REOPENING PLAN UPDATE

Board of Education meeting: August 3, 2020
COVID-19 IN OUR COMMUNITY

Platte County Positivity Rate – 14-day average

SOURCE: Platte County Health Department
COVID-19 IN OUR COMMUNITY

Platte County Positive Cases by Date

SOURCE: Platte County Health Department
COVID-19 IN OUR COMMUNITY

Cases by Zip Code

- 64152: 110
- 64150: 88
- 64079: 67
- 64098: 14
- 64018: 8
- 64151: 7
- 64089: 5

SOURCE: Platte County Health Department
PUBLIC HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

- Begin school after Labor Day

- “For both high school and middle school students, virtual-only or various hybrid models may be considered, including smaller cohorts and reduced days of attendance, to reduce the likelihood of transmission among these students . . . teachers and adult support staff.”

(KCHD’s “Interim Return to School Guidance,” page 4)
“To date, for children under 10, we have little evidence of significant levels of child-to-child transmission. We also have little evidence of significant child-to-adult transmission. Therefore, based on this evidence, and the challenges of virtual learning in the younger ages, we are highly encouraging in-person education for all pre-K through grade school students.”

(KCHD’s “Interim Return to School Guidance,” page 3)
We would like the health departments to provide us with gating criteria. These criteria would be based on levels of COVID-19 in our community. These would tell us when to move to the different modes of our in-person plans.

**Current language:** “Protocols should be developed for hybrid and virtual learning that can be activated if the circumstances dictate.”

*(KCHD’s “Interim Return to School Guidance,” page 5)*
# Recommended Learning Modes Based on COVID-19 Community Transmission

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<tr>
<th>Gating Criteria</th>
<th>Green</th>
<th>Yellow</th>
<th>Red</th>
<th>Remote Only</th>
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<tr>
<td>Previous 14 days show ≤5% positive tests and steady or decreasing new cases</td>
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<td>Increasing cases and more than 15% positive</td>
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<td><strong>Elementary School</strong></td>
<td>In person following safe-opening principles</td>
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<td><strong>Elementary extra and cocurricular activities</strong></td>
<td>In person following safe-opening principles</td>
<td>No all-school activities. Limited to activities that accommodate masking and social distancing. Groups should be stable with limited numbers.</td>
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<td>Spectator/audience should be distanced by household groups; masked if indoors. Facilities should limit capacity to allow for 6’ social distancing at ALL school-related events.</td>
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<td><strong>Middle/High School</strong></td>
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<td>Hybrid</td>
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<td><strong>Middle/High extra and cocurricular activities</strong></td>
<td>In person following safe-opening principles</td>
<td>No high-risk activities. No group travel Conditioning/practice may continue with modifications.</td>
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**EXAMPLE:**
Johnson County’s Gating Criteria
CHANGE TO CALENDAR

• **Recommendation:** The first day of school for students would be Tuesday, September 8.

• Teachers will still report on their original assigned dates, and they will spend this additional time preparing for this new way of doing business.

• Support staff will hear from their supervisors about their start dates.
• Our in-person students will start in a split mode (more on this in a few slides).

• We hope to move them to 100% in-person when the levels of COVID-19 decrease, but we might need to move to full distance learning if levels increase.
• Safety of students and staff
• Public health recommendations
• Academic needs
• Teacher preparation time needed for contingency plans
CALENDAR CONSIDERATIONS

• Narrow focus to academics and taking care of students and staff
• Maintain semester breaks
• Maintain the end of the semester
• Balance instructional time between semesters
PHNEA COLLABORATION

Memorandum of Understanding with PHNEA for 2020-2021:
• We will provide an additional 10 days of paid leave for all staff, to be used for COVID-19 related issues.

• We will pay the sponsors of 2020-2021 sports and activities, even if they get canceled.

• We will amend the work calendars to show the first day of school is September 8.
Memorandum of Understanding with PHNEA for 2020-2021:

• We will amend the 2020-2021 work calendars to cancel early release days, teacher workdays and district-level professional development days.

