

August 12, 2022

Outlined below is the district's Reopening Plan for 2022-2023. The requirements set forth below concerning persons who test positive for COVID-19 and those with COVID-19 like symptoms are subject to adjustments going forward, such that district policies and practice remain in accordance with lawful guidelines established by the IDPH and CDC.

Our goals remain the same regarding the threat of COVID-19 spread.

1. Create and maintain a safe and welcoming environment for students and staff.
2. Through our mitigation practices, reduce to the extent possible quarantine numbers.
3. Maintain in-person instruction.

When students return to school August 18, 2022, the following guidelines will be in place.

Indoor Mask Optional

Peru Elementary School will be mask optional. The CDC recommends, but does not mandate, universal indoor masking at this time.

SHIELD Testing

We will continue to offer voluntary weekly SHIELD testing for staff and families who have enrolled their children. If your child was not signed up at registration and you would like to enroll in SHIELD, please contact Kim Lamps klamps@perued.net or Julie Plut jplut@perued.net. SHIELD testing will begin in mid-September.

Contact Tracing & Exclusion

Schools are not required to conduct contact tracing for the purpose of excluding close contacts to a positive. However, state law requires school districts to notify the local public health department of any known or suspected cases of COVID-19. Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms must be excluded from school for five (5) calendar days. Asymptomatic close contacts do not require exclusion from school. Peru Elementary continues to consult with the LaSalle County Public Health Department to determine community levels and receive preventative measures.

Services & Support

Peru Elementary student support services personnel are available to provide academic, emotional, and mental health services. This includes school social workers, nurses, and SEL Interventionists. The District will be partnering with the Regional Office of Education to expand SEL services and supports. If you have questions regarding district programming please contact Julie Miller jmiller@perued.net

If a student/employee tests positive for COVID-19:

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must do the following:

1. Stay home for a minimum of 5 days after the first day of symptoms or the specimen collection date from the positive viral test for asymptomatic persons.
2. Individuals may return to school after five days if asymptomatic or if fever-free without fever-reducing meds for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, other symptoms have improved, and any coughing has significantly subsided. When returning after 5 days, you are encouraged to wear a mask for at least 10 days from symptom-onset, and, to the extent possible, maintain 6 feet apart from anyone when eating/mask is off.

If a student/employee has COVID-19 like symptoms:

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status, must immediately be excluded from school until:

1. The individual is asymptomatic and/or fever-free without fever-reducing meds for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, other symptoms have improved, and any coughing has significantly subsided. When returning to school, you are encouraged to wear a mask and, to the extent possible, maintain 6 feet apart from anyone when eating/masks off; OR
2. The individual provides the District with a negative test result that confirms the symptoms are not attributable to COVID19 and the individual is fever-free without fever-reducing meds for 24 hours, diarrhea/vomiting have ceased for 24 hours, other symptoms have improved, and any coughing has significantly subsided.

Signs & Symptoms

Parents are responsible for keeping your child(ren) home if they are showing any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, which includes but not limited to fever of or greater than 100.4 °F, cough, shortness of breath, chills, fatigue of unknown cause, muscle & body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, or new loss of sense of taste or smell . Students showing symptoms during the school day will not be allowed to return to school until the exclusion requirements are met.

This reopening plan has been developed by the District Reopening Plan Committee and will be presented to the Board of Education on August 17, 2022 for final review and approval.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Superintendent Jamie Craven at jcraven@perued.net or 815-223-1111 x183.