

Paul VI High School Reopening

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Will we be able to change plans (remote or in-person learning) after we already made a choice? And if we begin in-person learning, but after a few days, if we do not feel comfortable, can we switch to remote learning for the remainder of the 1st quarter? Can we delay the deadline for making the remote learning choice?**

No. At this writing, the simplest plan to open school depends on a commitment to attend school in person or to learn remotely. If a parent or student is uncomfortable, the remote option is the best choice. If movement in and out of in-person attendance and remote attendance were a daily choice, we would not know whether students were absent from in-class learning or absent from remote learning; late for school or late for online class. The simple task of taking attendance each period would become complicated and time consuming; our responsibility for each student would be compromised.

- 2. Will you be implementing the part of the re-opening plan that designates students to three letter days?**

Not presently. This will only be implemented if schools are mandated to open with a percentage of your school building capacity.

- 3. Was there any consideration about shortening the day and not having the students eat at school?**

No. There are 80 designated seats in the cafeteria; all are 6 feet apart from every other designated seat.

- 4. Where will the students go on their free periods? Can the outside area be used for dining? Has there been any thought to giving the students some outside time during their free period so they could take a mask break during the day while outside and remain socially distant from others?**

Most students only have one free period-their lunch period. Students will be able to go outside while still remaining distant. Students will also be able to use the gym seating to study or socialize while remaining 6 feet apart.

- 5. If the seniors have an 8th period free, will they be allowed to leave early like they did in the past?**

Yes

- 6. Are we violating any FERPA regulations with having students being shown on TVs in the classroom?**

No. The teacher and students will only be seen by each other...as they do in the classroom.

- 7. If a student has a service plan which allows them daily tutoring after school, if remote learning is selected, how will they be able to access that extra help?**

Students can sign up with the guidance secretary (guidance@pvihs.org) to schedule after school tutoring in math, English, science and study skills. We can accommodate both in school and remote learners through a Zoom session.

- 8. What are the safety protocols in a dance class as far as distancing and mask wearing?**

The dance studio is double the size of regular classroom. The largest dance class has 14 students who can be spaced with 6 foot distance. Masks are still required.

- 9. Are plastic partitions being used on any desks, cafeteria tables, lab tables, etc.?**

Designated places at cafeteria tables are 6 feet apart. Lab tables will have partitions. Desks will not have partitions but everyone is masked and each seated 4 ½ feet apart.

- 10. In the cafeteria, will the tables be six feet apart, or will each individual student be six feet apart from the other students?**

Students will be sitting 6 feet apart from other students.

- 11. Will there be physical education classes? We would like to know the precautions that will be taken while the students are changing and during physical activity.**

There are no scheduled physical education classes in the first semester; there is also no need to use the locker room if there are no classes.

- 12. For desk sanitation between classes, why does the student coming into the class have to wipe down the desk? The student occupying the desk should wipe it down prior to departing for next class to allow minutes of disinfecting time?**

Students entering the classroom will be responsible for wiping down their own desks before sitting down making them responsible for their own area and safety. Using standard wipes is acceptable.

- 13. Will the janitorial staff, disinfect classroom between classes?**

No. Thorough cleaning is done nightly. During the day the dining hall, bathrooms and high touch surfaces will be cleaned consistently by the day cleaning staff.

- 14. During the school day, who will be cleaning all high touch surfaces multiple times?**

The employee from Pinnacle that works daily during school hours.

- 15. Will the school provide more specific directions about when we should keep our children home and when they are allowed to return to school? Many of the symptoms on the list are common symptoms found in people with allergies, the common cold and Covid-19. Are we asked to keep them home every time they have a single symptom or a group of symptoms? A mild symptom or only severe? For example, do they need medical clearance to return if they stayed home with a headache? And if they stay home, are they able to attend school remotely for that day(s)?**

All parents will be expected to screen their children at home for symptoms of COVID-19 and to take their temperature to ensure that they do not have a fever over 100.4° F. If children have a fever or exhibit symptoms that are not explained by other conditions, then they should stay at home. COVID-19 symptoms include:

- *Cough*
- *Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing*
- *Chills*
- *Repeated shaking with chills*
- *Muscle pain*
- *Headache*
- *Sore throat*
- *Loss of taste or smell*
- *Diarrhea*
- *Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit*
- *Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19*

Parents will also be expected to keep their children home from school if they have had close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19. If this occurs, parents should notify the school immediately. Close contact is considered to be:

Within 6 feet of someone who has COVID-19 for 10 minutes or more Provided care at home to, or visited, someone who is sick with COVID-19 Direct physical contact with the person (touched, hugged, or kissed them) Shared eating or drinking utensils They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.

