

Town Hall Meeting

August 13, 2020

In-Person Instruction

1. What is the mask policy?

Does the [Order of the Secretary of the PA Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#) apply to children and adults while in schools?

Yes, this order applies to all students, staff and visitors age two and older while in school entities, including public K-12 schools, brick and mortar and cyber charter schools, private and parochial schools, career and technical centers (CTCs), intermediate units (IUs); educational programming for students in non-educational placements such as residential settings (boarding schools), residential facilities, detention centers, and hospital settings; PA Pre-K Counts, Head Start Programs and Preschool Early Intervention programs; and Private Academic Nursery Schools and locally funded pre kindergarten activities.

The Order was effective July 1, 2020 and will remain in effect until the Secretary of Health determines the public health risk is sufficiently reduced so that face coverings are no longer necessary as a widely utilized public health tool. For the safety of students, staff and families and to avoid community spread of COVID-19, students and staff are considered to be members of the public who are congregating in indoor locations. As such, they are required to adhere to this Order.

2. Can a student wear a gator? **This is an acceptable face covering**
3. What about a face shield? **This is an acceptable face covering**
4. Will my child be allowed to enjoy recess outside without a mask? Once outside can they take the mask off? **Yes**
5. Will my child be given a laptop and be prepared in case we have to go all virtual? **Currently there is a backlog on all chrome books due the high demand nationwide. We have placed an order for new devices and they are slated to arrive mid September.**

6. If my child has been around their friends the entire time, can they sit together at lunch?
As long as they social distance 6 feet away when feasible.
7. What mask breaks have been planned per the order at school?
Students may remove masks to eat and drink. Masks may be removed in a classroom setting if they adhere to social distancing guidelines.. Students are permitted to wear face coverings all day if they desire.
8. How will the kids be spaced on busses?
Parents are encouraged to transport their children if possible. Families are encouraged to sit together. Seating charts will be created starting at the back of the bus and filling in toward the front. Masks are required on the bus.
9. Will bus routes change do to accommodate proper sitting arrangements?
Bus routes and times may be altered due to the number of students on the bus.
10. If a Teacher/Staff Member/Child/ Children test positive for Covid-19 will all the parents be informed and subjected to vital schooling for 14 days?
SFSD will follow the Department of Health recommendations along with Stock and Leader Guidelines.
11. Will kids have breaks during the day without masks in the classrooms if they can remain 6ft distance? Yes. Teachers are responsible for allowing mask breaks during the day.
12. A lot of school districts are suggesting to start after Labor Day. Start date moved to September 8th possible? This would give our teachers/Staff members and busses adequate timing to figure out things. Plus this would help a lot of parents to figure out what to do with their child/children. Considering some parents never received the first robot call. Though yesterday was the 2nd robot call about calling Lori Bard confirming they can take their child/children to school which only gives the parents 5 days to figure it out which isn't enough time in my opinion. We are required to complete 180 instructional days. The calendar was approved in April. The district felt it was best to start the year as planned in order to allow the students to get to know their teachers in the event we are forced to go back into a school closure.
13. Will parents be notified if a teacher, student or school worker has been diagnosed with Covid? We will follow the Department of Health guidelines. No names will be

disclosed. If there was a positive case we would simply notify the public indicating a student has tested positive.

14. Does the Pa dept of health notify the school of positive cases with students or school workers to ensure that the school has been notified of any positive cases? **Yes, the Department of Health will notify the school immediately upon learning of the person with the confirmation of the probable case of Covid-19 was present at the school or school events while infectious.**
15. Will masks have to be worn during gym or recess? **They are not required. The goal is to keep students outside as much as possible.**
16. Was 6 foot distancing of desks achieved in all classrooms? If not, which classrooms weren't and will those students be required to wear masks the entire time? **We have done so to the best of our ability. We are using the gym, library and outdoor spaces to allow for mask breaks and accommodate larger classes.**
17. Have 57% of the parents who said they will transport their child called the school? If no, are the kids spaced out safely on the buses? No they have not **We are still encouraging parents to contact Lori Bard if they are transporting. Masks are required on busses. Kids are spaced out to the best of our ability.**
18. For the desks that aren't 6 feet apart can they have plexiglass around them so that the kids can have more freedom from the masks? I know some kids will struggle with the glasses fogging up with their masks and not be able to see the board. **Plexi glass has been ordered for the main offices. Masks are required for students and staff.**
19. In the health plan it talks about Fulton county partnership helping with after school care. Has there any new information released on if they will be providing care? **Several meetings were held with the Family Partnership. We were not able to secure a location to house our students.**
20. Will students' belongings come home with them every evening? (one parents stated they didn't want their children's belongings being brought home diseased.) **It is an individual decision.**

