



Fairbury Public Schools

Memo from the Superintendent

To: FPS Families
Cc:
From: Stephen Grizzle, Superintendent
Date: 7-31-20

RE: School Board Approves FPS Return to School Guidelines & Protocols

We held a Special BOE meeting on Thursday evening to finalize and work through the guidelines and protocols we will follow as we return to school this fall. First off, I want to give a special thank you to all that assisted in this process. Administratively, we have been consumed by the task of finding information, resources and best practices throughout the summer. We have been in constant contact with NDE personnel, DHHS personnel and area school districts. The plan we have crafted represents months of planning and discussions, trying to tailor it to our community.

Thank you to: our Admin team, BOE members, secretary staff, custodial staff, food service, Superintendent Advisory Committee, technology team and FEA leadership.

As you review the plan, please understand, this forms our foundation. **It does not answer every question or represent "what to do" in every situation.** It will be ever changing and malleable to fit the circumstances as we experience them. With that in mind, please understand we **are in constant contact** with resources to help us navigate what comes at us. We feel ready and this plan will help us along the way.



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Here are some very quick "Takeaways":

- Using the risk dial as a Guide -

COVID-19 Risk Dial & Guidance

This COVID-19 Risk Dial provides a summary of current conditions in the Public Health Solutions District. The guidance for each color incorporates federal and national guidance published by top public health experts and is coupled with specific guidance.

This is only guidance and does not replace federal, state, or local directed health measures. At-risk and vulnerable populations should take stringent precautions.



*Current as of July 31, 2020

- We will use the PHS (Public Health Solutions) dial, **in addition to our local circumstances to determine where we believe fall**. Currently, as of today, we believe we are "Green". Whatever portion of the dial we are, it will be fluid. When it is time for school to start, we could be in "Yellow."
 - Green and Yellow, we will behave as close to normal as possible. **The biggest difference** between the two is that in Green, masks are suggested. **In Yellow, masks will be required.**
 - Orange, we may decide (upon consultation with PHS and state officials) to move to 50% attendance.
 - Red, we will move to 100% remote learning with teachers reporting to school to teach from the classroom. If we ever get to Red, much like last spring, we will have a transition period to get ready. But unlike last spring, we will work on providing a more direct instruction model.
- **Remote Learning will be an option that some families may choose.** Included in the plan is an eLearning Request form and acknowledgement. The form will be due



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Aug. 7th, with a required, in-person meeting (August 11, 5:30 at the High School Commons (for all ages) to go over remote learning. **Proper safety Guidelines will be followed, with masks and sanitation before entering.** Why an in-person meeting? Because this will be a drastic change in learning for your child and it is extremely important that parents understand the expectations. The administration will meet with those families and explain the process and expectations. Your building principal and Tech team will have more on this later.

- **Masks Opt-Out** – When and If we get to requiring masks for students, families will have the ability to “Opt-out”. However, we will be sharing with those families the guidance that if they are wearing a mask, it reduces the likelihood of being quarantined in case of an exposure. This will be a work in progress.

- **Activity Guidance** -
 - This represents the biggest change to our routines. We must adhere to the DHM’s (Directed Health Measures) limitations. Currently, outdoor 75% and indoor 50%, while also maintaining distancing. Here are some key takeaways for this:
 - **Top priority is family attendance of the participants.** This means, unfortunately, that community members will not be allowed to our games. Our activities will be on strivTV. As long as we are under restrictive DHM’s, we will be focused on family attendance. We must have a list of attendees for possible contact tracing. Coaches will make a list and give to AD. Then we will work towards identifying how many students can attend.
 - **We will have activities as long as the state allows competition.** At no time, will we unilaterally decide our school is not participating. We will be in constant contact with NSAA as we progress through the seasons.
 - **No “on the court or field” gatherings before or after games.** We will work with the teams and students on how to continue our tradition of singing the school fight song after the games. We want that to continue, but the process will have to be a bit different.
 - Basketball season will most likely involve rotation of 2 venues. Boys JV & V at one site and the girls JV & V at the other.
 - Wrestling will be more difficult when we get to a multi-team tournament. We will wait for NSAA guidance when it comes time.



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Your building principal is developing more details and procedures and will be brainstorming with you items that need to be processed. Please keep this in mind...we are in an everchanging environment and we will continue to be flexible and malleable throughout. We appreciate and thank you for your patience and understanding ahead of time.

See You soon!