• We might not be able to provide duty-free lunch for teachers during 2020-2021, but we will try to provide it when we can.
Summer Day Camp ends on August 19 as scheduled, and we will start the fall session of Adventure Club on August 24, and this service will be open during the two weeks until the new first day of school for those families who are already signed up.

We will take similar health and safety precautions to what we did during the summer.
• In order to provide our tuition preschool teachers with important professional development, we will adjust the schedule for the summer and fall sessions.

• We will contact those families directly to let them know how this will work.
## Proposed Calendar

**2020-2021 School Year Calendar**

**www.parkhill.k12.mo.us**

**Board Approved 1/29/2020**

**Board Amended 5/28/2020**

Proposed Amended [pending BOE approval 8/1/2020]

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**No school for students**

**Work days for teachers**

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The district will implement Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) per RSMo 171.033 for up to 5 days of missed school days for emergencies or inclement weather.

The district will use AMI for the first 5 days missed inclement weather/Instructional days. Any additional missed inclement weather/Instructional days will be added to the end of the school year.

- Aug. 11-13: New teacher orientation
- Aug. 14: Teacher work day/professional development day
- Aug. 17-21: Teacher work days/professional development days
- Aug. 24-28: Teacher work days/professional development days
- Aug. 31: Teacher work day/professional development day
- Sept. 1-4: Teacher work days/professional development days
- Sept. 7: Labor Day (no school)
- Sept. 8: First day of school
- Oct. 29: End of first quarter
- Nov. 25-27: Thanksgiving break (no school)
- Dec. 23-31: Winter break (no school)
- Jan. 1: Winter break (no school)
- Jan. 15: End of second quarter
- Jan. 18: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (no school)
- March 26: End of third quarter
- March 30-31: Spring break (no school)
- April 1-2: Spring break (no school)
- May 28: Last day of school, depending on snow days
- May 31: Memorial Day (no school)
- June 3: Tentative start date for summer school, depending on snow days

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**Note:** Check the district website for the most current information and updates.
We will move through these in-person levels based on guidance from public health officials.

- In Person
- 100% In-Person Mode
- Split Mode
- Distance Learning Mode
- Park Hill Online
75% IN PERSON

25% PARK HILL ONLINE
100% IN-PERSON MODE

**ELEMENTARY:**
- MONDAY: In person
- TUESDAY: In person
- WEDNESDAY: In person
- THURSDAY: In person
- FRIDAY: In person

**SIXTH-12TH:**
- MONDAY: In person
- TUESDAY: In person
- WEDNESDAY: In person
- THURSDAY: In person
- FRIDAY: In person
• **PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY (IN PERSON):**
  Monday through Friday: All students in person

• **MIDDLE- AND HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENTS (HYBRID):**
  – Monday: A group in person (A through K - see below)
  – Tuesday: B group in person (L through Z - see below)
  – Wednesday: Everyone distance learning
  – Thursday: A group in person
  – Friday: B group in person

• **GROUPING STUDENTS**
  Students in sixth through 12th grades will be in the A group if the oldest student in their household has a last name that starts with A through K. Students will be in the B group if the oldest student in their household has a last name that starts with L through Z.
SPLIT MODE: SIXTH-12TH HYBRID

A GROUP
A through K*

MONDAY: In person
TUESDAY: Distance learning
WEDNESDAY: Distance learning
THURSDAY: In person
FRIDAY: Distance learning

B GROUP
L through Z*

MONDAY: Distance learning
TUESDAY: In person
WEDNESDAY: Distance learning
THURSDAY: Distance learning
FRIDAY: In person

*Students in sixth through 12th grades will be in the A group if the oldest student in their household has a last name that starts with A through K. Students will be in the B group if the oldest student in their household has a last name that starts with L through Z.
• SIXTH-12TH HYBRID BY GROUP

A Group (A through K):
– Monday: In person
– Tuesday: Distance learning
– Wednesday: Distance learning
– Thursday: In person
– Friday: Distance learning

