

PPSEL COVID RESPONSE

Student Cohorts: We are still planning on having students in cohorts. This means that students will not be moved from classroom to classroom and put into different groups of students throughout the day. This will minimize contact with many students and minimize the number of people students interact with. Teachers will also put structures into place to keep students distanced within cohorts. The cohorts will remain under the 25 student maximum that is recommended (and often will be several students lower than that). If things go well with COVID, we may move to 2 cohorts, but we would share that before the move is made.

Masks

Students in 1st-8th grade are required to have masks at school. Masks will be used when social distancing isn't possible. There will also be regular times during the day when students will be able to social distance and remove their masks if they were wearing them, replace with a new mask or other similar things. I have been consulting with an RN on practices that will work to allow maximum effectiveness for our students while allowing any freedoms that we can.

Specials/Electives

All students will still have class with our specialists (P.E., Music, Art and Technology). While we navigate student safety, there will be no elective choices. Students will have specials every day. If we are able to add more wrinkles to our cohorts, then we would consider doing electives.

Recess

All students will still have recess. Cohorts will be assigned an area to have recess to make sure students get the opportunity to play and be with friends. Some activities that were allowed in the past will be limited or changed, but they will still be able to be with friends. Following current guidance, students will not be required to wear masks for outdoor recess.

Classroom Materials

We have had many questions about materials for students who are learning in the building. To the best of our ability, we will implement many safety protocols and still have as normal a day as possible. We will still have items hanging on the walls. Students will not be sharing common items (for example, there will not be a pencil box for students to dig through and find a pencil and they won't pass their markers to share with each other). Students will still be able to use paper and items from our copier.

Rapid Response Team

PPSEL has a Rapid Response Team that consists of 3 members of our medical staff, office staff and administration. This team utilizes the most up to date information regarding guidance for schools and COVID response. If there are questions regarding

COVID in the PPSEL community, this team will be making swift decisions based on the guidance and data.

Response to COVID Cases

The school is following the most up to date information and guidance. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment gives specific guidance for the various situations that may arise. If there is a need for quarantine of a cohort or temporary closure of the school, we will make swift and immediate decisions based on this guidance. This guidance covers exposure to COVID within the cohort, school outbreaks, and staff exposure with specifics of how long, procedures, etc. The CDPHE is going to be collecting data on an ongoing basis from schools in order to help with county and individual school decisions.