



**Plan for the Reopening of Schools  
For 2020-2021**

# Questions?

We will attempt to answer all questions at the end of this presentation if time allows.

Please e-mail questions to [ksiers@pcva.us](mailto:ksiers@pcva.us)

# REMINDER

- **Any parent, who has concerns about students returning for face-to-face instruction can register their child(ren) to participate in the Pulaski County Virtual Academy and receive all virtual instruction.**
- The PC Virtual Academy ensures that the student remains enrolled with PCPS which will facilitate an easier transition back to the students' home schools when the time comes.
- We plan for the PCVA to be offered throughout the current school year and will look at extending it through next year, if needed.
- Parents can register students by calling Tammy Harrell at 540-994-2524 or e-mailing her at [tharrell@pcva.us](mailto:tharrell@pcva.us) .
- The deadline for registering students for the PCVA has been extended to Friday, July 31, 2020.

# Steps to Develop the PCPS Reopening Plan

1. Formed a taskforce made up of teachers, parents, students, counselors, administrators, school board members, and school board office administrators to discuss various strategies for reopening schools.
2. Received input from Dr. Noelle Bissell, the Director of the New River Health District, on various mitigation & social distancing strategies that should be considered when developing the PCPS plan.
3. Surveyed students(82), parents (1,250), faculty & staff (294)

# Takeaways from the Surveys

- 1. There are varying degrees of enthusiasm among stakeholders for returning to school 4 days per week.
- 2. Approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our parents,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of our students, and  $\frac{1}{10}$  of our employees do not support wearing masks.
- 3. Childcare for non-instructional days will be an issue for parents, faculty, & staff
- 4. A significant percentage of parents, students, faculty, & staff will need assistance in developing the skills needed for a successful implementation of on-line learning.
- 5. Health screening procedures will require a concerted effort to be administered correctly on a daily basis.

# Health Plan

- Students will wear masks on buses, during transitions, and inside of the classrooms when 6 feet of distancing cannot be maintained. *Masks have been shown to reduce the spread of COVID by 67%. So, without this requirement, we would have to transport students in every other seat and strictly adhere to six feet of social distancing inside of our classrooms, which would reduce the possible number of face-to-face instructional days to one or two per week.* [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)31142-9/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR1haj3XmKfK2w5kc-zgAJozEm\\_gvqya\\_QHrNwVfAPqsPaNPuYqMbCUnotA#seccestitle140](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)31142-9/fulltext?fbclid=IwAR1haj3XmKfK2w5kc-zgAJozEm_gvqya_QHrNwVfAPqsPaNPuYqMbCUnotA#seccestitle140)
- Students will receive a health screening upon arrival each day. Students who are screened out from attending will be placed on virtual learning status for 10 days or until they have been fever free for 3 consecutive days without the use of fever reducing medication, whichever is longer.
- Teachers will instruct students on the necessary hygiene habits to reduce the spread of COVID.
- Students will be required to wash or sanitize their hands before and after using shared resources in the classroom and on playgrounds.
- Appropriate signage will be posted throughout classrooms & school buildings.

# Additional Safety Precautions

- No fieldtrips to other locations.
- Schools will strive to schedule visitors to come in after instructional days are over and all will be required to participate in the health screening.
- Guest speakers will participate remotely.
- Outside agencies working inside of our schools will be expected to follow all COVID mitigation guidelines.
- Air handling systems will be in operation an additional six hours each day to ensure that more fresh air is circulating through the building.

# Reopening Steps Elementary & High Schools

- Step 1-(September 8-11)- 25% of enrolled students attend each day of the week. Students will be assigned their day alphabetically by school. We will move to Step 2 if there are no confirmed COVID cases within a school during the first week of Step 1.
- Step 2 (Tentatively September 14-25) 50% of enrolled students will attend M-Tu and 50% will attend Th-F. (Wednesdays will be used for virtual learning & deep cleaning of school buildings.) After completion of two full weeks with no confirmed cases within our schools, we will move to Step 3.
- Step 3 (Tentatively September 28-?) 100% of enrolled students will attend M, Tu, Th, & F. (Wednesdays will be used for virtual learning & deep cleaning of schools.)
- *Step 4- A full return to school five days per week. We are waiting for additional guidance from the VDOE & VDH before we can develop the parameters for Step 4.*
- \*- Elementary age children (PK-5) of PCPS employees will be allowed to attend each day that face-to-face instruction is offered during Step 1 & 2.