- 16. Regarding the limit on people in the restrooms, we understand that the vice principal will be able to tell how many people are in each restroom, but will there be places six feet apart marked outside the restrooms for people to stand to wait their turn if a line develops?**

Yes, 6-foot distances will be appropriately marked.

- 17. Will there be dividers between the sinks in the bathroom?**

The use of the four bathrooms is limited with marked waiting space outside in the hallway; there will be no sink dividers which will only provide another surface to become unsanitary.

- 18. Will any after school activities attempt to take place via Zoom or other platform?**

Yes, clubs can take place via Zoom.

- 19. Will there be separate areas for students to go if they need the school nurse for Covid-19 vs. non-Covid symptoms?**

If there is someone with Covid-19 symptoms they will be isolated in a separate sick room area; there is a protocol for disinfecting that room once the student leaves the building.

- 20. The plan mentions that children who haven't filled out the screening before arriving to school will be taken to the English or History office to complete screening and temperature checks. Since we are not familiar with where the offices are located within the building, are these places near the school entrance, or would bringing potentially sick students to these areas possibly affect other students and faculty?**

Yes, these places are located right inside the entrance doors.

- 21. The plan mentions temperature thresholds of 100.0 and 100.4. Could you please provide some clarification of that?**

Clarification: 100.4 degrees

- 22. While the classrooms can be arranged for some social distancing if not the recommended six feet (we're not completely comfortable with the four feet), with the entire student body in attendance, what social distancing efforts will be taken in the hallways when all 1300 children are moving between classes at the same time? Will hallways and staircases be designated as one way? Will faculty members be in the hallways to monitor behavior at this time and keep students moving and apart (no socializing, arguing, mask removal, physical contact, etc.)?**

There are 983 students enrolled in a school with a capacity for 1350. Teaching hallways will be designated one-way hallways; staircases are also one way. We will educate students to be in the halls safely and observe a safe distance. Mask removal will not be acceptable.

- 23. The plan notes that in a class of smaller size, students "can" sit at a distance of more than 4 feet. Will this be required and enforced? If the desks are 4 feet and not the required 6 feet, will there be protective barriers in place where needed? If no to barriers, why are you choosing not to have them?**

The requirements from New Jersey Department of Education plan are to wear a mask at all times observing a distance between 3 feet and 6 feet if a 6-foot distance may not be possible; desks also must be turned in the same direction. We have done that. Protective barriers will be difficult to keep in place on desktops that are slanted. Protective barriers on classroom desks still leave the students exposed on both sides.

- 24. Will larger events such as pep rallies, assemblies, class meetings and masses be held? If so, what protections will be in place?**

Whenever we gather we will be at a social distance; if we have a pep rally we can be outside. Class meetings we can televise. Mass can be outside in the fall or we can plan smaller groups at Mass.

25. Will students be using lockers? If so, will steps be taken to avoid congestion near lockers?

Students will not be issued lockers. The trend over the last ten years plus is that many high school students don't use hall lockers.

26. Will the world language teachers wear cloth facemasks with a clear plastic window so students can see their mouths in order to learn the correct pronunciation of words?

We have masks with clear plastic windows.

27. If a staff member, student, contractor, visitor or clergy member refuses to wear a mask will they be denied entry into the school?

Yes, definitely.

28. What is the teacher substitute policy?

All subs are in house; our teachers sub for each other.

29. What are the contact tracing procedures? If a student has Covid-19, the papers state "those exposed to the individual will be contacted by the nurse." How will it be determined who was in contact with the student? Will the students' privacy be maintained? Will all parents be notified that there has been a confirmed case within the school? If there is more than 1 case confirmed will all parents be notified?

The school will follow the recommendation of the county health department. The students who are "exposed" by definition will be notified by the nurse. Seating charts will be used for each class to help identify possible exposure. Privacy will always be maintained.

30. If part of the campus must be closed for disinfection will some students still be required to go to school if it does not affect their area? If so, will parents have the option to keep their children home until the school has been determined safe?

If the school needs to close in order to be disinfected, the entire building will be closed. The county health department will recommend when the building is able to reopen.

31. If there is a confirmed case, or more than 1, or partial/complete campus closure for disinfecting, will parents be able to opt out of in-school and go to remote?

Parents may have the option to opt out of in-person education. However those who opt out will continue within remote learning until the end of that quarter.

32. If a fellow student receives a positive test result of Covid-19, will the entire class and teacher have to quarantine?

Anyone who is ill or has been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be told to stay home. Anyone exhibiting symptoms while on campus will be asked to return home and to seek testing and treatment as necessary. If it is a confirmed case of COVID-19, those exposed to the individual (exposure defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from two days before illness onset) will be contacted by the nurse. The Camden County Health Department will be notified by the nurse. Exposed individuals may be required to self-quarantine for 14 days.

