

## Freedom Area School District Health and Safety Plan Summary 2021-2022

*The following information outlines the district's health and safety plan related to COVID-19. Please note the district is required to review this document every six months and update if necessary. In addition, the district is required to review and update this plan whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools.*

Freedom Area School District (FASD) is committed to fully opening our schools for the 2021-2022 school year. The district is also committed to offering different learning pathways to provide students and families with options so they can determine what will best fit their individual needs.

The school district administration will continue to review the current recommendations from the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Health each week. Based on the information reviewed, recommendations are provided to the Board of School Directors (BOSD). The BOSD, which consists of locally elected officials, retains its statutory authority over the operation of the schools, facilities, and programs of FASD. If circumstances change, the BOSD, in consultation with the Superintendent of Schools, will modify this Safety Plan, as needed, to meet the educational and safety needs of its students, employees and the large school community.

Based on the current information the school district has, we intend to begin the school year with the following strategies in place:

- **Face Masks:** Masks will not be required by FASD. Any individual who wishes to wear a mask is welcome to wear one at school and school functions.
- **Social Distancing:** FASD intends to operate a regular 5-day instructional schedule for the 2021-2022 school year. Should the cases of COVID-19 increase, the school district would return a model which includes social distancing wherever possible, limits student movement in grades K-6 and increases physical distance at lunch for all students K-12.
- **Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:** Presentations on handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be presented to all students. Signage and reminders will be provided.
- **Cleaning:** FASD will continue its current cleaning strategy including disinfecting areas where an individual with a confirmed case was present. All staff will be encouraged to open windows in classrooms as much as possible.

- **Contact Tracing:** FASD continues to conduct contact tracing when cases are identified and will inform parents. As required, all contact tracing information is reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Health.
- **Diagnostic Screening:** FASD continues to encourage all families and staff to continue to use the Health and Wellness Checklist prior to entering a school building or attending any FASD activities.
- **Vaccines for the School Community:** If requested, FASD will inform parents and community members of local sites to receive a vaccination.
- **Appropriate Accommodations:** FASD strives to meet the needs of all students. The Director of Special Education is authorized to work with special education teachers, general education teachers, related service providers, IEP teams and parents to make facilitate the implementation of accommodations for the welfare and inclusion of students.
- **Coordination with State and Local Health Officials:** FASD will continue to collaborate with local healthcare systems as well as adhere to any state mandated regulations which may be effective for school districts. The district will adapt to any new/unforeseen event in the best interest of the community and a student or staff member's well-being and safety.

If you would like to offer suggestions, express concerns or ask questions regarding the FASD Health and Safety Plan, please click on the link below and complete the survey. All responses will be confidential unless you voluntarily provide your name. The survey below will remain open until **July 21, 2021**.

<https://bit.ly/3wlvz4Y>