



**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020**

Contents

Enrolling in a Learning Option 1

Traditional: Face-to-Face 2

MyPCS Online 7

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) 10

Cleaning and Disinfecting..... 11

Human Resources..... 13

Enrolling in a Learning Option

How does a parent make their selection and what do they need to complete the appropriate steps?

There are a number of step-by-step instructions for utilizing the Student Reservation System available at <https://www.pcsb.org/domain/11708>. In addition, if a parent is having an issue with their portal password, directions for reset are available here: <https://www.pcsb.org/passwords>.

What happens if only a handful of students choose MyPCS Online? Will those students be assigned to a teacher at another school?

Master schedules will be developed with flexibility. It is possible that teachers may teach students from multiple schools or teach part of the day in the Traditional Model and part of the day in MyPCS Online.

Will schools be able to monitor how many parents choose each Learning Option? If so, how?

Yes. School leaders may find a Learning Options Report in PCS Reports, Student Assignment folder.

If we have students who register late, will they be offered all three Learning Options?

After July 27th, SRS will not be used for registration. Schools should appropriately schedule students in the Focus master schedule, either in the Traditional Model or MyPCS Online, after a conversation with parents.

After making a Learning Option selection Can a parent change their mind and choose another option prior to the July 27 deadline?

Parents who make a choice and then need to change their Learning Option before July 27 are able to do so by going to the Student Reservation System and making a new selection.

Can a parent change their mind and choose another option after the July 27 deadline?

Parents who need to change their Learning Option after July 27 should speak with their school principal. Principals will determine the available options and make schedule changes as needed.

Will schools have a generic login to the SRS to help a parent who calls the school with their choice?

Yes. Schools may use the generic SRS login and password to assist as needed, similar to Summer Bridge registration.

ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020

Will the district offer MyPCS Online for longer than nine weeks for parents wishing to continue this option for the second quarter?

The MyPCS Online option will be available until at least the end of the first semester. If conditions warrant that it continues for second semester, it will continue to be available.

Traditional: Face-to-Face
Traditional: Instructional Considerations

Can teachers conduct small group instruction?

Teachers may group students for instruction as they normally would, students should maintain social distancing.

Will students attend specials like art, band, chorus, gifted, and physical education?

Students will attend their regular schedule like they always have. As much as possible, classes will move as a cohort. Teachers should work together to make sure that hallways are not too crowded as students come and go from specials and pull-out classes. Students will wear masks as they move from one classroom to another.

Should collaborative activities be avoided?

Collaboration is an important part of learning and social emotional growth and should not be avoided. Teachers may use collaborative activities and should require students to wear masks.

Should students still use manipulatives for math?

Students need manipulatives to build conceptual understanding of math concepts. Students must wash/sanitize hands before and after using manipulatives.

Are teachers who “push in” still allowed to visit multiple classrooms?

Schedules will be set to minimize the number of classes teachers push in to. ESE and ESOL teachers will still serve the students on their caseload.

Should teachers continue to walk around the room and monitor learning?

Relationships and student monitoring for understanding remains an important part of instruction, although there is expected to be less classroom movement under the current conditions. Teachers may move around the room at their comfort level.

What resources can I have in my classroom other than student desks?

Traditional curriculum resources in classrooms are allowed and encouraged so long as they don't interfere with the ability to social distance.

Can students share laptops or tablets in the classroom?

Students should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after using a shared computer. Students may also wipe down the surfaces that have been touched using district-supplied sanitizers.

Can students share texts, supplies, computers and other materials?

Where possible, students should have their own sets of materials and supplies such as scissors, crayons, and markers. Sharing class sets of texts, book bins, and similar instructional materials may occur with frequent handwashing and sanitizing as needed. Teachers may rotate materials as needed. Students should always use their own pencil or pen. Likewise, at all levels, students will continue to use computer labs and computer carts. After each use, the student should wipe down the parts of the computer they've touched and they should wash their hands.

**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020**

May teachers still have students come to the carpet for instruction?

No.

Can the library, computer labs, and science labs still be used?

