



# MUNCY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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July 9, 2020

Dear Muncy Family,

I hope this letter finds you and your family in good health.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with updates related to our school district.

Due to construction, the July School Board meeting will not be held in the new Library/Media Center as originally scheduled. Instead, our July School Board Meeting will be held in person on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Ward L. Myers Elementary School Cafetorium at 7:00 p.m. Social distancing measures will be in place throughout the meeting. Other protective measures for the school board meeting that may be approved by the school district's solicitor will be listed on the 'Board Agenda'. The 'Board Agenda' for the July 20th meeting will be released for public review on Friday, July 17th at 8:00 p.m.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to complete our 'Return to School Survey.' Overall, we received responses from 303 families which represents approximately 50% of our student population.

In response to the question about instructional model preference:

- 68% preferred traditional face to face instruction with all students in attendance on all days.
- 19% preferred a hybrid instructional model with a certain amount of students in attendance on certain days
- 8% preferred a distance learning model
- 5% preferred an instructional model not listed on the survey

In response to the question about transportation:

- 31% indicated their child(ren) will ride district transportation to school
- 35% indicated they will arrange their own transportation for their child(ren)
- 22% indicated their child(ren) will walk to school
- 12% indicated a mode of transportation not listed on the survey

In response to the question about masks:

- 56% responded yes
- 44% responded no

I did take the time to read all of the other comments expressed in our survey. Your feedback is critical as we move forward together in the development of our School District's Health and Safety Plan for the safe re-opening of our schools. Based on the varied responses received, we hope to develop a plan that provides several different choices for our families including: (a) in-person instruction with safety measures and (b) distance learning options. Please remember our plans will remain flexible as guidance is added or changed and based on the conditions within our school and local communities.

Currently, our pandemic team continues to work on developing our School District's Health and Safety Plan for the safe re-opening of our schools. We anticipate preliminary Board Approval of the Health and Safety Plan at our July 20<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Once approved, we will post the plan to our school district's website and provide a link to the preliminary plan in our July 23<sup>rd</sup> letter. Mr. Mark Kreisher, High School Technology Education Teacher, has been added to our pandemic team. Additionally, the school district continues to consult with representatives from The University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and our school physician in the development of different aspects of our plans.

In addition to any screenings that may be completed by the school district upon arrival once school begins, screening your child(ren) before they come to school or participate in school activities will be an essential part for helping our schools re-open safely for the 2020-2021 school year. Please do not hesitate to contact the school district if your child(ren) will not report to school based on your own screenings. Common components of screenings may include the following:

- **Temperature** – Do you have a temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher?
- **Exposure** – Have you recently had close contact with anyone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19?
- **Symptoms** – Have you recently had any of the following symptoms: (a) Fever / Chills; (b) Onset of Cough; (c) Onset of Shortness of Breath; (d) Loss of Taste or Smell; (e) Vomiting or Diarrhea
- **Travel** – Have you recently traveled to any locations that the state of Pennsylvania has identified for self-quarantine upon return: Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Florida; Georgia; Idaho; Louisiana; Mississippi; Nevada; North Carolina; South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas; Utah (See [COVID-19 Information for Travelers](#) for more information).

For International Travel Restrictions please use <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html> for the most updated information.

On Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> we were informed that the [Order of the Secretary of the PA Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#) applies to all schools both at school and on school buses. Our District will continue to monitor mandates and guidance as it is released related to the wearing of face coverings and look to identify times throughout the school

day when masks may not be required (i.e. lunch, recess, gym, when social distancing is feasible) while also including periodic breaks when deemed safe in the development of our plan.

Although we plan to provide a limited number of cloth masks to students at the beginning of the school year, we encourage students to wear cloth masks that meets both safety standards and their own comfort preferences. With that in mind, students are permitted to wear their own personal cloth masks in compliance with other school district procedures related to student dress codes. If interested, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) provides guidance on [how to make cloth face coverings](#) and how to [wash cloth face coverings](#).

As always, please let us know if you have any questions or concerns by e-mailing the individuals listed below. We will continue to work as quickly as possible to answer individual inquiries.

1. For district related questions and concerns, please contact Linda Kneedler at [lkneedler@muncysd.org](mailto:lkneedler@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 2040
2. For high school related questions and concerns, please contact Nicole Edwards at [nedwards@muncysd.org](mailto:nedwards@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 3220
3. For elementary school related questions and concerns, please contact Vickie Conner at [vconner@muncysd.org](mailto:vconner@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 1100
4. For special education related questions and concerns, please contact Cheryl Good at [cgood@muncysd.org](mailto:cgood@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 1250
5. For food service related questions and concerns, please contact Tom Kuntz at [tkuntz@muncysd.org](mailto:tkuntz@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 1120
6. For athletic related questions and concerns, please contact Curt Chilson at [cchilson@muncysd.org](mailto:cchilson@muncysd.org) or 570-546-3125 ext. 3630

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy, Stay Strong!

Sincerely,

***Craig***

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