



PENNCREST

EMPOWERING LIFE-LONG LEARNERS

July 21, 2020

DRAFT of our 20-21 Health & Safety Plan as required

PENNCREST School Community,

All of our employees are preparing for the return of our students on September 2, 2020. The 2020-2021 school year will require flexibility, compromise and understanding from the entire PENNCREST school community. Our plan is not perfect; however, it is designed for expected and unexpected challenges. We anticipate the PA Department of Education, PA Department of Health and the Governor to update guidance prior to September 2, 2020.

The collateral damage of “no school” is far outweighed by the benefits of in-person face-to-face instruction. Our schools, and the services we provide, are critical components to the viability of our community. Having our students in our schools is of paramount importance to the collective good. This is extremely clear when we consider the needs of our youngest learners, our at-risk populations and families that may lack resources to learn in a virtual environment (i.e. high-speed internet, food insecurity and access to social services). We must focus on how we can and should live with COVID-19 for the 20-21 school year and possibly beyond. When we look back on 20-21, we want to say that we did the best we could for our students given the magnitude of the challenge.

This year we will prioritize in-person instruction, but offer options for families. Families should expect this year to be a blend of in person and virtual learning, regardless of choice. Expect all schools to move between the restricted phases at some point during the 20-21 school year. Our goal is to minimize risk and offer families reasonable options that are feasible to implement for PENNCREST students and staff.

The key to a successful 20-21 school year is home-school communication. To this end we will communicate through passive venues such as school and district websites and Unified Classroom and via active avenues like automated phone calls/texts, Google Classroom updates, emails, Class DoJo and Facebook posts. When there is a change in learning we will actively reach out to you. When you are not sure of the school’s direction, actions or status, reach out through a call or email.

We are currently working on family friendly versions of guidance and options based on the Health and Safety Plan. The Board of School Directors will approve our Plan on August 13, 2020. Please contact your school office or me with any questions and all concerns. We are here for you.

Sincerely,

Dr. Timothy S. Glasspool
Superintendent