Yes, if PCS reopening guidelines can be followed.

Can students still go to centers?

In PreK and K, centers are a big part of the curriculum. Soft items such as dress-up clothes, stuffed animals and fabric covered items such as pillows should be eliminated. Classrooms should still have dramatic play; blocks; classroom libraries; construction toys; letter and word play; art and paint easel; and writing, art, math and science centers. Rather than have a class sensory table, sensory items should be provided for individual students as needed. In grades 1-5, physical centers should not be used. Instead, teachers can consider options to deliver the same content while students remain in their seats.

Will teachers receive guidelines for models for PreK/K classrooms?

Yes. Guidelines have been discussed with principals and additional written information will be shared before teachers return.

Do PreK/K students still have rest time?

In PreK classrooms where cots are used, cots should be spaced as far apart as possible and be placed head to toe. Cots should be labeled so each student is using the same cot each day. In kindergarten classrooms where cots are not used, it is recommended that students put their heads down on the table rather than lay on a towel on the floor.

Can parents walk their children (K) to class on the first week/day of school?

Schools should set up processes that do not allow visitors onto the campus, but still allow for parents to feel comfortable dropping off their child to the teacher.

If VPK families opt to keep their children at home for the first nine weeks, will they be able to come back to their preferred school for the second quarter?

Families may enroll in VPK at any time on a space available basis. Spots will not be reserved for families who opt not to start on time.

Traditional: Attendance

How will attendance be taken?

Regular attendance will be taken each day as it has traditionally been taken.

Will CST processes need to change to account for student absences due to illness or quarantine?

Child Study Teams will adjust to account for new Learning Options and the pandemic. Additional guidance will be forthcoming when school reopens.

What about make-up work?

So long as students are enrolled in the Traditional Model, regular make-up work procedures should be used.

ReOpening Schools Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: July 21, 2020

How will we support learning for an individual student that must be quarantined?

If a teacher knows a student will be out for more than a few days, technology resources may be used to keep the student as current as possible including resources in Canvas and live streaming through Teams. School administrators will discuss with families any student who needs an alternative setting due to health needs.

Would there be a confidentiality issue with a teacher turning on a camera for students at home, while also teaching face-to-face?

No.

If the entire class is quarantined or school is closed, how will instruction take place?

Teachers will use Canvas to conduct instruction remotely.

Traditional: Daily Operations

Will signage be provided for traffic flow and protocol reminders? Do we still need signage if everyone is wearing masks?

Yes. School leaders and Head Plant Operators (HPO) work together to ensure that the appropriate signage is in place.

What is the plan for student arrival/dismissal each day? Can more than one entrance be used? Will we need teacher supervision?

Each school is developing an arrival/dismissal plan for their respective school. All entrances/exits can be used as long as proper supervision is provided at each location. Plans will be aligned with PCS protocols and CDC guidelines. Duty stations will be assigned for the morning and afternoon supervision of students, as done in the past.

Will/can lockers in middle schools and high schools be used?

No.

Are there restrictions on bathrooms that have multiple toilets?

No, social distancing guidelines need to be followed. In elementary schools, teachers will need to ensure adequate time if a whole class is taking a bathroom break at one time.

Can the students use the community water-fountains?

Students are encouraged to have their own water bottles and use the water bottle filling station. Existing water fountains will be converted to bottle filling stations as the year progresses. However, a number of traditional water fountains need to remain in each school for use by students without water bottles.

Can the non-essential furniture be sent to the warehouse? Will we be able to get the furniture back from the warehouse?

The HPO and school administrators identified non-essential furniture to ensure social distancing within classrooms can be maximized. Schools that want furniture stored in the warehouse must ensure all items are clearly labeled with building number, room number and school name. All furniture will be returned to school, when appropriate.

Can schools 'without walls' in individual classrooms keep bookshelves to divide rooms?

Yes, if this assists with the social distancing, allows for your student seating to be maximized and ensures a conducive learning environment.

**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020**

Are additional individual desks available?

No

What will the maximum number of students be in the cafeteria and what will the spacing be between students?

