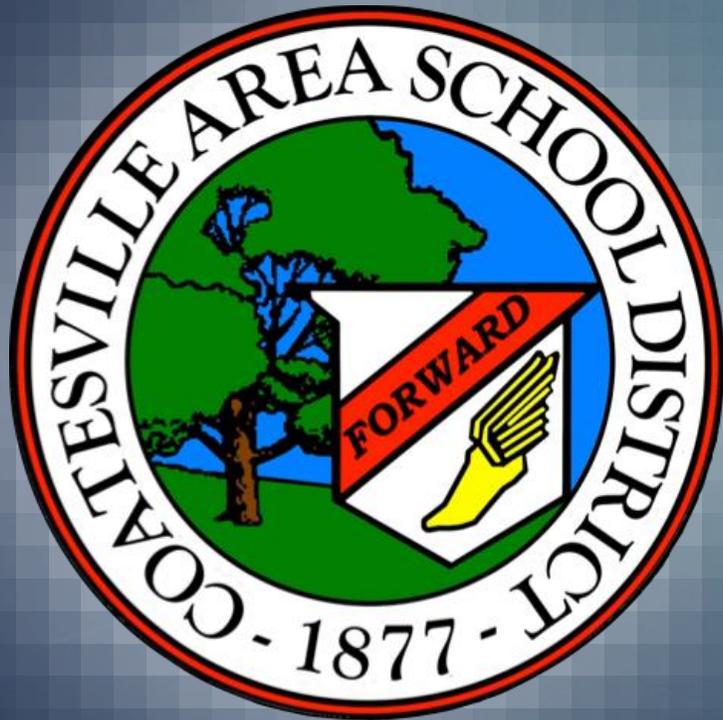


# COATESVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



## RE-OPENING OF SCHOOL: AN UPDATE

Tomás Hanna  
Superintendent  
August 10, 2021



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

- CASD will open school - in-person - on August 30 with a normal schedule.
- The Coatesville Cyber Academy (grades K-12) is an option for anyone who would prefer a cyber experience.
- Sports resumed with fall workouts on August 9.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

- Our Health and Safety Plan, approved by the Board in July, includes our mitigation plan and based on our experience last year, we know works.
- The goals of our Health and Safety Plan are to ensure we are all safe; provide the best educational experience possible, ideally in-person, and ensure all the necessary supports are in place for our students and staff.
- Masking is required on district transportation (per CDC order).
- Our HVAC systems are running with new filters and PPE and testing materials are in place for our buildings.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

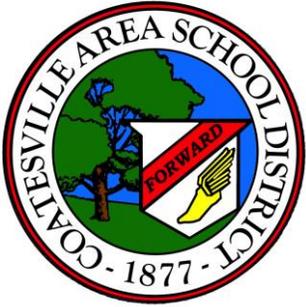
- In addition to the diligent work of our custodial teams as they finalize summer cleaning, during the year we will continue with our cleaning protocols, including staff to focus on high-touch areas.
- Bottle filling dispensers have been installed throughout our buildings.
- Nurse staff are at the ready to support our students and staff as they did so last year in contact tracing.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

- CDC guidance includes an exception for K-12\*.
- In the **K–12 indoor classroom** setting, the close contact definition **excludes** students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.
- Unfortunately, this exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

\* *Taken from guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).*



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

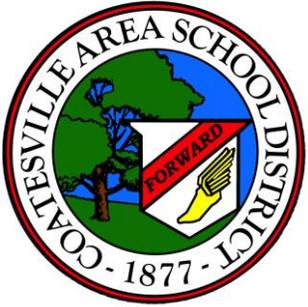
- Vaccination rates for Chester County are high as the Chester County Health Department (CCHD) reports 75% of those 12 and up have received at least one shot.\*
- New case numbers are on the rise. We are in the moderate transmission rate and on the verge of the substantial transmission rate.
- During the past 30 days, there were 104 new cases in the age range of 0-19 (49 cases in the age range of 0-9 and 55 cases in the age range of 10-19).\*
- During the past 7 days, we have seen 54 cases in the age range of 0-19. (29 in the age range 0-9 and 26 in the age range of 10-19).\* Were this trend to continue the 30-day rate would double.

\* Taken from guidance from the Chester County Health Department.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

- Currently, there is a spirited conversation nationally regarding the mitigation strategy of masking.
- CASD must determine a path forward with masking, particularly given the increase in cases and the impact on the younger population.
- We successfully masked all last year and this summer masks have been optional in our schools.
- Given the K-12 exception for contact tracing, masking would mean fewer students requiring quarantining.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

## Options

- Universal masking K-12 for students, staff, and visitors regardless of vaccination status.
- Continue our current practice of masking as optional.
- Review the transmission levels on a weekly basis based from CCHD including incidences and positivity rates. Every Friday an announcement would be made on mask status for the following week.



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

County Transmission Level	7-Day Incidence Rate per 100,000		7-Day Percent Positivity	Masking Status
Low	<10	AND	<5.0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masks optional when indoors</li> <li>Masks required on busses</li> </ul>
Moderate	10-49	OR	5.0% - 7.9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masks required K-6 when indoors</li> <li>Masks recommended 7-12</li> <li>Masks required on busses</li> </ul>
Substantial	50 - 99	OR	8.0% - 9.9%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masks required in school buildings and busses.</li> <li>Masks may be removed for outdoor recess and outdoor physical education classes.</li> </ul>
High	≥ 100	OR	≥ 10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Masks required in school buildings and busses.</li> <li>Masks may be removed for outdoor recess and outdoor physical education classes.</li> </ul>



# A SAFE RETURN TO IN PERSON LEARNING

## Discussion