# Reopening Steps- PCMS

- 1. Due to 2 weeks worth of schedule delays caused by the COVID 19 outbreak at the PCMS construction site, the middle school will have a different plan for reopening than all other schools.
- 2. PCMS students will be brought in for ½ day on September 1 (6<sup>th</sup> grade), September 2 (7<sup>th</sup> grade), and September 3 (8<sup>th</sup> grade) to be issued Chromebooks, if needed, and have their schedules set up in Virtual Virginia.
- 3. PCMS students will participate in all virtual learning from September 8<sup>th</sup>-September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. PCMS students will begin attending in person classes during the week of September 21<sup>st</sup> and instruction will be provided on the same schedule as the other schools. (50% on M-TU & 50% on TH-F for that week.)

# Plan for Intermittent Shutdowns

- 1. Should PCPS have a confirmed case in any individual school, that school may revert to Phase I guidelines (all virtual) for a period time to allow for a deep cleaning, contact tracing, and reentry plan to be developed with guidance from the New River Health District (VDH).
- 2. Should PCPS have confirmed cases in multiple schools at the same time, the entire division may revert to Phase 1 guidelines (all virtual) for a period of time to allow for deep cleaning, contact tracing, and a reentry plan to be developed with guidance from the New River Health District.

# Presenters

- Technology- Josh Taylor, PCPS Director of Technology
- Virtual Learning- Lincoln Whitaker, PCPS ITRT
- Instructional Plan- Mary Rash, PCPS Director of Administration & Instruction
- Special Education Services- Sarah Polcha, PCPS Director of Special Education
- Nutrition Plan- Ethelene Sadler, PCPS Director of School Nutrition
- Transportation & Custodial Services- Jess Shull, PCPS Director of Operations

# Technology & Virtual Learning

Josh Taylor & Lincoln Whitaker

# Chromebook distribution PCMS

- Starting 7-20-2020 Pickup from IT building available
  - In person pick up on 9-1, 9-2, 9-3 from PCHS
- These students will receive training for the Chromebook and the Canvas platform on 9-1,9-2,9-3

# Chromebook distribution

## PCHS – 9<sup>th</sup> grade

- Expected delivery 8-5
  - Pick up from IT building 8-19-2020
- In person pick up on 9<sup>th</sup> grade orientation at PCHS
- In person pick up first day of in class instruction

# Chromebook distribution

## PK - 5

- Expected delivery 8-31-2020
- Pickup from the IT building could potentially start 9-14-2020
- In person distribution on first day of in class instruction

# Distance Learning

Families who would prefer their students education continue online are invited to enroll in the Pulaski County Virtual Academy.

Distance learning will be delivered online using curriculum from Virtual Virginia on the Canvas Learning Management System.

All pre k- 9 students will be issued a Chromebook to access distance learning courses online.

Virtual Virginia Curriculum and pacing will be used by teachers for distance learning.

Students enrolled in the Virtual Academy will need access to the internet. Those who have limited or no internet access will need to communicate with the IT department.



# Blended Learning

All students returning to “brick and mortar” school setting will receive instruction face to face and Virtual Virginia online curriculum and pacing guides.

All PCPS students will be issued a Chromebook for daily use in the classroom and to participate in distance learning off campus.

In the event students need to move from the brick and mortar setting to distance learning for an extended period of time instruction will continue with their classroom teacher using Canvas and Virtual Virginia.

Students will need access to the internet for distance learning courses. Those who have limited or no internet access will need to communicate with the IT department.

# Training

Teachers will receive ongoing training on the use of Canvas, Google apps, and Virtual Virginia.

To support parents and guardians IT will provide technical training covering the following topics:

- Chromebooks
- Google apps
- Canvas

Trainings will be offered through online media content or in a face to face environment providing we are in a phase that allows this. Social distancing guidelines and mitigation strategies must be followed for the face to face offerings to occur.

# Instructional Plan for Reopening

Mary Rash

# Student Schedules

- All elementary students will remain with the same teacher all day. Specials teachers will rotate into the classrooms. Instructional day is 8:30 – 3:00
- Middle school students will attend 2 core subject classes and an elective Monday and Thursday. The other 2 core classes and elective will be on Tuesday and Friday. Instructional day is 9:15 – 2:15
- High school students will attend 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, double blocked classes on Monday and Thursday. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, double blocked classes will meet on Tuesday and Friday. Instructional day is 9:15 – 2:15

# Middle and High School Expectations

- Class transitions at the secondary levels will be staggered with the use of facemasks.
- A daily hour of virtual instruction will be assigned, due to the loss of face to face time 4 days per week.
- Wednesdays will also be devoted to virtual learning

# Instructional Gaps

- English and math Standard of Learning objectives not covered during the spring closure, will be taught.
- Short assessments will be administered to ensure students are mastering material
- The first 2 to 3 weeks of school will be devoted to covering missed material
- Teachers will determine when new instruction is to begin

# Instructional Gaps Continued

- Other content SOLs that were not taught will be covered during the 2020-2021 school year.
- New instruction for all areas other than English and math will begin immediately.
- Other services such as Title I and Gifted and Talented will continue to be implemented.

