



July 22, 2020

Dear Members of the Pike-Delta-York Local School District:

On July 6, 2020, the District announced and publicized the *Fulton County Schools' Common Reopening Agreement* and the Pike-Delta-York Local School District's reopening plan. In addition to the *Fulton County Schools' Common Reopening Agreement*, the District's added safety measures outlined in the District's reopening plan should ensure a safe opening of the 2020-2021 school year. The previously publicized information noted parents/guardians not wishing to have their child participate in face-to-face, on-site learning may choose an online option to be completed from home. These online courses will be delivered through the District's Panther Virtual Academy (PVA). This communication is meant to provide additional information and clarification on the PVA online option.

Parents/guardians choosing the online PVA option for their children should expect the following:

- This PVA online option is NOT the same as the District's Distance Learning Plan implemented last spring, the spring of 2020.
- Students participating in the online learning option will be enrolled only in PVA courses, which offers strictly online-based instruction and no classroom teacher. Students will **not** be assigned a PDY teacher for support or guidance.
- Any parent choosing to have their child participate in online learning will agree to one semester at a time. Students will not be permitted to come in and out of online learning and face-to-face learning.
- PVA online courses provide grade level, fixed curricula. The courses are unmodifiable and may not address the individual learning needs of each student.
- The district will not provide a school-issued device and the family must provide internet access for students enrolled in PVA.
- PVA students are required to complete a certain percentage of each course weekly to be considered "in attendance" and not marked absent. State truancy laws remain in effect for online students, too.
- PVA students may complete the coursework at any time of day; there is no set time a student must log into their courses.
- For authenticity, some course tests/exams are required to be completed on-site, within the District school buildings.
- As with all public schooling options, students enrolled in PVA are required to complete the Ohio Department of Education's yearly state tests.

- Students enrolled in PVA are not eligible to participate in co-curricular activities, such as band and choir, as these activities require students to be enrolled in face-to-face, on-site courses within the building.
- Students enrolled in PVA are eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities.

Parents wishing to explore this option further, or to select this option for their child, should contact the Board of Education Office as soon as possible, but no later than Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

I am hopeful the above information provides a more clear picture of the Panther Virtual Academy online learning option so families can make the best decision for their children. I know selecting the best and most appropriate option is important for each family, and is everyone's intent. I firmly believe we can reopen the PDY school buildings safely for our students and staff; however, I do understand the online PVA option may be a better choice for some families and students due to the COVID-19 virus. While we all work to make these important decisions regarding reopening of school for the 2020-2021 school year, please feel free to reach out should you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ted Haselman", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ted Haselman, Ed. D.
Superintendent