B Group (L through Z):
– Monday: Distance learning
– Tuesday: In person
– Wednesday: Distance learning
– Thursday: Distance learning
– Friday: In person

• PRIME TIME

Students who are signed up for Prime Time will not attend Prime Time on the days they are at home doing distance learning.
SPLIT MODE: SIXTH-12TH LABOR DAY SCHEDULE

A GROUP
A through K

B GROUP
L through Z

MONDAY:
Labor Day

TUESDAY:
Distance learning

WEDNESDAY:
In person

THURSDAY:
In person

FRIDAY:
Distance learning

MONDAY:
Labor Day

TUESDAY:
In person

WEDNESDAY:
Distance learning

THURSDAY:
Distance learning

FRIDAY:
In person

We will use this schedule when we are closed for Labor Day the week of September 7.
LABOR DAY SCHEDULE

We will use this schedule for our sixth-12th graders when we are closed for Labor Day the week of September 7.

A Group (A through K):
- Monday: Labor Day
- Tuesday: Distance learning
- Wednesday: In person
- Thursday: In person
- Friday: Distance learning

B Group (L through Z):
- Monday: Labor Day
- Tuesday: In person
- Wednesday: Distance learning
- Thursday: Distance learning
- Friday: In person
DISTANCE LEARNING MODE

ELEMENTARY:
- MONDAY: All students home
- TUESDAY: All students home
- WEDNESDAY: All students home
- THURSDAY: All students home
- FRIDAY: All students home

SIXTH-12TH:
- MONDAY: All students home
- TUESDAY: All students home
- WEDNESDAY: All students home
- THURSDAY: All students home
- FRIDAY: All students home
Because we changed what the in-person option will include, we will give families until **Thursday, August 6 at 5 p.m.** to update their preferences for their children.

- If you want to change what you selected for your child, please call us at 359-4044 during business hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or email us at PHonline@parkhill.k12.mo.us before the deadline.

- If you want to keep your child in the same selection as before, you do not need to do anything.
April-August:
We investigated all the ever-evolving guidance from public health officials and other experts across the state, country and world on how to keep our students and staff safe and healthy.

We developed a framework based on the five pillars of protection: hand-washing, physical distancing, cleaning, stable groups and masks.
June-August:
Teachers came in this summer to develop content for each grade and course, and they put it all into our online learning tools.

This will save our teachers time when they teach Park Hill Online or distance learning, freeing them up to focus on teaching and connecting with kids.
July-August:
Our principals are taking our health and safety framework and developing detailed plans for how they will apply them in their schools, with their different spaces and needs.

Our principals are also planning and working to support our staff and their social-emotional learning during this difficult time.
August:
Now that we have our enrollment numbers, we can work on assigning staff to classes. We have several factors to balance in this work:

• Consider teachers’ medical needs and preferences
• Try to offer the courses students want
• Try to keep teams and schools together
• Try to keep class sizes to Park Hill’s standards
August:
We will provide teachers training on how to plan for online instruction, how to handle a hybrid model, how to support their class climate in this environment, and how to develop the social-emotional learning students need to be resilient.

We will also give teachers time to prepare for this new work.
August:
• We will adjust master schedules to reflect all the new enrollment and staffing information.

• We will amend individual education plans (IEPs) for students receiving special services. This might include alternate schedules as needed.

• We will figure out how to distribute our technology to students.
ANSWERS

to Frequently Asked Questions
PARK HILL ONLINE

This is an online-only option we are offering during the COVID-19 pandemic for students from across the Park Hill School District.
• **TEACHING**
  Teachers will partner with parents to guide students along as they work through their learning. There will be some teacher facilitation and some independent student work, with a combination of virtual one-on-ones, virtual groups, live class sessions and pre-recorded videos.

• **HELP FROM ADULTS**
  This option will require the student’s parent or guardian to help facilitate their child’s learning. This will be a partnership with the teacher, who will provide guidance and instruction.