# Student Services

- A needs assessment will be administered for PCPS to better assist students and families.
- School counselors will continue to make contacts and assist with services and interventions.
- School counselors will continue to present social and emotional learning lessons, career counseling, and other related services.



# Reminders

- We are here to ensure that your child(ren) receive the best education possible.
- This is a time to engage everyone in learning.
- We appreciate what you have done and will continue to do.
- Be patient and flexible – we are all in this together.

Thank you

# Special Education Plans for Reopening

Sarah Polcha, Director of Special Education

# Phased Approach

Phase 3- Students served through Special Education will return to school with their peers unless otherwise decided upon by their IEP (Individualized Education Team). Teams may consider the student's current level of functioning when making determinations regarding the return to school. Students with disabilities will follow the step approach.

Phase 2: Students who meet the requirements for Extended School Year may attend up to 2 days as determined to be appropriate by the IEP team to receive special education services.

Phase 1: Students who are served by special education for related services and who do not tolerate teletherapy

# Meetings with Case Managers and Families

Your case manager will contact you to discuss your family's decision with regards to the virtual academy or in person instruction.

You will have the option to ask for a full IEP meeting or to create an amendment without a full meeting.

Your IEP will include information for each Phase. This will not replace the need for future IEP meetings but should help facilitate those meetings and transitions due to Covid.

# Service delivery and logistics

Special education services can and will be delivered in the virtual platform.

Accommodations will be tailored for the student and the learning environment and provided through paraprofessionals and the tools on the virtual platform.

Special education personnel will monitor student progress closely to determine if there is a need for additional services.

Special education case managers will check in with parents and guardians weekly.

Special education will provide supports/ consultation for parents and caregivers who are utilizing the virtual platform.

# Reminders

We are here to support and assist you and your student.

IEPs are fluid and flexible documents. We will make changes to address issues as they occur.

If you have questions specific to your student, please call us.

# Pulaski County School Nutrition

Ethelene W. Sadler

Director, School Nutrition

# Community Eligibility Provision

- 2020/2021 – All Pulaski County Schools will operate under CEP (Community Eligibility Provision)
- All students are encouraged to participate at Breakfast & Lunch
- All Breakfast & Lunch Meals provided at NO COST
  - Benefits:
    - Parents are assured students are receiving two healthy meals a day
    - No meal charges
    - No Meal Applications
    - Simplifies and reduces wait time during meal service
    - Supper Meal availability at all sites with enrichment activities



# All Pulaski County Public Schools - Breakfast Meal Service

- **Breakfast**: Grab n Go
  - Breakfast carts at Entry Points
    - Bus unload (all schools)
    - Parent Drop-off (all schools)
    - Student Driver entry point (PCHS)
    - Career & Technical Education Building entrance(PCHS)
    - Student will pick up Grab n Go Breakfast with the option to select milk and/or an additional fruit serving
    - Report to classroom – consume breakfast in the classroom
    - Student Meals will be claimed as they are distributed
    - Students will be asked to empty liquid in classroom sink (where applicable) and dispose of trash as directed by teacher.
    - Breakfast can be counted as instructional time (attendance, review, etc.)

## Elementary Lunch Service

- Meals will be delivered to classrooms for Pk-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students at designated times
- Class rosters will be used to claim meals
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade students will report to cafeteria as scheduled by School Administration to go through serving lines.
- Meals will be provided in boxes and carried/consumed in classrooms
- Social Distancing will be followed as students proceed through the lines
- Students will be required to wear mask through serving lines
- School Nutrition Staff will wear mask and follow all food & health safety guidelines
- Meal Service will be cashless/touchless transactions

## Pulaski County Middle School

- September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> – Lunch provided at PCHS at designated times for each grade group
- **Meal Plan for PCMS Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup>**
- Students will be provided breakfast and lunch during virtual learning.
- Meal distribution plan to be determined

## Pulaski County High- Meal Plan Lunch

- **9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade** students will report to cafeteria as scheduled by School Administration to go through serving lines
- Meals will be provided in boxes and carried/consumed in classrooms
- Social Distancing will be followed as students proceed through the lines
- Students will be required to wear mask through serving lines
- School Nutrition Staff will wear mask and follow all food & health safety guidelines
- Meal Service will be cashless/touchless transactions
- Meals will be delivered at scheduled times for students in Career/Technical Education Building

