



November 30, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) and Education (PDE) provided additional guidance in responding to COVID-19 cases in a Pre-K to 12 school setting. This guidance is for use when consulting with public health staff in making decisions related to school procedures following the discovery of positive COVID-19 cases in schools. When a county within the commonwealth has been in a substantial status for two or more weeks (currently 59 of 63 counties), every school district in that county now has to sign an attestation agreement. We were required to attest that we were either planning on continuing to offer in-person instruction or would go virtual K-12 as of Monday, November 30, 2020. After a conversation with our board, the board president and I signed the attestation that it was our intent to continue in-person instruction. Part of choosing in-person instruction requires us to adhere to the following positive case thresholds for each building and their corresponding actions for each rolling 14 day average:

School Building	During Substantial Risk Period, Beginning November 30, 2020	
	Number of COVID-19 Cases in the same school building during a 14-day period	Action Step
TJ High School (900+ Students)	6-10 Students / Staff	Close school for 3-7 days (remote learning), clean area(s) where cases spent time
	11+ Students / Staff	Close school for 14 days (remote learning), deep clean entire school
PHMS & JHIS	4-6 Students and Staff*	Close school for 3-7 days (remote learning), clean area(s) where cases spent time
	7+ Students and Staff*	Close school for 14 days (remote learning), deep clean entire school
Gill Hall & McClellan Elementary Schools	2+ Students and Staff*	Close school for 3-7 days (remote learning), clean area(s) where cases spent time
	5+ Students and staff*	Close school for 14 days (remote learning), deep clean entire school

*Thresholds are per building and not cumulative for both buildings

The Administration Team and The Board of School Directors are committed to ensuring that we keep students and staff safe. These quantifiable measures provide us with clearer guidance on appropriate actions to implement moving forward. If at any time we approach a threshold in any building, all staff and parents in that building will be notified. We will do everything we can to provide you with enough time to make family accommodations, but please understand cases can reach a threshold quickly. Also, the closure of other surrounding districts and their impact on appropriate staffing could also be a factor in requiring a building to go virtual. **When we return to school on Tuesday, December 1, each building in the district will return in the following status:**

TJHS: Hybrid

PHMS: Hybrid

JHIS: In-person 5 days a week

GHES and MES: In-person 5 days a week

*** Any parent that wishes to move their child to full-time Canvas or the Cyber Academy can do so at any time. Students that were already in one of those options will stay there unless otherwise noted.**

In closing, I hope you all had a healthy and relaxing Thanksgiving holiday!

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Ghilani
Superintendent of Schools