The maximum number will be determined by the size of each cafeteria. Each school will develop a school-specific plan to keep students socially distanced to the maximum extent possible. This will look different at every school and may mean adding additional lunches and/or spreading out furniture.

Can high schools implement an end of the day lunch?

Yes. Schools will work to determine the lunch schedule that best meets the needs of the school community. School leaders will communicate the schedule broadly to ensure all stakeholders are aware of any changes.

Can school club meetings be held face-to-face?

Club meetings should be held virtually to the maximum extent possible. If a meeting needs to take place face-to-face all PCS protocols must be followed.

Will Extended Learning Programs be held face-to-face?

Yes, for students opting for face-to-face instruction, ELP will occur in the same manner as their instruction. All PCS protocols in place during the school day will remain in place for any ELP or after school activities. Arrangements will be made for MyPCS students by each school.

How will our monthly safety drills be completed?

Monthly active threat drills can be completed in line with state statutes using our existing drill protocols. Whole building “run” drills and drills which require gathering in the safest corner can be scheduled later in the year in lieu of instructional drills and drills which require movement that can still honor social distancing in the beginning of the year. Drills may change as recommendations regarding COVID-19 change.

We have made a request to the state Fire Marshal to suspend all school evacuation drills in favor of instructional drills and small-scale evacuations that can respect social distancing guidelines. We are still waiting on a decision from the state Fire Marshal’s Office.

Traditional: Self-Screening

Will school-based employees receive training on the self-screening check in process?

Yes

When are teachers and staff expected to fill out the self-screening form?

Daily, before coming onto a school campus or district property.

How will we know if other district staff visiting the campus (i.e. WPSC) filled out the self-screening form?

The expectation is that all staff complete the screening form before coming onto a campus or district property. If the site administrator has any concerns regarding the visiting staff member, they should contact the staff member’s specific supervisor.

**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020**

What happens if a parent does not return the form or refuses to sign?

The district will work with families to obtain the signed form through a variety of means.

Traditional: Clinic Spaces

Will every school have a full-time nurse on staff every day?

Every school will be assigned a full-time nurse for the 20/21 school year.

Who will be responsible for monitoring the sick room and well room?

Monitoring of the sick rooms and well rooms will be determined on a school-by-school basis and will consider the school staffing level and the needs of the students attending traditional school. Administrators who have questions or concerns about monitoring these spaces are encouraged to contact School Health Services for support.

Do students need to be six feet apart in the sick- and well-rooms?

Students need to maintain social distancing guidelines in both the sick- and well-rooms.

What will happen to sick students whose parents are not able to pick them up from school?

As was the pre-COVID-19 way of work, school and administrative staff will work with the individual family on ensuring that ill students are picked up in a timely manner. Families will be strongly encouraged to make back-up plans for pick up and provide multiple people for contact. No ill student will be sent home on a school bus or sent to an after-care program.

Traditional: Visitors, Vendors and Campus Access

Will R'Club and YMCA be in operation next school year?

Yes, with PCS Health and Wellness guidelines in place.

How will visitors and vendors be screened when they arrive?

Visitors will be restricted to the front office area. Front office staff will fill out the PCS Ident-a –Kid form electronically with the visitor.

Will parents be allowed to volunteer or visit on campus?

No volunteers will be allowed at this time. This decision will be re-visited at the end of the first quarter.

Are virtual PTA events discouraged in the first nine weeks?

It is encouraged that any PTA event be conducted virtually for the first 9 weeks.

Can we still have guest speakers?

Guest speakers cannot be scheduled for on-campus visits at this time. This will be re-visited after the first quarter.

Will outside organizations be permitted to lease the building after hours?

No. Other than approved before/after school care providers, no other entities will be able to lease buildings during the first quarter.

ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020

Are Open House dates flexible?

Schools must plan to ensure Open Houses can be conducted in alignment with PCS protocols. This may mean some dates may need to shift. School leaders will work with their area superintendent/chief to discuss the flexibility of Open House dates.

