

# Putnam County R-I Schools

## Return to Learn FAQ

### Daily Routines



Will PCR-I send out specific procedures for Return to Learn?  
Yes. Specific plans will be released on our website and social media soon.

Will SOAR (before and after school care) be offered during the 2020-21 school year?  
Yes. SOAR will be available before and after school.

Will students share school supplies?  
No. The practice of students sharing supplies such as scissors, crayons, markers, pencils, etc will be discontinued this year.

Will elementary students have recess?  
Yes. Students will have recess in their daily schedule. Recess times will be staggered to minimize contact between students. Classes will be scheduled for recess by grade level and only one grade level will be out at a time.

**Will I still be able to drop off and pick up my child every day?**

**Yes. However, we ask that parents stay within their vehicle and line-up in the drop-off/pick-up (car-rider) line until their child is dismissed into their care. Parents will not be able to go inside the building. Building-specific procedures will be released soon.**

**Where will students eat meals at school?**

**Modifications to meal times will be made as needed. Lunch in the elementary school will be as usual in the elementary gym. We have purchased extra tables which will allow for more class separation. Unfortunately, the salad bar in the elementary will not be permitted. Middle school students will sit with their class during lunch in the HS commons. We have extended the HS & MS lunch period by 34 minutes in order to reduce the number of students in the HS commons during lunch at one time.**

**Will middle and high school students still pass to other classes or will they be in one room for the day?**

**Yes, students will still pass to other classes throughout the day.**

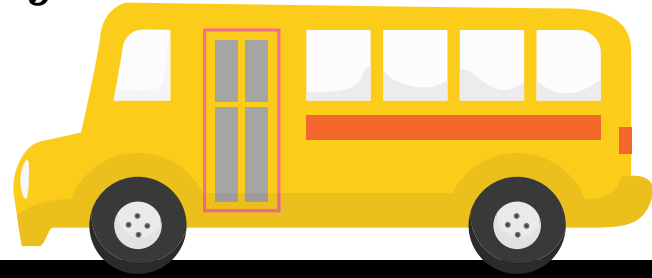
**Will field trips and travel be allowed?**

**At this time, field trips will be determined by the board. We will be avoiding travel when able, but students will be traveling to competitions when approved. Seating charts will be required on buses.**

# Transportation

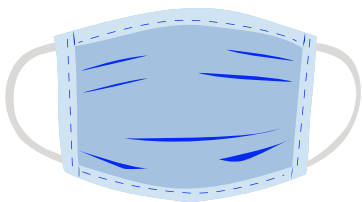
**Will bus transportation be available to students for the 2020-21 school year?**

Yes. Bus routes will be in operation this school year. Assigned seats will be used when riding the bus and buses will be sanitized on a daily basis.

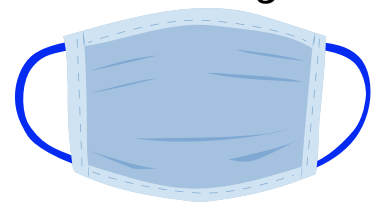


**Will there be social distancing on the school buses?**

Seats will be assigned and students will be strongly encouraged to wear a face covering while using District transportation. Buses will be filled from back to front and a seating chart will be put in place on day one. All siblings will be expected to sit together. Buses will unload at three different points in order to keep students in their designated buildings.



## Face Masks



**Are students and staff required to wear a mask?**

At this time, students and staff are strongly encouraged to wear a mask where social distance (6 feet) cannot be maintained. We encourage all students in grades 6-12 to wear faces masks but will not mandate them in classrooms or hallways. All students will be required to wear a mask when going to the nurse's office. In emergency situations, exceptions will be made.

### Will the district purchase masks for students?

A limited supply of face masks for students will be available for purchase if a student forgets, misplaces, or damages their mask throughout the day.

### Who is responsible for ensuring that students have a clean mask available each day?

Parents are responsible for making sure students have a clean mask to wear each day. It would be a good idea to have multiple masks in case the one they are wearing gets soiled.

### Who will be responsible for helping students keep their face coverings on when in school?

All school staff will work to educate students about the importance of wearing a face covering in situations where adequate social distancing (6 feet) cannot be achieved. We ask that families work with their children at home to practice wearing a face covering and also to stress the importance of wearing a face covering to keep everyone healthy.

### How long should a face mask be used before it is replaced?

Cloth face coverings are different than surgical face masks (which could also be worn but which are in short supply and should generally be reserved for healthcare workers). Cloth face coverings should be washed at the end of every day (sooner if they become wet or soiled). Single-use disposable face masks should be changed daily unless they become damp or soiled, in which case, they should be replaced immediately. Masks will be available for purchase in each building office.