# PCPS Virtual Learners

- Meals will be provided for Virtual Learners one time per week (5 breakfast/5 lunches)
- Meals will include all components of the USDA meal pattern (Protein, Grain, Vegetables, Fruit & Milk)
- Meal pickup will be available Wednesday from 1:00-2:00 at all school sites
- Parents must order meals in advance by calling the PCPS Hotline (540-643-0104) or by emailing Constance Paul @ [cpaul@pcva.us](mailto:cpaul@pcva.us) by 10:00 am Tuesday morning
- Parents are encouraged to take advantage of the meal service for students
- All meals will be provided at **no cost** to all Virtual Learners

## Meal Service – Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

- Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> : 25% of students will attend school (in alphabetical order) Tuesday- Friday (3 breakfast & 3 lunch meals will be sent home with students when the school day ends on Tuesday)
- Tuesday – Friday: Breakfast & Lunch will be provided for students attending school
- Each student is eligible for one breakfast and one lunch per school day
- All Students are eligible for **one snack and one supper meal** – meal pickup time to be determined

Sept 14<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>

- **Breakfast & Lunch**: Grab n Go
- Virtual Learning on Wednesday's
- All students will be provided **one breakfast** and **one lunch** meal to take home at the end of the school day on Tuesday

# Transportation & Custodial Services

Jess Shull, Director of Operations



# Transportation- Revised Bus Routes

- Each bus will make two runs during Phase III that utilize modified bus routes similar to those we use for summer school.
- Students will be transported one per seat with the use of face coverings. Students residing in the same household can be transported 2 per seat. The seat behind the driver will remain empty.
- Windows will be open, weather permitting.
- Buses will be sanitized each day.

# Links to Phase III Bus Routes

| Elementary Attendance Zone  | Link  |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Critzer Elementary</b>   | <a href="http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/ces-routes.pdf">http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/ces-routes.pdf</a> |
| <b>Dublin Elementary</b>    | <a href="http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/des-routes.pdf">http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/des-routes.pdf</a> |
| <b>Pulaski Elementary</b>   | <a href="http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/pes-routes.pdf">http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/pes-routes.pdf</a> |
| <b>Riverlawn Elementary</b> | <a href="http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/res-routes.pdf">http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/res-routes.pdf</a> |
| <b>Snowville Elementary</b> | <a href="http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/ses-routes.pdf">http://www.pcva.us/files/busroutes/ses-routes.pdf</a> |

# Finding the Route Nearest Your Home

- Go to <http://www.pcva.us/>
- Route links are listed under the News & Announcements heading on our homepage.
- Select the Elementary Attendance Zone in which you live. The routes will be the same for secondary students.
- Review map to determine which route will come closest to your home.
- Buses will begin running at approximately 7:00 for elementary schools and 8:00 for secondary. More specific route times will be made available before students return.

# Questions about bus routes?

Contact

Vickie Jarrells, PCPS Transportation Supervisor

540-643-0815

[vjarrell@pcva.us](mailto:vjarrell@pcva.us)

# Custodial

- Special sanitizers have been purchased and will be made available for staff use daily.
- Bathrooms and high use areas will be sanitized throughout the school day.
- All schools will be sanitized daily.
- Schools will be “deep cleaned” on Wednesdays.

# Concluding Remarks

# If VA goes back to phase II...

- Face-to-face instruction will be provided 2 days per week for all PK-3 grade students.
- ELL & Special Education Students can be educated face-to-face in but those decisions would need to be made on an individual basis.
- All regular education students in grades 4-12 would participate in virtual learning.
- Regular bus routes will run instead of the modified routes that are being used in Phase III.

# How can parents help this plan be successful?

- Provide transportation to and from school as many days as possible.
- Start conversations with students on the mask requirement and work to help them get used to wearing masks.
- Respond in a timely manner for all school related requests for information between now and September 1<sup>st</sup>. This will help greatly in creating a smooth start to the school year.
- Communicate weekly with your children's teachers throughout the year. Frequent open communication will be key for this plan to work.
- Establish a child care plan in advance for days that students cannot attend because they have been screened out or the school has been put into Phase I (all distance learning).
- Bring solutions to the table when there are problems with the implementation of this plan and remember that you are unlikely to get any good answers by venting on social media.
- Remember that you are the parent, so the choices about your children's education are up to you. We will do everything that we can to support whatever decision that you make.



Questions?