

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Quakertown Community School District**

Initial Effective Date: **July 1, 2021**

Date of Last Review: **March 21, 2022**

Date of Last Revision: **March 24, 2022**

- 1. 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?**

The QCSD Health and Safety Plan is informed by guidance from our federal, state, and local authorities. These include and are not limited to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and the Bucks County Health Department (BCHD). The QCSD will continue to work in coordination with these agencies and our local partners to develop and refine expectations that meet all requirements.

QCSD will revise this plan as necessary, based on changing guidance at any of these levels, at the required frequency. Such changes will be communicated to all stakeholders. Additionally, QCSD will monitor the recommendations of federal, state, and local authorities and adjust as necessary for all curricular, extra-curricular, and co-curricular programs including travel/field trips.

- 2. 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?**

Our methods for educational delivery for the 2021-22 school year will be:

- Instruction will resume on August 30, 2021, on a normal Monday through Friday schedule.
- The following options will be available to families:
 - Face to face, in classroom instruction
 - Online option (Q-Flex) K-12

Student medical issues which require a temporary leave from school will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine appropriate instructional alternatives to continue the student's education in consideration of information provided by the student's health care provider, parent/guardians, principal, and counselor, and IEP team, if applicable

To address the issue of mental health concerns for our students and staff, the following measures will continue to be in place for the 2021-22 school year:

- School counselors and SAP (Student Assistance Program) counselors are available to provide mental health support for students and connect families with services.
- Schools will continue to utilize the SAP program to support students and families.

- One of the district's comprehensive plan goal areas, Culture for Learning, focuses on continued needs assessment and instruction in SEL (Social Emotional Learning).
- Staff will be routinely reminded of how to access the district Employee Assistance Program.
- Professional development options will continue that support mental health/stress reduction.
- Behavioral health supports will continue to be provided through our Board-Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBA).

3. 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.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks may be worn at the discretion of the individual while on School District property or participating in District sponsored events.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom configurations will promote learning and maximize physical distancing where feasible. • Building faculty meetings, full administrative team meetings, and professional development activities will occur in person unless designated as virtual by the meeting coordinator.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General hand hygiene will be practiced throughout the day. • Promote respiratory etiquette of covering mouth/nose when sneezing or coughing. • Proper hand washing and coughing/sneezing technique signs will be posted in all bathrooms and sinks.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving <u>ventilation</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All high-touch surfaces cleaned/disinfected by custodial crew regularly (water fountains, door handles, desks, light switches, etc.) following posted EPA/CDC/manufacture guidelines. • Shared classroom, PE equipment and recess materials will be cleaned between uses when practicable. • Buildings without climate control will open windows for additional fresh air (QE). Filters in HVAC equipment are changed in accordance with the manufacturers specifications and provide the maximum filtration possible for efficient operation of the equipment. HVAC systems are programmed to provide the maximum exchange of fresh air possible for efficient operation of the equipment. All HVAC schedules have been extended to allow for additional air exchanges while there are not any occupants in the building. Filters for HVAC equipment are

	typically changed quarterly, however during Covid we have implemented one additional filter change.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use strategies similar to those used with influenza and other infectious diseases in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19. • Students and employees are encouraged to report positive cases of COVID 19 to their building nurse or direct supervisor. • Symptomatic individuals should remain home until symptoms have resolved and they are fever-free for 24 hours without medication. • Individuals should consult with their medical provider, or the school nurse, with any medical questions. • Consult with the Bucks County Health Department on decisions impacting the closure of classrooms, schools, or the district.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and <u>screening testing</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educate all stakeholders (students, staff, parents/guardians) on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. • Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider. • The nurse or designated employee will evaluate any individual who presents with symptoms consistent with Policy and AR 203 and the recommendations of the Bucks County Department of Health. • Emergency contacts must be up to date. A symptomatic student must be picked up within an hour and will not be sent home on the bus.
g. <u>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with BCDH to provide opportunities for students and community members to receive vaccinations. • District communication mechanisms will be used to distribute information regarding vaccination clinics and designated hours when appropriate.
h. <u>Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</u>; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Pupil Services, IEP case managers, school nurses, principals, and counselors will work with families to develop a student-specific education plan for students with complex needs. • The district will also collaborate with BCIU and other education providers to coordinate plans for students with complex needs.
i. <u>Coordination with state and local health officials.</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular communication will continue with the Bucks County Department of Health regarding potential implementation of updated guidance from the PDE, CDC and other health officials.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of School Directors for Quakertown Community School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on March 24, 2022.

This revised plan was approved by a vote shown below on March 24, 2022, of:

☒ Yes
☐ No

Affirmed on:

By:



Signature of Board President*



Date

*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.

2021-22 Health and Safety Plan Quakertown Community School District

Effective Date: July 1, 2021 **Last Revised: March 10, 2022**

The priority of the Board and Administration is to have students in school as much as possible. Key provisions in the Health and Safety Plan are:

Masks	Masks may be worn at the discretion of the individual while on School District property or participating in District sponsored events.
Distancing	<p>Classroom configurations will promote learning and maximize physical distancing where feasible.</p> <p>Building faculty meetings, full administrative team meetings, and professional development activities will occur in person unless designated as virtual by the meeting coordinator.</p>
Isolation	Symptomatic individuals should remain home until symptoms have resolved and they are fever-free for 24 hours without medication.
Close Contacts	Use strategies similar to those used with influenza and other infectious diseases in the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19.
Reporting	<p>Students and employees are encouraged to report positive COVID-19 cases to their building nurse or direct supervisor.</p> <p>Individuals should consult with their medical provider or the school nurse with medical questions.</p> <p>Consult with the Bucks County Health Department on decisions impacting the closure of classrooms, schools, or the district.</p>

Source: QCSD Health and Safety Plan effective 3/10/22 (link to the approved plan will be added)