

Tunkhannock Area School District

Return to School Guidelines for Families

Welcome back! We are excited to see your student in the coming weeks. We recognize that you may have some questions about returning to school. We will be providing a series of documents to guide you in your student's return. The following guidance is a summary of CDC recommendations.

EVERYDAY, please check the following before your child leaves for school:

- Check in with your child each morning for signs of illness. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, they should not go to school.
- Make sure your child does not have a sore throat or other signs of illness, like a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches.
- If your child has had close contact to a COVID-19 case, they should not go to school. Follow guidance on what to do when someone has known exposure.
- If your child has travelled to a "high covid" state as outlined on the Pennsylvania Department of Health website within the last 14 days, they should not go to school.
- Insure child has school mask and necessary supplies including device (ipad or Chromebook)

Other factors to consider as you prepare to return:

- Identify your school point person(s) to contact if your child gets sick.
 - Primary Center: Cathy Rowe
 - Mehoopany: Teri Wesley
 - Intermediate Center: Nadia Zukosky
 - STEM: Nadia Zukosky
 - High School: Lynn McAndrew
- Review and practice proper hand washing techniques at home, especially before and after eating, sneezing, coughing, and adjusting a cloth face covering or mask. Make hand washing fun and explain to your child why it's important.
- Develop daily routines before and after school—for example, things to pack for school in the morning (like face mask and device) and things to do when you return home (like washing hands immediately).
- Talk to your child about precautions to take at school. Children may be advised to:
 - Wash and sanitize their hands more often.
 - Keep physical distance from other students.
 - Wear a cloth face covering.
 - Avoid sharing objects with other students, including water bottles, devices, writing instruments, and books.
 - Use hand sanitizer (that contains at least 60% alcohol.)
 - Monitor how they feel and tell an adult if they are not feeling well.
- Make sure your information is current at school, including emergency contacts and individuals authorized to pick up your child(ren) from school. If that list includes anyone who is at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19, consider identifying an alternate person.

- Plan for possible school closures or periods of quarantine. If transmission is increasing in your community or if multiple children or staff test positive for COVID-19, the school building might close. Similarly, if a close contact of your child (within or outside of school) tests positive for COVID-19, your child may need to stay home for a 2-week quarantine period. You may need to consider the feasibility of teleworking, taking leave from work, or identifying someone who can supervise your child in the event of school building closures or quarantine.
- Plan for transportation:
 - If your child rides a bus, plan for your child to wear the district-provided mask on the bus and talk to your child about the importance of following bus rules and any spaced seating rules.
 - If carpooling, plan on every child in the carpool and the driver wearing cloth face coverings for the entire trip. If your school uses the cohort model, consider finding families within your child's group/cohort at school to be part of the carpool.