

# Butler Area School District Health and Safety Plan Summary 2021-2022

**Initial Effective Date:** *June 22, 2021*

**Date of Last Review:** *June 21, 2021*

**Date of Last Revision:** *June 21, 2021*

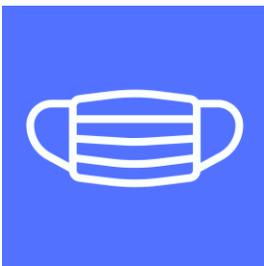
*The following information outlines the district's health and safety plan related to COVID-19. Please note the district is required to review this document every six months and update if necessary. In addition, the district is required to review and update this plan whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools.*

Butler Area School District is committed to fully opening our schools for the 2021-2022 school year. The district is also committed to offering different learning pathways to provide students and families with options so they can determine what will best fit their individual needs.

The school district administration will continue to review the current recommendations from the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health each week. After reviewing the recommendations, the district administration will seek clarifying information, if needed, from the medical staff at Butler Health System and County Leaders.

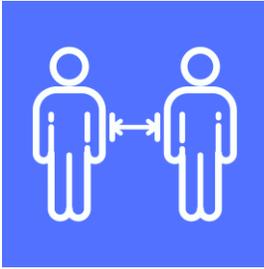
Based on the information reviewed, recommendations are provided to the Board of School Directors (hereinafter school board). The school board, which consists of locally elected officials, retains its statutory authority over the operation of the schools, facilities, and programs of Butler Area School District. If circumstances change, the school board, in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools, will modify this Safety Plan, as needed, to meet the educational and safety needs of its students, employees and the large school community.

Based on the current information the school district has, we intend to begin the school year with the following strategies in place.



## **Masks**

Masks are not required by the Butler Area School District. Any individual who wishes to wear a mask is welcome to wear one at school and school district functions.



### **Social Distancing**

The district intends to operate a regular 5 day instructional schedule for the 2021-2022 school year. Should the cases of COVID-19 increase, the school district would return its “Enhanced Green” model, which includes social distancing wherever possible, limits student movement in grades K-6 and increases physical distance at lunch for all students K-12



### **Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette**

Presentations on handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be presented to all students. In addition, signage and reminders will be provided.



### **Cleaning**

The district will continue its current cleaning strategy including disinfectant areas where an individual with a confirmed case was present. All staff will be encouraged to open windows in classrooms. The two schools with forced air HVAC systems are set to bring the maximum amount of outside air in as possible.



### **Contact Tracing**

The district continues to contact tracing when cases are identified and informs parents. As required, all contact tracing information is reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Health.



### **Diagnostic Screening**

The district has health/temperature screening stations in all schools. If Butler County is at the “Moderate” Level or higher, the health/temperature screening stations will be activated.



### **Vaccines for the School Community**

Butler Area School District is a partner with Butler County and Butler Health System. As such, information regarding health resources are disseminated to parents and guardians. A vaccination clinic is located within the school district boundaries. At parent/guardian request, the school district provides logistical support for students to receive health services.



### **Appropriate Accommodations**

The Butler Area School District strives to serve all students. The Director of Special Education is authorized to work with special education teachers, IEP Teams and parents to make needed accommodations for the welfare and inclusion of students.



### **Coordinate State and Local Health Officials**

The district participates in Butler County's Joint Incident Command meetings when called or scheduled. During the past school year these meetings were held weekly. The district does participate in state webinars if they are scheduled. The school district Nursing Department Chair receives "Health Updates" directly from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. This past year, the district administration held weekly meetings with the school nurses. Should Butler County return to the "Moderate" Level or above, those meetings will be instituted.

To ensure Butler Area School District is meeting the individual needs of all students, the district is implementing a Framework for Accelerating Learning. The Framework for Accelerating Learning provides guidance for all staff regarding creating a consistent SEL foundation on which academics will be built.

In addition, the district is continuing its relationship with Glade Run to support students with mental health needs.

The district also works closely with our food service provider to ensure all students have access to meals. During the summer (2021), families may pick up meals for their children at one of three pick up locations. When school is in session, students in school will be provided both breakfast and lunch free off costs. Additionally, students may access meals at school or via pick up if they are learning remotely.