



# Perry Local Schools

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Dear Perry Families,

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Perry Local Schools has stressed the importance of protecting the safety and well-being of our students and that priority has not changed.

It is a great accomplishment to have made it to this point, and it is with great pride that we look back on the last 18 months as a testament to how much the Perry community can accomplish together. Our mission is “Everything Humanly Possible,” and we have all lived those words, as evidenced by the success of the last year and the promise of the next.

While we’re looking forward to opening the 2021-22 school year “back to normal,” we continue to engage the various health organizations and implement any mandates as they arise. As of today, the only mandate is that passengers must wear a mask while on public transportation thus, everyone on a school bus must wear a mask. ([https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/Mask-Order-CDC\\_GMTF\\_01-29-21-p.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/pdf/Mask-Order-CDC_GMTF_01-29-21-p.pdf)) Our continued collaboration with the various health organizations will include updating our students and families on the latest guidelines, procedures and precautions necessary to ensure a safe return to school. We have made tremendous strides against the spread of COVID within Stark County and acknowledge the importance of continuing this fight with vigilance to provide a learning environment that best allows for student success.

As of today, masks are not required (except on buses), though staff and students are encouraged to wear one as a precaution against variants of the COVID-19 virus. We will leave the decision to wear or not wear a mask up to each individual and trust those decisions will be made with personal and community safety in mind.

In addition, there currently is no mandate for vaccinations. At this point, that is a personal decision and lies outside of the District’s responsibility to monitor.

Perry Local Schools will continue encouraging certain precautions including consistent hand washing, utilizing hand sanitizer, social distancing as much as possible and **reminding students and staff to stay home when feeling ill**. Like everyone else, we will keep a close eye on virus spread and local data trends. First and foremost, we must do what is best pertaining to providing as safe and healthy an environment as possible.



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The district reiterates that it has no plans to offer an online educational option. With the majority of students returning to the buildings, all Perry Local staff are needed and are not available for remote instruction.

We will continue to update our community as things are expected to be very fluid. We all must practice the same flexibility and resiliency that has gotten us to this point. There is no doubt there will need to be adjustments along the way if new mandates arise. In the meantime, we must honor each other and respect their individual choices to this unique time. This approach should allow our students and staff to have another successful school year!

Sincerely,



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