



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF BRENTWOOD

Administrative Offices

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-2227
Fax: 412-881-1640

Brentwood High School

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940
Fax: 412-881-4170

Guidance Office

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2131
Fax: 412-881-4170

Brentwood Middle School

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940
Fax: 412-881-4170

Special Education Office

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2215
Fax: 412-881-7195

Elroy Elementary School

3129 Elroy Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-2824
Phone: 412-881-4484
Fax: 412-881-9448

Moore Elementary School

3809 Dalewood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3509
Phone: 412-881-7776
Fax: 412-881-8994

Athletic/Activity Director

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2720
Fax: 412-881-1640

February 28, 2022

Dear Parent or Guardian:

On Friday, February 25, 2022, the CDC released updated guidance on COVID-19 mitigation. From the start of the pandemic the Administration and the Board of School Directors consistently made decisions to update the Health and Safety Plan based on the recommendations from the CDC, DOH, and the ACHD. The new CDC guidance will replace the current language outlined in the Health and Safety plan (dated February 21, 2022) and will be presented for ratification on Monday, March 14, 2022.

What does the updated CDC guidance recommend for measuring COVID-19 transmission rates?

Transmission rates will now be calculated by examining new cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 people in past 7 days along with the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients in the past 7 days. For additional information on the calculation of transmission rates, please visit the COVID-19 page of the District's website. A PowerPoint presentation is posted there and further explains how the transmission rates will be calculated moving forward.

What does the new transmission rates mean for masking in schools?

The updated guidance currently places Allegheny County in the low transmission range. Effective tomorrow, **Tuesday, March 1, 2022, masking will be optional** during school hours and during after school activities for as long as Allegheny County remains in the low OR moderate ranges. The updated calculations strongly recommend masking while a county is in the high transmission.

For additional information about masking, please refer to the PowerPoint presentation posted on the COVID-19 page of the District's website. Students, faculty, and staff may continue to wear a mask based on personal preference. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

Will masks be required on school transportation?

Effective tomorrow, **Tuesday, March 1, 2022**, masking is **optional** on public or private school transportation.

Is quarantine and isolation still required with a positive COVID-19 test?

In alignment with requirements in Title 28 Pa. Code Chapter 27 (relating to communicable and noncommunicable diseases), **schools must:** Report positive cases of COVID-19 to DOH (ACHD) for case investigation, contact tracing, and issuance of quarantine and/or isolation orders; and exclude school children and staff from having contact with other school children or staff showing symptoms of a communicable disease. School officials have the authority to restrict people who are at risk of spreading COVID-19 from entering the school building. Schools do not need, and should not require, a quarantine order to take this action to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

Will the school offer testing for COVID-19 for students, faculty, and staff?

The Board authorized the Administration and Pandemic Team to submit the Statement of Assurances required for the Test to Stay Program. The Pandemic Team is working with Ginkgo Bioworks to complete the onboarding process. The Test to Stay program will offer testing to students and staff who were exposed to COVID-19 while at school. Parent permission will be required **prior** to the testing of students.

Are vaccinations and boosters required?

Vaccination and booster shots remain optional for students and staff. The CDC, DOH, and ACHD strongly recommend that everyone five years and older be vaccinated and then boosted. Please contact your healthcare provider to determine what is best for your family.

Will the District continue to require physical distancing to the greatest extent possible?

The District will continue to implement physical distancing for three weeks while masking is optional to ensure that there is no spike in COVID-19 cases. After three weeks, if no spike is documented then the Administration plans to recommend to the Board that physical distancing restrictions be lifted. The Administration will continue to monitor reported cases of COVID-19 and make additional recommendations, as necessary.

Will other mitigations measures remain in place?

The increased cleaning of the facilities will remain in place. Increased ventilation practices will also remain in place moving forward. This also includes the practice of replacing broken HVAC equipment with equipment that can purify the air.

Has the ACHD released updated guidance based on the CDC recommendations?

The ACHD has not released updated guidance yet. Updated guidance is expected to be released soon and when it does the language will be incorporated into the District's H&S plan for the Board's consideration.

We truly appreciate our community's patience while the Administration took time to review the updated guidance before making recommendations for moving forward. Please feel free contact your child(ren)'s school administrator with questions pertaining to the updates being recommended by the CDC and the proposed changes to the H&S plan.

Sincerely,



Amy M. Burch, D.Ed., Superintendent and
The Pandemic Team Brentwood Borough School District