

**68 Fenner Avenue** Troy, Pennsylvania 16947

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570/297-2730 (fax) 570/297-1600

August 7, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The Troy Area School District developed its Health and Safety Plan for the reopening of schools during the 2020-2021 school year and submitted it to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). Parents who believe their children are at higher risk due to an existing medical condition should immediately notify the Office of Support Services by calling 570-297-2730.

Another area of our Health and Safety Plan addresses the wearing of masks by both students and staff. The following is a summary of the plan on face coverings:

- Masks must be worn by students and staff at school and on the bus as required by order signed by Sec. of Health Dr. Levine on July 1.
- This Order applies to any individual aged two and older whenever outside the home, including while in school entities, including public K-12 schools.
- All students must wear a face covering (cloth mask or shield) that covers their nose and mouth inside the school and while outside when physical distancing is not feasible.
- Face coverings, such as masks or face shields, must be worn by all non-students, both staff and visitors (including parents and guardians), while on school property, including during student drop-off and pickup.

On July 16, 2020 the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) and the Department of Education (PDE) issued a public health guidance to schools to assist in developing and implementing Health and Safety Plans for returning to in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the guidance on Face Coverings and Masks, all students must wear a face covering unless they have a health condition or disability that prevent them from wearing a mask. In those circumstances, the District will consider what reasonable accommodations can be made. The accommodations will be determined in consultation with the student's health care provider, the parent(s), the school nurse, and IEP/504 team.

If you wish to request accommodations related to face covering requirements, please have the Request for Mask Accommodation: COVID-19 form completed by your child's healthcare provider, and return it to the District. Upon return of the form, the District will convene a meeting to make an individualized decision about the request for accommodations. Any accommodations granted will be documented in a 504 Plan or Individualized Education Program (IEP).

If there are any questions regarding the accommodation or process, please call the Support Service Office at 570-297-2730.

Sincerely,

Matthew Schwenk Director of Support Services Troy Area School District 68 Fenner Avenue Troy, PA 16947 570-297-2730