



A COMMUNITY SCHOOL
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

RESPECT. RESPONSIBILITY. EFFORT. KINDNESS.

Updated September 7, 2020

JDS CAMPUS REOPENING PLAN

The following plan has been created with guidance from state and federal guidelines as outlined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

It was developed by a task force composed of staff, board members, and a medical advisory team. The task force was charged with researching the best available information gathered from experts in public health, workplace safety, mental health and government policy, as well as from our academic accrediting organizations and networks, and our Jewish values.

Our team has worked to ensure that safeguards are in place to help protect our students, staff, and families for the 2020-2021 school year. Below is the most recent draft of the Health and Safety Plan. The school Campus Reopening Plan will also be posted on the JDS website.

Our plans will continue to evolve as new information and guidelines become available. We are confident the JDS community is prepared for the challenge.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING



The school will operate as a modified single cohort, restricting contact to as few spaces and people as reasonable, while still offering meaningful in-person learning.

- ◆ Each grade will remain in the same classroom; teachers will rotate in and out as needed. Teachers will enter each classroom on a rotating schedule to limit exposure.
- ◆ Classrooms will be arranged to accommodate for physical distancing guidelines.
- ◆ There is limited capacity in each classroom.
- ◆ Students will be seated at individual desks / tables spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- ◆ All desks / tables will face the same direction.
- ◆ Students will be equipped with Individual School Learning Kits to prevent sharing of materials. These Individual School Learning Kits will be able to go home with students should we have to pivot to online learning during the school year.

- ◆ *Tefillah* will be held in the classrooms. Students will use individually assigned *siddurim* (prayer books) which they will not share with each other.
- ◆ All Specials will take place in the classroom or outdoors.
- ◆ If movement of a class needs to occur, student movement will be coordinated to maximize social distancing, including the use of markers, signage, and limits for students/adults in hallways/stairways.
- ◆ Students will have regular opportunities for physical education, movement breaks, and recess. When in communal or outside recess areas, emphasis will be placed on cohorting students and limiting the size of participating groups.
- ◆ Teachers will remove from the classrooms any materials and supplies that cannot be easily sanitized.
- ◆ The *Beit Midrash* will serve as a second staff room so that adults can maintain distance at all times.
- ◆ Restroom occupancy will be limited, and students will follow social distancing guidelines when transitioning to the restroom.
- ◆ No full-school or large group gatherings will be held in person. Whenever possible, virtual group events and meetings will replace traditional gatherings.
- ◆ Students attending the JCC after-school program will remain in our own after school cohort under the supervision of the JCC.
- ◆ Until further notice, there will be no parents, guardians, or other guests permitted inside the school buildings. All meetings with teachers or administrators should be done remotely and by appointment.
- ◆ Whenever possible, deliveries will be left in the main entry vestibule.

MASKS

As per the Secretary of the PA Department of Health's order on August 17, 2020, with clarification for schools from the Department of Education, AAP and CDC, and until further notice:

- All students and staff will be required to wear a face mask at all times while in school, even when six feet of social distancing can be achieved. There are limited exceptions such as when eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart.
- Masks must cover the nose and mouth.
- Students should bring their own masks to school along with one extra mask. JDS has additional masks available should they be needed at any time.

Students who cannot wear masks throughout the school day will be able to

participate in our Learn Anywhere program where they can participate fully in our JDS academic program from the comfort of their own home.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

- All students and staff must wear a face covering upon entering the building, and must wash or hand sanitize hands before entering the classroom.
- Temperatures will be taken upon arrival using touchless infrared thermometers to prevent cross contamination (students with a temperature at or above 100°F will not be permitted to enter campus).
 - Parents should evaluate children before sending them to school (using our symptom monitor checklist (see below)).
 - This plan applies to faculty as well.
- Students will proceed directly to their classrooms, hang up their coats / backpacks and sit at their assigned desk (students will be escorted when needed by a teacher).
- Parents will not be able to escort their child/ren to classrooms, staff will be available.
- Dismissal / Bus Line
 - Busses will be called one at a time.
 - Students must wear face coverings during dismissal.
 - After busses dismiss, we will have cars move up to the front of the school and dismiss one to two families at a time. Students will wait in the classroom until their name is called. Parents or guardians must remain in their cars.

We rely on public school districts for bus transportation. As such, our plans for arrival and dismissal related to students who ride the bus may change as more information from districts is released.

SYMPTOM MONITOR CHECKLIST

Sending a student to school who has exhibited COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24-hours places other students and staff members at serious risk. It also increases the likelihood that school will have to temporarily close. Parents will be expected to complete a screening at home each morning, prior to sending students to school. If the answer is “yes” to any of the following, students should be kept home:

1. *Do you have any of these symptoms that is not attributable to another condition?*

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

- Fever or chills
- Fatigue
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

2. Do you have a temperature at or above 100°F?

3. Have you been in close, direct contact with a caretaker for an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past week?

HYGIENE

- Hand sanitizer (with at least 60 percent alcohol) stations will be located throughout the building, and faculty and students will be instructed in their location and proper usage.
- Students should use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the classroom.
- Handwashing will be built into the school schedule.
- Drinking fountains will remain closed. We encourage students to bring a filled labeled water bottle from home daily. We will have small water bottles available in the classrooms as needed.
- Signs will be posted on how to stop the spread of COVID-19 (properly washing hands, promoting everyday protective measures, and properly wearing a face covering) in visible locations throughout the buildings.
- Staff will carefully monitor hygiene supplies including face coverings, soap, tissues, hand sanitizer, and paper towels to ensure adequate inventory in classrooms, restrooms, and spaces throughout the campus.