Will we receive instructions on how to hold a virtual SAC meeting?

SAC meetings will follow the same meeting structure as the Pinellas County School Board meetings.

PCS Online

MyPCS Online: Access and Instructional Platform

Do students need their own computer device and Internet access for MyPCS Online?

Students may use their own device or check out a device from their school. Each student who needs a device will be provided with one (not one per family). Students without Internet access at home should contact the school principal or counselor who will work with the Student Services team to provide a hotspot.

Where do students access their courses in MyPCS Online?

Students access their courses in Canvas. Canvas can be found at [Clever.com/in/pcsb](https://clever.com/in/pcsb).

What training will be available to teachers to learn Canvas?

All teachers, both those who will teach in Traditional and MyPCS Online, are required to take a three-hour, paid Canvas professional development course between July 27 and August 12. Additional training will be available through the PCS Digital Learning office and through the Canvas Commons learning center. PCS teachers will also have access to the Canvas 24/7 live help center. Teachers may contact the Canvas help center to ask for live help on the phone or through the online portal any time day or night for assistance or troubleshooting.

Can teachers use resources other than Canvas to teach students in MyPCS Online?

All teachers in MyPCS Online must use Canvas as the primary location for class. All announcements, assignments, and course materials must be found in Canvas. Other resources such as Teams, Nearpod, iStation, iReady, online texts, and much more may be embedded into Canvas. There will be many resources that teachers use to educate their students. However, teachers may not use another platform as the primary location for class to be held.

How will Microsoft Teams be used in MyPCS Online?

Microsoft Teams will be used as the location for live lessons. Teachers will embed the link to Teams meetings into Canvas so that students may access live lessons.

What is the schedule for classes in MyPCS Online?

Students and teachers will follow the regular bell schedule of their enrolled school. Teachers have the flexibility to set the flow of the day for elementary school classrooms. In secondary schools, students will follow the regular seven or eight period bell schedules.

Will cameras be 'on' in Microsoft Teams in MyPCS Online?

Yes. It is expected that teachers have their camera on for all live lessons. Teachers will work with their students to have cameras on or off, depending on the needs of the lesson. Not all students will have cameras on their computers or be comfortable having the camera turned on at all times.

ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020

MyPCS Online: Attendance

How will attendance be taken in MyPCS Online?

Attendance will be taken each day in elementary school by the Homeroom teacher. In secondary schools, attendance will be taken each period. Students are expected to attend the start of the period for live instruction. In secondary schools on Fridays only, attendance will be taken using the completion of work or the attendance of class at any time during the day.

Does attendance count toward student grades in MyPCS Online?

No, attendance is never utilized as a factor for a student's grade.

If secondary students aren't in attendance for the live instruction within MyPCS Online but still complete the assignment, should they be marked present?

No, students should be marked absent if they are not in attendance for live instruction. Unlike the 4th quarter of the 2019-20 school year where students could attend instruction at any time during a 24-hour period, students are expected to attend during the regularly scheduled class times. If they are not present, they must complete the make-up work and will receive full credit but will still be marked absent.

In secondary schools what is different about Friday within MyPCS Online?

On Fridays, teachers and students will not follow the regular bell schedule like they do on other days. This allows for teachers to hold small group instruction for ESE, EL, and other students who need specific supports. These targeted supports will be in addition to students' regular M- Th class schedule. Teachers are expected to hold small group instruction with any failing student and those who require small group instruction on Fridays.

How will attendance be taken within MyPCS Online on Fridays in secondary schools?

Teachers will take attendance based on student interaction with asynchronous assignments and small group instruction on Fridays.

Why don't elementary students in MyPCS Online follow the same schedule as secondary students on Fridays?

Teachers have small group instruction built into the schedule every day in the elementary school schedule.

How will student progress be measured and how will grades be determined?

Student progress will be determined as teachers do in a traditional classroom. This includes a mix of individual assignments, projects, group work, quizzes, and tests. Final grades will be determined based on the individual teacher classroom and course grading plan. Teachers will follow regularly established School Board Policy for grading. All official grades will still reside in Focus.

