



**SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF THE CITY OF PONTIAC**

2020-2021

SCHOOL YEAR PLAN

2020-2021 PLAN OBJECTIVE

Our focus in 2020-2021 is keeping our staff, students and community safe while creating an environment where all students can learn successfully.

2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

The proposal outlined below is our plan of action for the reopening of Pontiac School District schools for the 2020-2021 school year. The details of this plan have been carefully assessed and determined based on research and presumed status of the coronavirus pandemic this fall. Any or all of the elements addressed below are subject to change at any time due to any major status change related to this public health crisis. We will continue to work with the Governor's office, Oakland County and the City of Pontiac to monitor the community spread and status of the disease and will advise all Pontiac School District families and staff of any changes that impact our plan.

The details below have been determined through careful consideration and discussion, not only within our district, but also with neighboring districts, the government and healthcare leaders. We do not take this situation lightly, and we understand these requirements will be very challenging for many, if not all, of us. However, we must move forward with a strategy that best allows our students, staff and community to stay safe, while still providing an environment where every student is given the opportunity to learn and succeed. The information below directly addresses these imperatives and provides a framework for success based on what we know at this time.

Although there are no guarantees yet for what school across our state will look like this fall, there are some certainties that we pledge to each of you. We pledge to base our decisions on what is best for all involved; we will be communicative and transparent with each new development; we will listen and learn from all of you; and we will work tirelessly to ensure all are safe and able to thrive. If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding the plan, please do not hesitate to contact the school district at communications@pontiacschools.org.

Below is a detailed outline of specifics to date.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE AND OPERATIONS

- In order to maintain social distancing requirements and safety, our schools must plan to operate at a 50% capacity onsite.
- We propose a two-cohort system where half our students physically come to school on Mondays and Tuesdays and half come on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- Student Services will be working to ensure that all students in the same family are included in the same cohort across all schools.
- During at-home days, students will be assigned work to be completed virtually.
- Our partners are offering options for enrichment/virtual tutoring during students' at-home days.
- We will institute a staggered bell schedule to further maintain distancing as much as possible.
- Desks will be spaced to allow for proper social distance seating.
- Seating will be assigned in all classrooms to minimize exposure.
- Teachers will maintain a 6-foot distance from students for teaching whenever possible.
- All staff and students will wear masks.
- Students and staff must wash their hands when travelling between rooms or entering and exiting the building.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided onsite.
- Spacing markers will be outlined in hallways and common areas to ensure social distancing is maintained.

INTERVENTION AND TUTORING

- Intervention will be built in to ensure it is accessible for all students in need without hindering their time in school.
- Our partners are offering options for enrichment/virtual tutoring during students' at-home days.
- Our partners will continue to provide tutoring opportunities and other after-school enrichment opportunities within the confines of the new schedule.
- We will continue to provide our enrichment hotline for families.

CLEANING AND SANITIZING

- Our custodial staff will clean and sanitize all buildings thoroughly each day, throughout the day, including surfaces, door handles, bathrooms, common areas, etc.
- There will be a full cleaning of the building each evening.
- Fridays will be designated as deep cleaning days. This will include cleaning the carpets and utilizing special chemicals designed to deeply sanitize and fog the buildings. These products include DDDS Disinfectant.
- Fridays have been chosen to allow for any elements such as cleaners with fumes or carpet cleaners to properly dry and dissipate over the weekend.

SECURITY/HEALTH SCREENING

- All students, staff and visitors will be required to wear masks when onsite in one of our buildings. Students will be provided masks by the district.
- All students, staff and visitors should take their temperature at home each morning, if possible. If it reads 100 degrees Fahrenheit or above, they should remain home.
- Any symptoms of illness should be monitored prior to coming to a school building. If a person is exhibiting symptoms such as coughing, shortness of breath or gastrointestinal issues, they should remain home.
- Upon arrival at the school, all staff and students will be required to have their temperature taken and to fill out a brief COVID-19 questionnaire. These questions will be available on cellphones via QR code. Printed copies are also available.
- Upon completion of the questions, Police Authority Officers (PAO) will approve and allow access to the building.
- This process is also required for all visitors.
- Visitors will be limited to a maximum of 10 people in the building at any time. No exceptions.
- We are exploring opportunities for staggered arrivals and entry points for our secondary students.