# Screening and Cleaning Protocols

**Will students' temperatures be checked daily at school?**

Yes. Staff and student temperatures will be checked every morning. If someone is running a 100.4 or higher temp, they will be sent home. Parents must NOT send their children to school if they are sick. It is equally important that if your child gets sick at school and you are contacted to pick them up, that you do so promptly. These measures will help control the spread of sickness.

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**Will extra custodial staff be provided so that extra disinfecting can take place?**

Yes. Additional custodial staff are being hired to aid in the increased sanitation and disinfecting of our schools.

**Will extra cleaning be added for buses and extra curricular activities?**

Yes. Buses and athletic/extracurricular activity equipment will be sanitized daily.

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**What screening and cleaning protocols do you have for athletics and activities?**

All equipment will be sanitized after each practice. Social distancing will be practiced when able. Seating charts will be used on bus trips for contact tracing purposes. Temperatures of all students will be taken at the beginning of each practice. Any student with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be isolated from the group and sent home.



Will there be designated times for hand hygiene throughout the day?

Students and staff will be required to wash/sanitize hands throughout the day. All students will wash hands before and after lunch. Elementary students will also wash hands before and after recess.

## IEPs & 504s

My child is in both regular and special education classes. Will my child still go to both?

Yes.

Will my student's 504 accommodations be honored through a virtual learning format?

Yes.

What if I have a question about Special Education?

Please contact your case manager or the special education director.

## Attendance

How will attendance be taken?

DESE has provided guidance to school districts related to reporting student attendance for in-person, distance, and a hybrid of in-person and distance learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Attendance will be taken daily during in-person instruction and online engagement will be monitored for state reporting purposes.

**Will attendance policies be altered or adjusted on a case-by-case basis?**

PCR-I will follow state guidelines for attendance reporting. If a student is required to quarantine for 14 days that will be noted on their record of attendance. Attendance for virtual learning while a group of students are quarantined, or during a district closure, will be monitored based on student engagement in distance learning activities.

**Will the district be suspending attendance incentives and awards for students and staff members?**

Yes. Perfect attendance will not be incentivized by buildings as our preference is for anyone who is sick to stay home.



## **The Learning Process**



**What is distance learning?**

In the event PCR-I finds it necessary to shut down, the district will be prepared to make the change from in-person learning to learning from home with PCR-I staff.

**What learning options will be available to PCR-I public school students for the 2020-2021 school year?**

Students will attend in-person school. School personnel and health professionals will collaborate to decide if and when we go to an alternate method of instruction.

## What will In-Person learning look like?

Assigned seats (with required seating charts) will be used in classrooms. Desks/tables in classrooms will be spaced as far apart as possible to allow for social distancing. Social distancing (6 feet) will be encouraged throughout the school day. Students and staff are expected to avoid close interactions and minimize exposure to every extent possible.

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If a student needs to quarantine because they are exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, will that student be able to continue learning from home?

Yes. Procedures have been developed to maintain the continuity of learning for students who are required to quarantine at home.

If the school shuts down again, what will learning look like?

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A task force of teachers, administrators, and parents have been working this summer to develop plans for online learning for intermittent or extended school closures. Goals of the task force were to maintain the continuity of instruction from in-person learning to remote learning for all students, minimize the detrimental impact of school closure, and to develop professional development and guidance for staff to support teaching and learning. Teachers will continue to receive professional development (PD) related to blended and online learning.



## Will grades be taken for distance learning?

Yes, expectations have been developed for grading, assessment, and feedback during distance learning.

## Will all PreK-12 students have access to a device for learning?

No. Grades 2-12 will have devices available.



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## Will Chromebooks be allowed to go home with students or do they need to stay at school?

In the event of a school closure, the District has a plan to distribute Chromebooks to students in grades 2-12, Students in grades 6-12 will continue to take their Chromebooks home during in person learning as in the past.

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## What is being used to monitor student use of devices?

The PCR-I technology department has several programs in use to monitor student technology access and use. PCR-I uses Go Guardian to protect students from online dangers and to alert parents and staff of misconduct and/or concerns. A plan has been developed to ensure continuous monitoring of student internet activity on each PCR-I provided device

Is there a back up plan if cases continue to rise so quickly?

Yes, PCR-I will be ready to change from in-person school to distance learning if it is determined a shutdown is necessary. A task force has been working all summer and a plan will be in place prior to the start of school on August 24th.

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## COVID-19 Cases

If one student tests positive for COVID-19, does that mean that the teacher and the rest of the class have to quarantine for 14 days?

The requirement for quarantine at PCR-I is guided by CDC and Health Department recommendations.

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If a student or staff member on campus tests positive for COVID-19, will the building be shut down?

PCR-I will be in ongoing communication with the Putnam County Health Department regarding any positive cases and will follow CDC and Health Department guidance on quarantine or building closure.