To what extent should accommodations for Exceptional Student Education (ESE), English Learner (EL) and 504 accommodations be considered in a student's grade?

Teachers must ensure, to the extent possible, that the accommodations for ESE, EL and 504 students are planned for and provided. Teachers should ensure students have multiple ways to demonstrate performance toward mastery of grade-level standards through the differentiation of assignments and appropriate accommodations. Teachers must review the implementation of accommodations and how they did (or did not) impact student performance. A grade of 'D' or 'F' may only be issued to an ESE, EL or 504 student who received appropriate accommodations and strategies during instruction and assessment.

ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020

Will students follow the same assessment calendars as students in the Traditional Model of school? What about test security?

Yes. Students will take assessments online through Performance Matters or other online platforms. This includes cycle assessments and final exams. Teachers will receive training from the Assessment, Accountability, and Research Department on best practices and resources for online assessments.

What if teachers suspect students are cheating, copying or submitting work that is not their own?

Students are bound to “complete all assignments including homework to the best of his/her ability and on time” per School Board Policy 5500.03. If a teacher suspects academic dishonesty, the teacher should work with school administrators and parents (if applicable). Teachers may also give live quizzes or tests as needed in a proctored situation.

Are students in MyPCS Online required or allowed to come to school for certain assessments?

Students may be required or want to participate in schoolwide assessments such as the SAT or ACT school day assessments. They should contact their individual school to register and participate in the assessments. At this time, the Department of Education has made no accommodations for at-home state assessments. Assessments such as the Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener (FLKRS), Florida Standards Assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics must be taken in person.

Are devices being collected and redistributed from the previous digital learning distribution?

At this time, devices distributed during the 4th quarter of the 2019-20 school year are not being collected. Students who have a device and opt for MyPCS Online will use the device during the 1st quarter of the 2020-21 school year. Students who are returning to Traditional Model for school will return their device at the start of the school year.

MyPCS Online: Secondary Master Schedules

What classes will be available to students in MyPCS Online?

All classes that are required for promotion and/or graduation will be offered in MyPCS Online. This includes regular and honors courses.

What electives will be offered in MyPCS Online?

Elective offerings will be based on the number of students at each school opting in to MyPCS Online. At a minimum, music, visual arts, physical education, ESE support, ESOL, and gifted courses will be offered at each school.

Will Advanced Placement classes be offered in MyPCS Online?

Advanced Placement (AP) courses will be offered online in one of two ways. If enough students enrolled in the course(s) opt for MyPCS Online, then the course(s) will be offered fully online. If not, efforts will be made to have the live classroom instruction streamed to students in their homes through Canvas and Microsoft Teams.

Will specialized courses in programs such as the International Baccalaureate, Cambridge AICE, Pinellas County Center for the Arts, Center for Advanced Technologies, and other District Application Program (DAP) be offered in MyPCS Online?

Specialized programs will be offered online in one of two ways. If enough students enrolled in the program cohort (grade level) opt for MyPCS Online, then the course(s) in the DAP will be offered fully online. If not, efforts will be made to have the live classroom instruction streamed to students in their homes through Canvas and Microsoft Teams.

ReOpening Schools Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: July 21, 2020

Are students allowed to be part-time enrolled in Traditional and MyPCS Online?

No. Enrollment in MyPCS Online is a health and safety-based choice for parents. Students and parents have always had the opportunity to enroll in traditional school and part-time enrollment in Pinellas Virtual School. For example, a student may take five classes of a seven-period schedule in school face-to-face and two classes through PVS. This option remains. However, there is no opportunity to blend Traditional and MyPCS Online.

Will high school students be able to be on campus part-time for classes such as band or theater?

No. Enrollment in MyPCS Online is a health and safety-based choice for parents. Students and parents have always had the opportunity to enroll in traditional school and part-time enrollment in Pinellas Virtual School. For example, a student may take five classes of a seven-period schedule in school face-to-face and two classes through PVS. This option remains. However, there is no opportunity to blend Traditional and MyPCS Online.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Do students need to wear masks the entire time they are in class?

