

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Danville Area School District (DASD)

Initial Effective Date: July 14, 2021

Date of Last Review: August 22, 2022

Date of Last Revision: August 22, 2022

How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

In the best interest of education the Danville Area SD (DASD) recognizes the need to have students participating in face-to-face instruction as often as possible. This plan outlines the DASD's strategy in comparing responses to and recovering from the pandemic including specifically COVID-19. This will serve as a guide for our district to support prevention and mitigation procedures in line with the most up-to-date guidance from CDC and PA Department of Health (DOH). This plan is based on the district's ability to follow the local, state, and federal recommendations to the best of its ability to be able to provide in-person instruction; however, this plan is developed to reduce the level of risk, it does not completely eliminate risks and exposure to COVID-19 or other illnesses.

1. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

The Danville Area SD will open all our schools on September 6, 2022, grades K – 12, for all students who want to attend the in-person traditional setting. This is the preferred recommended plan. We will continue to monitor the CDC guidance regularly and will consider mitigation strategies that are recommended for implementation based on Level of Community Transmission rates. The district will use and layer the five key prevention strategies (see a – e below) that are essential to safe delivery of in-person instruction.

For those families that are interested in a virtual model, their child will be able to enroll in the Ironmen Cyber Academy (ICA). All Danville cyber students are eligible for guidance services and extracurricular opportunities. More information can be found on the DASD website at www.danville.k12.pa.us

DASD has successfully provided in-person instruction at all building levels for the majority of the 21-22 school year. The current practices of utilizing technology and virtual learning will be incorporated into the in-person lesson plans so that students will be prepared if a need to quarantine becomes necessary. Teachers will be expected to utilize Google websites and Classroom to provide resources and communication

whether in-person or virtually.

Students will eat in the cafeteria, classrooms, or alternate areas as necessary. Parents/guardians will be encouraged to use the online payment portal to avoid the handling of cash or checks in the cafeteria. Cafeteria and other eating spaces will be cleaned between lunch periods. Students will be encouraged to follow hand sanitizer protocol provided at stations within the cafeteria prior to and after consuming food or beverages.

Each DASD building will be implementing an SEL curriculum to encourage student engagement and to provide instruction related to social, emotional, mental health, or other needs. The district continues to employ guidance counselors and intervention specialists at every building.

2. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

The following strategies, policies, and procedures will be implemented as warranted by the CDC recommendations according to the Level of Community Transmission to the extent practicable.

DASD will continue to monitor the strategies and procedures recommended by CDC and PA DOH to address the following. In addition, local data will be reviewed to make decisions specific to the needs of the DASD community.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	<p>DASD will continue to follow mandated guidelines set forth by the PA DOH, CDC and/or PDE related to masks in school or on transportation to the greatest extent practicable.</p> <p>Masks will be optional effective August 22, 2022.</p> <p>In the event of a significant number of positive COVID-19 cases of 5% or greater within the school district and/or building population and CDC guidance, the district reserves the right to reinstate wearing masks indoors during the regular school day. If this would occur, families will be notified via automated phone call and students/staff will be expected to abide by the district's health and safety measures.</p>

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<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>In accordance with the CDC recommendations and the importance of in-person learning physical distancing to the greatest extent possible will be practiced. The district will adopt the distance of 3-6 feet apart for students in elementary schools and for secondary students to the greatest extent possible.</p>
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<p>All staff and students will practice regularly scheduled handwashing/hand sanitizing practices, including but not limited to entry into the classroom, after using the restroom, before eating, after coughing/sneezing. If soap and water are not available in the classroom or other area of the building then hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will be made available.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>Follow CDC's Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools.</p> <p>Scheduled protocol for cleaning high-touch and high-traffic areas including door handles and sink handles at key points throughout the day.</p> <p>Implement and supervise the daily and weekly COVID-19 cleaning activities.</p> <p>Classrooms and common areas will be ventilated with additional circulation of outdoor air when possible, using windows, doors, and/or fans.</p> <p>Increase frequency of AC filters</p> <p>Weekly use of Electrostatic sprayer Disinfectant.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>The DASD will inform students and staff about the symptoms of COVID-19. Designated district personnel will follow DOH guidelines to enhance response time and overall safety of the school district community. The DASD will maintain regular communications with its students, staff, and families to ensure consistent</p>

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	<p>awareness of health and safety expectations, in conjunction with CDC.</p> <p>DASD Data will be consistently evaluated to ensure that maximum in-person operations may occur for students and staff. As of August 22, 2022, the DASD will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No longer recommend quarantine following exposure if asymptomatic IRRESPECTIVE OF VACCINATION STATUS • No longer recognize test-to-stay following a potential exposure • Students/staff potentially exposed are recommended to wear a mask • No longer recognize differences in timing and other handling of exposure/illness depending on vaccination status • No longer contact trace • Encourage parents to keep children home when not feeling well • Ask staff to stay home and get a test if they have symptoms. <p>Unique situations may be evaluated on any individual case basis.</p> <p>When a case of COVID-19 is identified in the school setting, the PA DOH needs to be notified. The Designated certified school nurse will report cases to DOH via the end of the week survey.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Request that symptom screening be done by parents/guardians at home before school each day.</p> <p>Parents will not send a child to school who has symptoms, fever, or exposure to COVID-19.</p> <p>All staff will self-screen for symptoms before coming to work. Staff will not come to work if experiencing symptoms.</p> <p>Individuals becoming ill or showing symptoms during the day should be isolated to the greatest extent possible until transported home.</p>

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	<p>Testing will be available at various locations through Geisinger for staff, students, and community members. All exposed individuals will be encouraged to go to either of these locations. Based on local data screening testing for high contact activities such as extracurricular activities may be necessary.</p> <p>Weekly monitoring of transmission levels is necessary to monitor a need for this.</p> <p>PDE has established a program for the accessibility, at no charge, for screening testing resources that the district will explore for participation.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>Geisinger Health System is located in Danville therefore families are referred to that system for vaccinations.</p> <p>DASD previously participated with our I.U. 16 to provide vaccinations to all district employees, volunteers and other affiliates.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Servicing students in low incidence programs can be problematic due to, but not limited to, students with medical concerns, students not understanding the importance of wearing a mask, students unable to maintain proper social distance, students requiring hand-over-hand instruction and support, students requiring assistance with feeding or toileting.</p> <p>For these reasons, extra precautions will be implemented. These precautions include: Staff should thoroughly wash hands or use hand sanitizer immediately before and after working with a student. Avoid the use of communal objects when possible and disinfectant communal objects between uses.</p> <p>Staff should wear gloves when feeding students.</p>

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	<p>Bathrooms and changing tables should be disinfected before and after student use.</p> <p>Limit students to one at a time when in the bathroom.</p> <p>Assist students in properly washing their hands.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>DASD has three certified school nurses who maintain communication with the PA Department of Health. There is no local health department.</p> <p>Geisinger Health System provides a liaison for assistance and guidance. Supports by Geisinger Health System can be accessed upon request.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 22, 2022**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Revised on: **August 22, 2022**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

Michael Clouser

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.