Period.
- The Fully Remote Instructional Model will continue to be an option for students in grades K-12.

#### **What Will Be Different**

- Reduction in physically distancing for students to **LESS THAN SIX (6) FEET** in **CERTAIN** K-6 instructional spaces.
  - **FIVE FEET** will be the lowest physical distance in K-6 school buildings.
- **SIX FEET** of physical distance will remain in place in all 7-12 instructional spaces.
  - In certain 7-12 instructional spaces, students will periodically complete instruction in alternative spaces to ensure secondary distancing can be maintained.
- Teacher work spaces **MUST** remain **AT LEAST SIX FEET** from **ALL** student desks.
- All cafeteria seating **MUST CONTINUE TO REMAIN AT LEAST SIX FEET** in physical distance between all students. Existing cafeteria seating will be partitioned into additional spaces.
- There is a potential for an INCREASE in the number of staff/student(s) who experience quarantine following any situation where a student/staff member has been **PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN A SCHOOL BUILDING WHILE INFECTIOUS where distancing is LESS THAN SIX FEET.**
- District sponsored transportation will experience an increase in daily riders.
- Each school building will make adjustments to internal procedures including;
  - Arrival, Dismissal, Lunch, Student Passing, and other procedures.

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## Ongoing SLSD COVID-19 Mitigation **MUST** continue to be **LAYERED**

- Maintain Comprehensive Universal Masking (No Mask Breaks).
- [Exclusion From and or Return to School Guidance](#) Remains in Place
- Continue the Practice of Enhanced Hand Hygiene
- [Daily Health Screening for ALL Staff & Students](#)
- Continue Established Quarantine Following Out of State Travel
- Continue High-Frequency Cleaning/Disinfecting
- [School Closure Guidance Following Cases of COVID-19](#) per the PDE Attestation Agreement Remains In Place **AT EXISTING LEVELS**

The Southern Lehigh School District continues to recognize the need to return to an in-person instructional learning model while at the same time ensuring the health and safety of students and staff. As a result we will continue to analyze data and student numbers to review further opportunities for increasing in-person attendance in a manner consistent with established COVID-19 mitigation strategies.

Kathleen Evison  
Superintendent