Yes. Teachers should build in mask breaks, as needed.

Do students wear mask in bathroom?

Yes.

Do students need to wear masks in hallways as they switch classes?

Yes.

What happens if a student refuses to wear a mask or has to constantly be reminded?

Students who do not wear a mask when it is required (or refuse to do so), should first be reeducated on the importance of wearing a mask. If after the reeducation occurs, they still do not comply, the students' administrator should be contacted. Not wearing a mask when it is required is not a discipline referral but is a health and safety concern. Administrators will contact the parent/guardian for support. If the refusal continues, the principal must contact the area superintendent/chief to discuss options which will include administrative placement into one of the other learning options (MyPCS Online or Pinellas Virtual School). This placement is a non-discipline placement and is based on the health and safety needs of all students and staff.

Do teachers need to wear masks the entire time they are teaching?

Yes. Teachers should model the behavior for students, including taking appropriate mask breaks, as needed.

If a student shows up to class without a mask, will a mask be provided?

Schools will have an additional supply of masks to provide to students should they need a new one.

What if a student at a bus stop does not have a mask?

The bus driver will have an extra supply of masks should the student need one.

What happens if a student at the bus stop refuses to put on a mask? Can the driver leave the student?

No, the driver will provide a seat away from others if possible and the school administration will be informed upon arrival at the school.

ReOpening Schools Frequently Asked Questions

Updated: July 21, 2020

When will face shields be provided to students and staff? Will speech teachers and students receive them?

Face shields will be provided to staff as determined by the nature of their work and interaction with students, including SLPs. Students can be provided face shields as an alternative to wearing a facemask, but only upon recommendation in writing by their healthcare provider.

May students and teachers wear their own masks or shields instead of the ones provided by the district?

Students and teachers may wear their own face masks, provided that the masks meet the current dress code standards as outlined in School Board Policy. Face shields are not to be worn as an alternative to face masks.

Can a face shield be worn instead of a mask?

No. Face shields are not to be worn as an alternative to face masks. Only if a student has a documented medical exception or is needed due to the nature of a disability (e.g. Deaf/Hard Hearing and needs to see faces in order to communicate), a face shield may be utilized in place of a mask.

When is plexiglass needed?

Plexiglass is recommended in situations where instruction requires that students and/or teachers are able to read lips or see facial expressions (where a face mask is impractical). Examples include speech, certain read alouds (where phonics may be critical), DHH, sign language and similar instructional needs. Plexiglass is also recommended in other situations where students are sitting at common tables in close proximity. Face shields may also be used in these situations.

Are students permitted to carry hand sanitizer?

Yes.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

How often will bathrooms be cleaned?

A schedule will be developed by each Head Plant Operators (HPO) which will have restroom cleaning built into the daily schedule.

Do classes/desks need to be wiped down in between different groups of students using the room?

Proper handwashing and hand sanitizing are encouraged between uses of similar materials, but there is not an expectation that teachers will clean or wipe down individual student desks if a new group of students comes to the classroom.

Can students clean their workspaces?

Yes, supplies will be provided in each classroom to allow for the cleaning of workspaces by students. These supplies will start as a non-irritant chemical that requires no PPE along with a microfiber cloth to dry the surface. We will transition to cleaning wipes similar to Clorox wipes in tubes as the supply chain relaxes and as these become available to us.

Will the café be cleaned after each group of students leave?

Yes.

Will plexiglass be cleaned? Who is cleaning the plexiglass in between classes?

All schools will develop a cleaning protocol for plexiglass with their HPO.

**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions**

Updated: July 21, 2020

How will schools get more supplies when they need them and who is paying for them?

The school HPO and bookkeeper can order cleaning supplies, PPE, masks, shields, etc., in the same manner as they have ordered soap, paper towels, etc., in the past.

What happens if a school needs more Plant Operation hours?

School leaders will work with the HPO and General Manager to build an adequate schedule to accommodate cleaning procedures. The HPO and General Manager will have some flexibility to allocate hours to schools that have a need.