MONITORING FOR EXPOSURE

We will monitor all CDC, state, and local guidelines for notices of school closures.

At our discretion and in the interests of our community, JDS reserves the right to pivot to

distance learning at any time that it is recommended by public officials or if the JDS Task Force and Administration feel that this is in the best interest of our staff and/or students. Families should be prepared to switch to 100% online learning at any time. Students in PreK-2nd grade will need access to a printer in their home and adequate WiFi service in order to complete schoolwork. If necessary, childcare plans should be made now in the event that students will be at home, for either a school wide change to distance learning or for class specific quarantining.

ILLNESS AND RESPONSE

JDS encourages students to stay at home and participate in Learn Anywhere when sick. *Pikuah Nefesh* (“safeguarding life”) is a bedrock principle of Jewish law. Our best approach to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on our campus community is to embrace a shared sense of responsibility for one another’s well-being. While we cannot eliminate the risks altogether, we can work collectively to mitigate them.

If a child gets sick or develops symptoms while at school:

- The Art Room will be set up as our First Aid Room.
- A staff member will remain with a sick student until s/he is picked up.
- Emergency contacts are expected to be reachable immediately; parents/emergency contacts must be available to pick up their children within one hour of being called by the school if they are informed of student illness.
- Students may return once they are fever free for 24-hours without fever reducing medication *and* if a COVID test is negative.
- If the student does not have a COVID test, s/he may not return to school until s/he has been fever free for at least 72-hours without taking a fever reducing medication.

All students and staff must have a flu shot by November 1st with documentation to be provided to the main office, in addition to being up to date on all vaccinations.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

The JDS has a high standard for cleanliness and remains committed to upholding these standards while increasing protocols with intensive cleaning practices.

- The building will be cleaned and sanitized throughout the day and deep cleaned nightly.
- Bathrooms and frequent touch points will be cleaned and sanitized multiple times throughout the day.

- Every classroom will be equipped with CDC approved cleaning products which teachers may use to wipe down any commonly touched surfaces throughout the day.
- We will make every effort to limit the amount of touching of shared equipment.

LUNCH PLAN

A simple modified two-week dairy-only lunch menu rotation will be offered:

- Parents will pre-order meals using Google Forms.
- Student lunch will be in the classroom or the specified outdoor area for that grade.
- Meals will be served in disposable containers with individually wrapped plastic utensils.
- Students will eat 6 feet apart from one another so that masks may be safely removed.
- Disposable cups will be available for *netilat yadayim* (ritual hand washing) and students will use their own siddurim (prayer book) for *birkat hamazon* (grace after meals) with guidance from a recording of the prayer.
- All students should bring a reusable water bottle to and from school each day. Small water bottles will also be available in the classrooms.
- Students may not share food or utensils. They should wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating.
- The staff will eat lunch in the multipurpose room, which may also serve as a classroom in order to allow for larger, physically distanced groups of students.

As a reminder, the ***JDS is a nut-free facility.***

JDS LEARN ANYWHERE

JDS Learn Anywhere Program will effectively and efficiently support simultaneous in-person and online learning during the 2020-21 school year. Our '*Learn Anywhere*' program allows us to be online for any student who chooses to stay home or is unable to go to school because of illness, while our physical building is able to open.

- All families will have the option to enroll their student(s) in Learn Anywhere distance learning at any time for the protection of their vulnerable students or family members.
- Families who have students in a high-risk health category should participate in the distance learning option at the start of the year.
- Families who chose our Friday Hybrid Option will log in to the Learn Anywhere program one day a week.

SOURCE MATERIAL

● **Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

- CDC Guidance on Face Coverings
- CDC Guidance on Hand Hygiene
- CDC Guidance on Cleaning and Disinfecting
- CDC Considerations for Schools
- CDC Guidance for K-12 Schools and Childcare Programs
- CDC Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) - Businesses and Workplaces
- CDC Coronavirus Self-Checker

● **Pennsylvania Department of Education:**

- PA Department of Education Preliminary Guidance for the Phased Reopening of Schools
- PA Department of Education School Health and Safety Plan Considerations
- PA Department of Health COVID-19 Homemade Mask Guidance
- PA Department of Education - Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings

● **Pennsylvania Department of Health**

- PA Department of Health COVID-19 Mask Wearing Guidance
- PA Department of Health - Order of the Secretary Requiring Universal Face Coverings
- PA Department of Health - Coronavirus in Pennsylvania

● **Other Online Resources:**

- US Counties COVID-19 Trends
- FEMA Coronavirus Best Practices
- Independent School Management - Reopening your Campus: The Next 60 Days
- American Academy of Pediatrics - COVID19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry
- Full (Unreleased) CDC Guidelines for Reopening

WHAT IS A CASE?



A patient has a diagnosis of COVID-19.

TAKE ACTION:

Isolate.

Separate from people who are not sick to avoid spreading illness.

WHAT IS A CONTACT?



An individual had close contact while the case patient was infectious.

TAKE ACTION:

Quarantine.

Stay at home to limit community exposure to illness and to see if symptoms develop.

WHAT IS A CONTACT OF A CONTACT?



An individual had or continues to have close contact with a contact.

TAKE ACTION:

Everyday preventative actions.

Wash hands, cover coughs and sneezes, and clean surfaces frequently. Be alert for symptoms.