• **TIME SPENT WORKING**
  Different students will take a different amount of time to complete their work, and the different classes will vary as well. Students do not need to stick to a certain schedule during the day, unless a schedule works better for them and their family. They will be able to access their classwork whenever it works best for them.
• COURSE AVAILABILITY

– We will start with the courses that students requested when they enrolled earlier this year.

– We will try to get students the courses they want, with Park Hill teachers teaching them our curriculum.

– If we do not have enough students who want a course to make a full class or if we do not have a teacher, we will try to find the course for a student who wants it through an outside source with outside teachers.

– If we cannot find the course for the student at all, we will contact the family to work through what other options we can offer to meet the student’s needs.
We will provide more details for Park Hill Online families by next Monday, August 10. This will include:

- Guidance on expectations and daily schedules
- Information about how the technology distribution will work
- Information about supplies
- A date for when families will learn their children’s teacher and course assignments
- Details about our online learning platforms and instructions on how to use them
• **TEACHERS ON SITE**

  *We are bringing all our teachers on site to teach Park Hill Online, so that . . .*

  – *They will have all the resources available to our in-person teachers.*

  – *They will be able to participate in trainings and collaboration.*

  – *We will be able to support them to ensure that Park Hill Online students have a high-quality experience.*

  – *Some middle- and high-school teachers will be able to teach mostly in-person but also have one or two online sections.*
• WHY NOT JUST LIVESTREAM CLASS?

Some have asked why we do not just livestream the learning in the in-person classrooms for the students at home. There are several reasons:

- Online and in-person learning are fundamentally different methods of instruction.

- A teacher would not be able to effectively meet the needs of the students watching at home in this format, who would just be passive observers.

- The most proven, effective methods for online instruction allow the teacher to provide dedicated time and feedback to the online students to make sure they are engaged with their learning.

- This also creates legal, ethical and privacy issues.
NO SWITCHING

After the final deadline of Thursday at 5 p.m., we must ask everyone to commit to their choice for the entire semester, so we can be sure we have enough teaching staff for both the in-person and online programs.
Our case managers will work with families and the rest of the IEP team to determine how best to meet each student’s needs.
• **IN-PERSON PRECAUTIONS**

  – We will provide face masks to all students and staff. Some will receive masks with clear windows to help those who need to see mouths when someone is speaking.

  – We will also provide additional PPE to our staff, such as face shields and gloves, to give more protection when needed.

  – For students who cannot wear a mask, depending on their needs, we will try other PPE, such as face shields.

• **PARK HILL ONLINE**

*If you signed your child up for Park Hill Online, your child’s case manager will work with you and the rest of the IEP team to determine whether Park Hill Online is the best fit for your child’s needs. We can provide some services online, but others might need to be in person.*
SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

We will continue offering extra-curricular activities, including athletics and clubs, taking as many safety precautions as possible.

We will follow guidelines from the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) as we receive them, and we will keep participants updated on their rules.
• **IF WE MUST CLOSE**

If COVID-19 increases in our area to the point that all our in-person students must go to full distance learning, MSHSAA says that sports and activities would stop during that time. We would also stop our elementary clubs if this happened.

• **SELECTED SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES**

MSHSAA said they will not keep some sports and activities open when others get canceled.

There is a campaign to get them to leave open activities that can be online-only, such as debate. We have expressed support for this idea.
NOTIFICATIONS

As we work to keep students and staff safe during this pandemic, we will share as much information as possible with you, while still following legal and ethical privacy rules.
FAMILY NOTIFICATIONS
For family members, if we find out that your child was directly in contact at school with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or someone whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you.

STAFF NOTIFICATIONS
For staff members, the same is true. If we find out you were directly in contact at work with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or someone whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you.

QUARANTINE
We will ask everyone who is directly exposed to stay at home for 14 days.
• **SEASONAL ILLNESSES**
  
  We are seeing several students and staff with illness symptoms, as we often do each year with allergies and illnesses like strep and bronchitis. As appropriate, we are sending them home, and sometimes we encourage them to get tested for COVID-19.

• **ASSUME EVERYONE HAS COVID-19**

  While privacy laws keep us from sharing each of these cases with you, please take precautions as if everyone has COVID-19, including you and your family.

