

Fall Reopening Plans
of
Francis W. Parker
Charter Essential School

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A. Executive Summary

Parker plans to reopen for full-time, in-person learning on Wednesday, 1 September 2021. We will not be offering remote learning or hybrid learning options. Our intention is to return to “regular” programming to the maximum feasible extent, with necessary COVID-19 management and mitigation measures in place.

The main elements of our approach to COVID management and mitigation include: required masking while indoors; symptomatic testing for individuals; routine COVID safety checks for students and staff; “test and stay” for close contacts who are not vaccinated and not showing symptoms.

A letter to the Parker community describing the main elements of our 2021-2022 reopening plans was emailed to families on 23 August 2021. The letter is posted on our website.

B. In-Person Learning Model

Health and safety-related modifications to facilities and school-keeping routines are summarized in the following table.

Qualities of a Safe and Healthy School Environment During COVID-19 Pandemic	Steps Parker is Taking to Create a Safe and Healthy Environment for Learning on Campus
Required Masking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be required for all students and staff. Regular (ideally outdoor) mask breaks will be built into daily classroom routines. Masks/face coverings should be provided by the student/family. Masks will be available if needed. Teachers of hearing-impaired students will wear clear masks.
Modifying Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective use of outdoor spaces for classes, eating, or other activities will be supported by outdoor furniture and awnings, weather permitting. • Meal service will eliminate use of shared items. • Students will eat meals, physically distanced at self-regulated 3', in spaces of their choosing.
Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition to promoting frequent hand washing, we will provide hand sanitizer (at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol) in classrooms and common spaces. • We will place appropriate posters throughout school about hand washing, wearing masks/face coverings, covering coughs/sneezes, physical distancing, direction in halls, etc.
Healthy Facilities and Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will prioritize fresh air changes per hour in air handling/ventilation systems and supplement with stand-alone fans and filtration systems as needed. To be adjusted seasonally. • We will change HVAC filters and execute seasonal maintenance protocols prior to re-opening. • We will provide portable HEPA filters for classrooms without central air handling. • We are installing plexiglass barriers in some office locations where physical distancing is difficult.

<p>Contacts and Contact Tracing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will not gather indoors in large groups (Weekly Gathering or whole-school activities, for example). • We have prepared a “medical isolation room” for students and staff who display COVID-19 symptoms during the day. School nurse will use PPE if individual presents with COVID-19 symptoms. • School nurse will collaborate with local Board of Health in conducting contact tracing • “Test and stay” allows students who have had close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 while at school to stay in school if the student is not vaccinated and not showing symptoms. Instead of needing to quarantine and miss school, these students will take a daily rapid test for at least five days while they remain in school as long as they are not symptomatic.
<p>Diagnostic and Screening Testing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will offer both diagnostic and screening testing on campus. The program has three components: symptomatic testing for students who show symptoms of COVID-19 at school, routine COVID safety checks to prevent the spread of the virus undetected among students who are not showing symptoms, and test and stay for students who may have been exposed while in school but are not vaccinated and not showing symptoms. • Students, families, and staff must “opt in” to the testing programs by providing written consent.
<p>Vaccination</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although students who are vaccinated are much less likely to spread or contract the virus, we will create an inclusive environment for both vaccinated and unvaccinated students. • All students/staff will be encouraged to get their flu vaccine. There will be an on-site flu shot clinic on Registration Day. • All eligible students/staff will be encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccine, either at an on-site clinic on Registration Day or at their preferred vendor.
<p>Appropriate Accommodations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will offer appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.
<p>Coordination with State and Local Health Officials</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will consult, coordinate, and collaborate with the appropriate state and local health officials as needed.

Qualities of a Safe and Healthy School Environment During COVID-19 Pandemic	Steps Parker is Taking to Create a Safe and Healthy Environment for Learning on Campus
Health Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and staff will stay home if they are sick. • We will promote a daily “symptom check” prior to leaving home for students and staff. DESE will provide checklist of symptoms. • All students should be up to date with their routine childhood and adolescent vaccinations. • School Nurse will do trainings for handwashing and donning/doffing masks/face coverings. • Students will not be allowed to go to the Health Office unless the teacher has called and spoken to the nurse. Detailed instructions will be given. • Students will not be able to use the bathroom in the Health Office unless they are already in the Health Office due to illness. • Parents must always be reachable so students can be picked up quickly when they are ill. • Drop-in visits will not be allowed. Parents may call or email the school nurse to pick up or drop off medications or documents. • School nurse will monitor absences.
Travel on School Buses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be required while aboard school buses.
Sports & Extra Curriculars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will adjust seasonal sports offerings and methods of play to align with any related guidance from DESE/MIAA.