2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

TECHNOLOGY

- We will be upgrading technology for our teachers and staff to provide ease of working remotely and moving from class to class, as well as virtual presentations when necessary.
- All 3rd-12th graders will be assigned Chromebooks.
- We are exploring appropriate technology options for our K-2nd grade students.
- Printed assignments are also available.
- Families who wish to have their student work entirely virtually for the 2020-2021 school year can make arrangements by contacting their principal.

STAFF/STUDENTS EXHIBITING SYMPTOMS OR TESTING POSITIVE FOR A DISEASE

- All school buildings will have a designated isolation area for students or staff who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses while at school.
- The individual will need to remain in that area until arrangements can be made for them to go home.
- In the event a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, a letter will be sent out immediately to all parents and staff regarding potential exposure.
- A doctor's note of clearance is required for any student or staff member who is off sick and ready to return back to school.

MASKS

- Masks are required for all students, staff and visitors inside Pontiac School District buildings.
- Students will be provided masks at the beginning of the school year.
- There will be a limited supply of masks onsite for anyone who does not have a mask.
- If a student or staff member has a health condition that prevents them from wearing a mask, they must provide the district with a doctor's note so that alternate safe, educational arrangements can be made.

TRANSPORTATION

- We are working with our transportation partner to ensure the best safety protocols are maintained for our students.

2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

- Students will be given assigned seats on the bus ensuring social distancing is maintained at all times.
- All students, drivers and aides will wear masks while on the bus.

FOOD SERVICE

- We are working with our food service partner to ensure we are able to provide our students with healthy and satisfying meals while still maintaining social distancing requirements.
- For elementary students, lunches will be served in the classroom.
- For secondary students, lunches will be served in a spaced-out setting through multiple lunch periods.
- Breakfasts will be available in a grab and go style.

ATHLETICS

- We are following the Michigan High School Athletics Association (MHSAA) guidelines for sports and sporting events. Please reference the Pontiac Athletics COVID-19 Guidelines for more details.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS

- We will continue to institute our improvement plans for 2020-2021 as outlined in our Bond Proposal.
- All construction and work will be done in a way that does not interfere with the safety or success of our students and staff.

PREPARATION FOR RETURNING TO SCHOOL

- We know these procedures will be a new experience for all of us.
- We will be conducting training and orientations for all grade levels later this summer to help acclimate everyone to the new systems and to alleviate fears or concerns.
- As we get closer to the start of the school year, we will provide any updated information on supplies and/or uniform needs for the coming year.

PROPOSED TWO-COHORT SYSTEM

SCHOOL SCHEDULE

SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENT: 50% CAPACITY ONSITE

Half our students physically come to school on Mondays and Tuesdays and half come on Wednesdays and Thursdays.



Additional options are available for enrichment during students' at-home days.



Fridays will be utilized for deep cleaning days.

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DAY

Integrate a staggered bell schedule to further maintain distancing as much as possible.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

Lunches for elementary schools will likely be served in the classroom and for secondary will be spaced out among multiple lunch periods. Breakfasts will be given in a grab and go style to be taken to the classroom.



2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

CLEANING & SANITIZING

DAILY SANITIZATION

Our custodial staff will clean and sanitize thoroughly each day, throughout the day.

FRIDAYS ARE DESIGNATED DEEP CLEANING DAYS

This will include cleaning the carpets and utilizing special chemicals designed to deeply sanitize the buildings.



2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

SECURITY



All students, staff and visitors will be required to wear masks when onsite in all of our buildings.

The students will be provided masks by the district.



Upon arrival at the school, all staff and students will be required to have their temperature taken and to fill out a brief COVID-19 questionnaire.

These questions will be available via QR code on their cellphone. Printed copies will also be available. Upon completion of the questions, PAO officers will approve and allow access to the building. This process is also required for all visitors.



Visitors will be limited to a maximum of 10 people in the building at any time.

No exceptions.

We are exploring opportunities for staggered or multiple entry points for our secondary students to ease traffic flow and maintain distancing.

2020-2021 PROPOSED PLAN

TECHNOLOGY



**ALL 3rd-12th GRADERS WILL
BE ASSIGNED CHROMEBOOKS.**

We will also be upgrading technology for our teachers and staff to provide ease of working remotely and moving from class to class, as well as virtual presentations, when necessary.

WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS TOGETHER!

As this situation evolves,
the School District of Pontiac will
continue to update parents and the
community on the plans and any
necessary changes that arise.