• **SCREENINGS**

  Please use the list of symptoms we gave you to screen before coming to school, and please stay home if you know you or your child have been exposed to COVID-19.
If a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test or a healthcare provider diagnoses presumptive COVID-19, we will follow guidelines set by public health officials.
• GUIDELINES
  – If your child has been in direct contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you.

  – We will work with our local health departments to determine what precautions we must take and whether we need to close.

  – The person’s family members should self-quarantine for 14 days after the last day of exposure. Nurses will contact buildings where family members attend to ensure that they are observing the self-quarantine.

  – If a sick person rode the bus, First Student will take the vehicle out of service for 24 hours to clean and disinfect.
Everyone is required to wear a mask to keep our students and staff safe.

We will evaluate this in the future when the levels of COVID-19 go down.
PROVIDING MASKS
We will provide each child and staff member with two reusable masks, but they may use their own if they prefer.

FACE SHIELD
A face shield cannot replace a mask, but students and staff may wear one over their mask. Students and staff may only wear a face shield without a mask when they are physically distanced and it is important for instruction.

HEALTH EXCEPTIONS
We will have exceptions for students with medical issues that affect their breathing or their ability to remove the mask.

MASK BREAKS
We will allow structured mask breaks during the day, making sure that students and staff are physically distanced when they take the breaks.
PHYSICAL DISTANCING

We will take steps to promote physical distancing, although we cannot keep everyone six feet apart.
• COMMON SPACES
We will stagger the use of common spaces, including the cafeteria, playground and other areas.

• FURNITURE
We will rearrange furniture and equipment to move students farther apart.

• SCHEDULES AND TRANSITIONS
  – We will adjust recess and lunch schedules to allow for more cleaning and disinfection.
  – We will modify passing periods.
  – We will change arrival and dismissal procedures.

• PLEXIGLASS
We have ordered plexiglass to put on teacher desks, on student tables (when we don’t have individual desks), in rooms for specialized instruction and in front offices. The vendor told us it should be here before school starts.
As we adapt to the changing schedule and format of school, our Nutrition Services director is working to get guidance from the state, based on the federal nutrition program, to see how we can help meet the food needs of students and families who might be struggling during this pandemic.

Our social workers are also working to connect these families with community resources.
BUS SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Please consider taking your child to school instead of sending them on the bus. We will not be able to provide physical distancing on the buses, but we will take as many precautions as possible.
• PRECAUTIONS
  – Students must wear masks.
  – Drivers will wear masks when students are boarding and getting off the bus.
  – We will provide hand sanitizer.
  – We will open windows when possible.
  – First Student will train drivers about health and safety precautions for COVID-19.
  – First Student will disinfect all surfaces on the buses at the end of each route.
  – First Student will create assigned seats for students riding the bus, with siblings sitting together when possible. The seat behind the driver will remain empty.
  – When possible, First Student will assign drivers to a single bus and route.
AIR QUALITY

We are changing our equipment and procedures, according to expert guidance, to improve air quality and filtration in our schools and support facilities.

We have more than 500 HVAC units, ranging in age from brand-new to 20 years.
• **OUTDOOR AIR**

We are increasing the percentage of outside air by using the economizer modes of our HVAC systems where it is possible, opening windows when it is safe, and flushing our air systems at least two hours before people enter buildings where we can do so.

• **HVAC UNITS**

We are inspecting our filters to ensure they work and they fit, and where it is possible, we are replacing filters with MERV 13 filters, especially in areas most at risk for transfer of COVID-19 (these are in high demand and more difficult to order right now).

On district HVAC units with a humidification device, we will maintain relative humidity between 40% to 60% to limit viruses.

• **SUSPENDING EFFICIENCY MEASURES**

We are running our HVAC systems even when we are not using our facilities in order to improve filtration and the percentage of outdoor air. This means we are suspending our energy efficiency measures.
BUILDING SUCCESSFUL FUTURES.
Each Student. Every Day.