Will schools be provided with the list of protocols and checklists that were given to the HPOs?

Yes.

ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated: July 21, 2020

Human Resources

HR: General and Traditional Instruction (Face-to-face)

If a teacher is out sick will there be a substitute? Will students be dispersed to other classes? How will unfilled sub positions be covered?

Yes, a substitute will be assigned to any vacancy. As was the case prior to COVID-19, if a class doesn't have a sub another alternative needs to occur in order for class coverage. Due to social distancing requirements, students may not be able to be dispersed to other classes, therefore non-classroom instructional staff must be prepared to cover classes.

How will the substitute screening process take place?

Substitutes will need to complete a self-screening process when checking in at the school in the morning. Schools should share this process with whomever checks in subs upon arrival.

Will teachers be expected to use sick leave if they test positive and have to quarantine for 14 days or will the district provide paid leave?

If a teacher tests positive for COVID-19, the principal should report this to the District COVID Team, who will provide further guidance as to available leave. An employee who tests positive, and is unable to telework, qualifies for up to 80 hours of paid emergency sick leave.

Will the district pay medical expenses?

Under the Federal CARES Act, COVID-19 testing and doctor visits are covered at 100%. Employee cost share will be waived for the duration of this federal mandate. In addition, under the PCS group health plan, all inpatient treatment for COVID-19 and associated health complications will be covered at 100% (all copayments, deductibles and coinsurances waived) for members until Sept. 30, 2020.

Will subs be assigned to specific schools to reduce exposure?

We are working on a process to accomplish this goal. More information will be shared when this has been determined.

Does staff have a deadline to declare leave for the start of the school year?

No.

If an administrator or teacher has to quarantine multiple times, how will that impact sick leave? Staff could be repeatedly exposed.

If an employee has to quarantine, they are eligible for a one time, up to 80 hours, sick leave under Emergency Paid Sick Leave. The employee can use accrued sick leave for any hours above the 80 hours.

What if staff refuses to wear a mask? Will there be a universal discipline process?

If a staff member refuses to wear a mask, the administrator will have a conversation with that staff member. The conversation should include reeducating the staff member as to the purpose and reason for wearing a mask. If there is still refusal to wear the mask, the principal should contact their area superintendent/chief for further discussion and guidance.

Pending student enrollment, will principals be able to move teachers to different grade levels?

This may be necessary based on the learning choice made by students/parents. It is suggested that any moves are discussed with those teachers who are being affected in person.

**ReOpening Schools
Frequently Asked Questions**

Updated: July 21, 2020

Will there be a number or percentage of unfilled positions that would warrant closing school for a day?

Any decision regarding the closing of a school will be made in conjunction with the Department of Health and the school district.

Will the teacher contract change regarding the thirty (30) minutes of student supervision/duty?

More information will be shared when this has been determined.

HR: MyPCS Online

What is the required medical documentation for a teacher who needs to work from home for medical reasons?

Medical documentation from the healthcare provider will need to be provided to support the underlying health condition.

What are the expectations/timeframe for assigning online teachers?

This will depend on when master schedules are redone, which will inform the school as to how many face-to-face and online teachers are needed.

How will MyPCS Online teachers be selected?

The process for identifying which teachers will be teaching the MyPCS Online format has not been determined. The district is collaborating with PCTA to make final decisions on this process, which will be shared when the process is finalized.

Will MyPCS Online teachers teach from school or from home?

The expectation is that the staff member will report to their school site and teach from their classroom or available space without the presence of students, unless there is a medical reason that requires the teacher not to teach in a brick and mortar school.

Will teachers be responsible for both in-person students and MyPCS Online students?

It is possible that a teacher could be responsible for teaching both face-to-face and MyPCS Online students. This won't be known until students/families have made their selection.

Can a MyPCS Online teacher teach multiple grade levels?

It is possible that a teacher could be responsible for teaching multiple grade levels. If this question was asked from an elementary school, all efforts will be made to not have a teacher teach multiple grade levels. This won't be known until students/families have made their selection.