Fall Reopening Plans
of
Francis W. Parker
Charter Essential School

August 2021

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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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualities of a Safe and Healthy School Environment During COVID-19 Pandemic</th>
<th>Steps Parker is Taking to Create a Safe and Healthy Environment for Learning on Campus</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Required Masking</strong></td>
<td>• 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.</td>
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| **Modifying Facilities** | • 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** | • 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** | • 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. |
| Contacts and Contact Tracing | • 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. |
| --------------------------- | -------------------------------------------------- |
| Diagnostic and Screening Testing | • 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. |
| Vaccination | • 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 | • We will offer appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures. |
| Coordination with State and Local Health Officials | • We will consult, coordinate, and collaborate with the appropriate state and local health officials as needed. |</p>
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| Health Office | • 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 | • Masks will be required while aboard school buses. |
| Sports & Extra Curriculars | • We will adjust seasonal sports offerings and methods of play to align with any related guidance from DESE/MIAA. |