



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

September 2, 2021

Dear Akron Central Schools Community:

We recognize that you have been receiving a lot of information recently from the district office, building administrators, coaches, and teachers. At the same time, we also know that you still may have questions as you plan for the upcoming school year. The information below is intended to address some of the most commonly asked questions we have heard thus far.

If you have any additional questions, [please feel free to submit them here](#).
Updates will be provided on a regular basis.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools

If a student or adult is fully vaccinated, will they be required to wear a mask?

All individuals age 2 and older, regardless of vaccination status are required to wear a mask while indoors or on a school bus.

Where can I find the legal declaration that requires masking in all schools in NYS?

Please refer to the links below:

- [Determination of the Commissioner for the New York State Department of Health](#)
- [New York State Department of Health Regulation - 10 NYCRR 2.60](#)
- [Order of the Commissioner for the Erie County Department of Health](#)

Now that masking is required for students, staff, and visitors to the Akron Central School District, what happens if my child does not have a mask to wear or it becomes soiled?

Just as we did last year, masks are available to students, staff and visitors at all entrances to the school. Masks are also available on each school bus. Anyone requiring an additional mask will be provided with one. They must be worn while indoors.

If my son or daughter is fully vaccinated, will they have to quarantine if they are identified as a close contact?

Fully vaccinated individuals who are identified as close contacts will not be subject to quarantine. Persons are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 two weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer or Moderna), or two weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson).

Can my child wear a face shield, “gator” or bandana instead of a mask?

No. According to the guidance from the Erie County Department of Health, students, staff, and visitors must wear two-layer cloth-based or surgical masks that cover both the nose and mouth. Bandanas, gators, and clear face shields are not considered acceptable face coverings. The District will provide a mask to any student, staff member, or visitor who does not have or requests one.

Will the plastic desk barriers be used in classrooms and the cafeteria?

No. The desk barriers have been removed from learning spaces and the cafeteria based on guidance from the CDC.

What is the procedure for parent pick up and drop off during arrival and dismissal?

Please see this link for helpful information: [ACSD Pick Up/Drop Off Procedures](#)

Will there be extended passing times between classes?

No. The traditional passing times will remain the same as last year.

Will one-way directional traffic patterns continue for students and staff?

Yes. Arrangements have been made to allow for ease of transitions between classes and while in cafeteria lines

Will there be limits on spectators at athletic events?

At this time, we do not anticipate having to limit the number of spectators at athletic events. However, at indoor competitions, spectators will be required to wear masks, and it is recommended that they maintain 6 feet of physical distance between others. At outdoor athletic events, masking and physical distancing are recommended but not required.

Are visitors allowed in school buildings during the day?

As we welcome back all of our students, we intend to limit outside guests to the building during the school day. Guests will have access to the building by appointment only. However, spectators for athletic events and performances will be permitted to attend but must remain at least 6 feet away from students and staff.

Will the Elementary School engage in cohorting?

In Elementary School classrooms, students are naturally cohorted in most situations with the same classroom teacher and group of peers. However, students do leave the classroom to attend supplemental instructional programs, specials, and lunch.

What is the school doing to improve air quality in classrooms?

A 10% fresh air setting is the recommended standard. However, the District has adjusted the fresh air settings on the HVAC system to allow for no less than 25% of fresh air coming into the classrooms at all times. Frequently, the fresh air circulation is higher than this set minimum point. On an especially warm or cold day, opening windows actually reduces the fresh air being drawn into the building as the fresh air dampers are drawn closed to make up for the temperature difference.

Will the District inform the community of the number of positive COVID-19 cases in the school?

Yes. Just like last year, at the end of each week, we will provide information on the number of COVID-19 cases in the district. We cannot reveal the names of any individuals.