33. If an on-site student has to quarantine, will their remote access be seamless?

Yes. The teachers will use the portal and the students will have access to the live zoom sessions.

34. Will there be any accountability for the bus companies that are not contracted by Paul VI? How will Paul VI ensure social distancing/safety for students riding with bus companies other than Holcomb?

The accountability for these bus routes will be enforced by the local public school district providing this service.

35. Will the school have private busing for students who have now received letters stating they will not have a bus?

The school is currently looking into the possibility of adding private routes to the districts within Camden County that are not providing transportation for the 2020-2021 school year.

36. How will safety drills be handled? (fire, active shooter, etc.)

Whatever the state recommends for drills will be followed. Administrators attended the "drills" webinar in July. Crisis drills will consist of table topics discussion only. Fire drill mandates are forthcoming from the state.

37. Can there be an option for remote learning and be able to play sports? Outside activity is studied to be safer than being indoors. Families should have every option to keep their children safe, and still engage. Practicing outside is different than being indoors, in a room, with nearly 30 people.

No, the sports program is working in phases right now.

38. Can they stay in summer uniforms or just use a shirt and tie for winter uniforms? The blazers cannot be washed every day.

The summer uniform will be always be worn for remote learning and in-person learning until the end of September.

39. How will a student receive their physical books, if they select remote learning?

You will receive communication through e-mail for picking up textbooks.

- 40. If students are vacationing in one of the quarantine states and need to quarantine before school begins – are they allowed to quarantine and then come to school when quarantine is over?**

The administration will entertain exceptions to the rules on a case by case basis.

- 41. If someone in a student's home is sick and they need to quarantine – can they come back to school after quarantine?**

Yes, if they have chosen in-class learning.

- 42. Students have 2 doors to enter and have to check in with the nurse? Is there more than 1 nurse? How is this going to work?**

There is only one nurse. The entrance to the nurse's area is now directly from the hallway. There is a waiting room now where distance can be observed before the next student is called.

- 43. Students will be there between a half hour and an hour before school starts. What will they be doing? How will this be monitored?**

Students will be asked to move to their 1st period class upon arrival. Faculty members and administrators will be present to ensure proper monitoring prior to school beginning.

- 44. Will there be an area to wait in the morning for students to be dropped off at an earlier time because of the lack of busing? And same for after school?**

The Learning Media Center will be available after school hours until 6pm. In the morning the school will open at 7:00 am. The students will be asked to report to their first period classroom.

- 45. Will the library be open after school?**

Yes. There will be after school sign up protocol.

- 46. Will the dining hall be open for breakfast?**

No

- 47. Will the students or teachers be changing classes?**

The students will be changing classes

- 48. What is "allows teachers to make one appointment for a zoom class per selection and check the box that indicates recurring"?**

The appointment for a teacher's zoom will be reoccurring. This means the students who are in remote learning will know in advance the individual class zoom link for each class. That link will remain constant throughout the remote learning.

49. Will all students have a lunch period?

Yes

50. How are choir classes being handled?

Small classes, wearing masks and distancing

51. There are many times where the full lunch was not enough time for students to get food let alone eat. How will they be able to do this in 20 minutes?

With less students in the dining hall, using the app to pre-order food and a Grab N Go Pick Up line, will give students enough time to eat their lunch.

52. Can they bring reusable water bottles or only bottled water?

Yes, they can bring reusable water bottles

53. With respect to the new apps such as morning check-ins, ordering food, bathroom use, etc., will more information/instruction be provided to parents?

Yes, more information will be provided via email to parents.

54. While certain attendance policies were addressed, some were not or unclear. How is the attendance policy being updated to respond to the real possibility students will be absent more? What happens if a remote learning student loses WiFi? Who students who stop to wash their hands or take extra time to wipe down desks be marked late for class(es)? In other words, how is the attendance policy being updated to align with pandemic related practices/issues?

It is difficult to address every situation that we might possibly encounter however we will address these one at a time as needed. Students are asked to keep themselves safe at all time by wearing a face-mask, having wipes and hand sanitizer and social distance.

55. Remote learning students will have less time to discuss important assignment questions or personal questions about grades during class. It was stated that e-mails to teachers may not happen in a timely manner to address issues before the next assignment or test. Will there be a set turnaround time for teachers to enter test and assignment grades so remote learning students can see their weaknesses and ask for help? Will each teacher have a daily open time for questions and assistance outside of the virtual class?

About 10% of the student body opted for remote learning. Any student who is learning remotely will be an integral member of the class at all times and will be seen and heard during the class period, so they will be able to ask questions just as if they were in-person.

56. Will the students still need to complete service hours?

Yes, service hours for juniors and seniors will still be need to be completed. This will be handled by Campus Ministry and service hours can be satisfied with in-home and family service opportunities.