



INTERBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 WASHINGTON AVENUE

PROSPECT PARK, PA

MAINTAINED BY THE BOROUGHES OF GLENOLDEN, NORWOOD, PROSPECT PARK AND TINICUM

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PHONE: 610-461-6700|FAX: 610-957-6500

November 25, 2020

Dear Interboro School Community,

On November 23, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) released a state order [\(complete order\)](#) that requires school districts that operate within a county that is experiencing “Substantial” COVID- 19 spread, to revert to virtual learning if they fall within the number of positive cases, within a school, over a rolling 14 - day period. [The updated recommendations are available on PDE’s website.](#)

Under this order, when a case of COVID-19 is identified in a school setting, the Chester County Department of Health will work with our administrative team to provide guidance and advice related to cleaning and disinfecting, contact tracing, quarantine recommendations, and closing certain areas of the school or entire school buildings if necessary up to 14 days. If case investigations, contact tracing, and cleaning and disinfecting can be accomplished in a faster time frame, the length of closure time may be shortened.

Following these recommendations, as of today, the District has identified Norwood School and the High School as having at least 5+ confirmed positive staff/student cases of COVID – 19 over a 14 - day period.

With the concern of rapidly increasing rates of positivity and incidence within our four communities [\(link to CCHD\)](#), the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday, as well as the updated travel restrictions, the District has made the decision to extend virtual learning for ALL PreK-12th grade in-person/hybrid students through December 4, 2020, with a return to school on December 7th.

Virtual learning may be extended beyond December 7th for the entire District or individual schools if the positive cases meet or exceed the established criteria outlined in the Department of Health and Pennsylvania Department of Education recommendations.

As a District, we have done an **OUTSTANDING** job following the protocols and procedures under very difficult circumstances! We are committed to keeping our students in-person, and our goal is to remain in-person, as long as we are able to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff.

We need your help to do this! Please follow the mandates that have been set forth by the PA Department of Health. As the COVID – 19 numbers continue to increase in our community, it becomes more difficult for our health and safety teams to ensure that our schools are safe for our students.

We will continue to do our best to provide as much notice as possible if schools need to revert to virtual. I strongly suggest that parents plan for childcare if necessary.

I would ask that parents please review the “Nurse’s Notes” that are on the last page of this communication. It addresses symptom monitoring, travel, and new protocols regarding siblings of students that are presenting symptoms of COVID = 19.

When schools are virtual, including between November 30th - December 4th, the District will continue to provide free breakfast & lunch meals at your local community school for all students. Meal pickups are on Mondays and Thursdays from 2:30 – 5:30pm. No sign up is necessary.

As I have stated before, the information we are receiving is rapidly changing, and with these new recommendations, communication may become more frequent.

I know times have been difficult and challenging but here at Interboro we are resilient and have much to be thankful for!! We will get through this - **Stay BUC Strong!**

On behalf of the Board of School Directors and Administrators, I would like to wish a Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family.

Sincerely,



Bernadette C. Reiley
Superintendent of Schools

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The chart below details the changes that will occur for in-person and hybrid learning students during the week of November 30th - December 4th.

Grade levels	Week of November 30 th through December 4 th
Grades preK-6	<p>In - person students will learn at home in a synchronous format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Students will receive Zoom links from their teachers. ✓ Students will follow their current time schedule. <p>iSync and iCyber students will continue to follow their current time schedule.</p>
Grades 7-8	<p>In – person students will learn at home in a synchronous format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Students will receive Zoom links from their teachers. ✓ Students will follow their current A/B time schedule. <p>iSync and iCyber students will continue to follow their current A/B time schedule.</p>
Grades 9-12	<p>In – person students will learn at home in a synchronous format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Students will receive Zoom links from their teachers. ✓ Students will follow their current A/B time schedule. <p>iSync and iCyber students will continue to follow their current A/B time schedule.</p>

NURSE'S NOTES

In an effort to keep our students and staff safe once we return to school after the holidays, The Interboro School district is adding safeguards to the guidance currently followed by the Chester County Health Department. Our schools have been doing a good job at keeping the spread of the virus from the classrooms. Our contract tracing with the Chester County Health Department has revealed that close contacts within households and large gatherings outside of school have been significant sources of spread of COVID 19. We want our schools to remain open and making these efforts will hopefully keep us in person.

Symptom Monitoring: With an abundance of caution and acknowledgement of the increasing positivity cases in the area, any student that presents to the nurse's office with **ONE** symptom in Column A or Column B listed below will be sent home and will need to stay home for the timeline discussed after speaking with the school nurse. If your child has any **ONE** of these symptoms prior to leaving for school in the morning, we ask that you keep your child home and contact the school nurse to inform them of your child's symptoms.

Column A

One or more of the following symptoms:

- lack of smell or taste (without congestion)
- cough
- shortness of breath
- difficulty breathing

Column B

Two or more of the following symptoms

- Fever/elevated temperature (temporal 99.5 or higher or orally 100.3 or higher)
- sore throat
- chills
- muscle pain
- fatigue
- headache
- congestion/runny nose
- nausea
- vomiting
- diarrhea

SIBLINGS: The Interboro School District may ask families to keep siblings of students presenting with COVID like symptoms home until COVID- 19 testing is complete, before determining a plan. Currently this was often done only when known exposures were present. Due to the current rates of infection, community spread illnesses and out of an abundance of caution, we will ask siblings to remain home as well. Should you choose not to have a student tested we may identify them as a probable case and siblings will be considered close contacts. This will keep siblings out for 14 days following the last exposure to the sibling unless they become symptomatic or test positive as well.

TRAVEL: If you and your family are traveling outside the state, your child must quarantine for 14 days upon return before returning to school. Please contact the school nurse to discuss the return to school plan.

We thank you for your continued support!