



Nurturing Confidence. Realizing Potential.

**Center School Opening Plan for Families:
Providing Center School's Specialized Programming in a Safe and Healthy Environment
August 2020**

This document provides information regarding guidelines that will be followed in order to provide the excellence of Center School's programming in a safe and healthy manner. It also outlines protocols that employees, students, and visitors must follow to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all in the building.

Guidelines have been developed using information gathered from the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the Montgomery County Office of Public Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Procedures are subject to change as more information is disseminated by local, state, and/or federal authorities.

Operations

New protocols are in place for how employees and students enter the building.

Entering the Building

1. Employees enter the building at 7:30AM, and students are permitted to enter the building no earlier than 7:45AM.
2. All employees and students will enter the building through the gym.
3. Employees and students will report to the nurse's staging area station to have symptoms monitored.
4. Masks will be worn when entering the gym, being seen by the nurse, traveling to classrooms to deposit school items, and sitting in the lobby area.

****Please note: Parents and/or guardians are not permitted to enter the building. You may drop your child at the door, but you may not walk your child into the building. For early dismissal, your child will be sent to you.***

Health, Hygiene, and Safe Practices

1. If your child feels sick, keep your child home. Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook and Teacher Directory (pgs. 8-9).
2. All employees and students will wash their hands frequently including upon entering a new classroom, before and after eating, after using the bathroom, and after recess.
3. Hand sanitizer will be provided for all classrooms. This will be used when hand washing is not available.
4. Masks will be worn when traveling from one class or room to another. It is not required that students wear masks while learning and being taught.

5. Social Distancing:
 - a. Every attempt will be made to social distance without compromising the quality of instruction.
 - b. Social distancing will be practiced as best as can be when traversing through the hallways and when lining up in classrooms.

Cleaning and Maintenance.

- a. There will be increased cleaning, including “high touch” areas, throughout the school.
- b. Desks and chairs will be cleaned when a class leaves a room.
- c. Sports-related equipment will be cleaned daily.

Teaching & Learning

This section explains protocols for teaching and learning in the classroom.

Classrooms

1. Desks are placed six (6) feet apart, and at a minimum of three (3) feet apart in smaller classrooms.
2. In rooms that have small, round tables, plexiglass 4-way dividers will be used for protection.
3. When realistic, the sharing of materials will be minimized. When sharing items is necessary, they will be cleaned and disinfected before each use.
4. Masks do not have to be worn when in the classroom teaching and learning. Clear face shields will be provided to teachers and students who would like them.

Lunch & Recess

1. For the start of the year, all classes will eat lunch in their homeroom classrooms. Masks do not need to be worn during lunch unless teachers and students are not eating.
2. Recess will be monitored to watch for close, physical play. Masks are not required at recess.

Other Considerations

Adjustment to the School Calendar

It may be necessary to adjust the school calendar if Center School is mandated to close by federal, state, and/or local officials, or if the Head of School determines that there is a need to close the school for safety concerns. Holiday breaks, such as over winter break, President’s Day weekend, or spring break, may be adjusted in order to make up for lost instructional days due to closures.

Visitors

Visitors in the building will be limited and will be screened upon entering the building. Until further notice, volunteer groups will not be permitted in the building.

Infectious Disease Action Plan

There are varying levels of action dependent upon the “level” the school is in according to Center School’s Infectious Disease Action Plan. Generally speaking, the Monitoring,

Limiting, and Postponing levels would align with the state's Green Phase. The Closing level would align with the state's Yellow and Red Phases.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What if my child is sick? What do I do? *If your child is sick, keep him/her home and contact the school. Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook and Teacher Directory for specifics.*
2. What happens if the nurse finds that my child is showing symptoms of being sick? *If your child is running a fever, then you will be called to pick up your child. If after the nurse evaluates your child and finds other symptoms but no fever, the nurse will determine the next course of action. Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook and Teacher Directory for specifics.*
3. How long will these measures be in place? *The current measures can be adjusted as additional information becomes available from federal, state, and/or local authorities, or the Head of School determines that it is safe and reasonable to lift certain restrictions. The guidelines are subject to change based upon the uncertainty of the pandemic.*
4. What if a student or employee has been exposed to or has a confirmed case of COVID-19? *Center School will determine a course of action depending on the situation. More information can be found on the Protocol for Closing School Due to Exposure to or Confirmed Case of COVID-19 document.*
5. What if my child forgets their mask? *If your child forgets their mask, we will have a single-use mask for your child to wear for the day.*