

**Millville Area School District**  
**Notice Regarding Return to School**  
**August 29, 2020**

As the first day of school steadfastly approaches, the Millville Area School District wishes to address the challenges associated with reopening our community schools for our Millville Area faculty, staff, students, and parents. The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, is extremely contagious and continues to remain a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is believed to spread mainly from person-to-person contact and has had severe consequences for those that are especially vulnerable, such as senior citizens and individuals with underlying medical conditions. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and federal and state health agencies have made numerous recommendations over the past months to fight the spread of infection, including increased handwashing and social distancing measures to limit contact with others.

The Millville Area School District has put in place preventative measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Governor Wolf's Executive Orders, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDOH) and other agencies, as more fully outlined in the MASD Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan, to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and to allow students and parents to feel comfortable about returning to traditional face-to-face instruction within our district's schools. Even with preventative measures in place, there are inherent risks as the risk of infection for COVID-19 exists and can be difficult to control.

We need families, parents and students to understand the contagious nature of COVID19 and the risk of infection and injury associated with use of district provided transportation, face-to-face instruction, and participation in district programs and activities. We cannot guarantee that you or your children will not become infected with COVID-19 as a result of the aggressive nature in which this virus may spread. Families, parents and students must understand the potential for infection, injury, or even death as a result of COVID-19 that exists when using district transportation or participating in the various district instructional programs and activities. An inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any place where people are present.

We understand your concerns, and the Millville Area School District has taken enhanced health and safety measures to create the safest environment feasibly possible during this pandemic. We require that all students and their families follow all posted instructions as provided by the MASD Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan for the health and well-being of all.

In an effort to provide parents, guardians, and students with a full range of instructional options to address their level of comfort and to ensure that the learning needs of all students are well met, the Millville Area School District is affording families with four instructional models from which to choose. The instructional options include: Traditional (face-to-face) instruction, hybrid (alternating between face-to-face and online) instruction, synchronous (real-time online instruction which is consistent with that offered in the community school setting lead by district teachers) instruction, and asynchronous (self-paced online instruction which is not consistent with that which is taught in the community school setting lead by certificated teachers that are not district teachers) instruction. In the event that parents, guardians, students, and/or school personnel have concerns regarding safety measures being undertaken by the district to mitigate the risk of COVID transmission, they are encouraged to the District Pandemic Coordinator, Mr. Rasmus, Superintendent of Schools.

Looking forward to a SAFE and HEALTHY school year!

Joseph Rasmus  
Superintendent of Schools