21. What if my child has a runny nose but no fever? (it's allergies) **Parents are asked to self monitor their children.**
22. What if my child has a cough but no fever? (it's allergies) **Parents are asked to self monitor their child.**
23. What if we are going on vacation in an area designated as a hot spot? Do I have to keep my child out for an additional two weeks? **The Center for Disease Control recommends 14 day quarantine for those in high risk areas. This information can be found on the CDC webpage.**
24. How will staff handle students or colleagues who are not respecting the safety guidelines set forth? **Facial coverings are required for all students and staff per the Governor's order. Facial coverings will be addressed as part of the dress code in the student handbook.**
25. If a student has a fever, does the policy hold that they shall simply remain home until they have not had a fever for 24 hours or are there changes to that policy? **If students are sent home with a fever greater than 100.4, students must provide a note from the doctor indicating they are safe to return to school.**
26. What is the plan for when a student or a family member contracts COVID-19? For example, if the father of a student tests positive...does the student quarantine for 14 days? Will schoolmates/families be notified? **The family should follow the protocol put into place from their Family Physician. Children should quarantine. Alternate learning options will be offered.**
27. Are grades still switching classes, and if so will desks be sterilized in between? Also, are classes traveling between classrooms as one group or will there be traveling patterns that intermingle? **Yes, they are changing classes. Desks will be cleaned between classes. Students are required to wear masks during the changing of classes.**
28. Will the drop off/pick up procedures be the same as last year for students and adults. If there are changes...what will they be? **There is no change to drop off and pick up. We**

may need to allow extra time for this to occur. Parents are still required to sign their children out at dismissal at the Elementary. Pick up will occur outside.

29. My child will have one, but for those who don't will one be provided upon arrival? **Yes, masks are available at school and on the bus.**

30. Students wearing masks mandatory on buses and in classrooms, will it be enforced? **Yes**

31. How much will masks be enforced? Will anyone who is not wearing a mask be sent home or not be allowed to ride bus ? **Masks will be enforced 100%. We are requesting full cooperation in this matter. Students who refuse to wear a mask, Will be offered alternative options to learning that include remote learning.**

32. How will students be seated on schoolbus to maintain social distancing? **Families are encouraged to sit together. Students will be distanced as feasible.**

33. Are water bottles for students in all grades allowed, so my child don't have to use the water fountain to avoid high contact areas? **Bottle fillers have been ordered for the Elementary and High school.**

Distance Learning Questions

1. If my student chooses distance learning, how much attention will my child get from their teacher? **Our goal is to mimic in person instruction and provide the attention needed per child.**
2. How will I get the work? **Students in the ES may make arrangements to pick up any work that is needed. Students at the HS will receive their work via Google classroom.**

3. Do I have to follow the schools time schedule? **If you choose the live streaming option, this will be in real time.**
4. What are the parent's responsibility? **Monitor your child's health and follow the recommended guidelines.**
5. Can online lives be recorded for the parents that normally work Monday-Friday 8am-4pm shift? **Google classroom will be used at the HS to provide instruction and these lessons will be available**
6. Will they be required to sit in front of the computer all day if they live stream? **No, This is based on individual students' schedules.**
7. Will they have the option for distance learning? Are the classroom teachers responsible for that component or is the only avenue one of home-schooling?

Southern Fulton High School does have several options for remote learning if families select to keep their children home during the school year:

- **Southern Fulton is currently working to provide live streaming/instruction to families who opt out of returning to in-school instruction via Google Classroom. Our goal is for the Southern Fulton teachers to provide that instruction in a way that meets the needs of all students, both in the physical classrooms and virtual classroom.**
- **The other option is to utilize our partnership with Montgomery Virtual Academy which is an online platform with non-Southern Fulton teachers.**
- **Both of these options allow students to remain "Southern Fulton" students and do not require a transfer of schools.**
- **There is another option that is available to any student in Pennsylvania and that is a cyber charter school; however, that does require a transfer of schools and the student would no longer be a member of the Southern Fulton School District.**
- **The final option is for a parent to home-school their child, which involves the parent providing the instruction and curriculum. The student would transfer out of Southern Fulton and would be considered a home-school student.**

8. Can we change our decision a few weeks into the school year if all is deemed safe? **Yes we encourage you to return to school.**

9. What supplies do the kids that are doing online learning need for home? **The supply list is posted on the webpage.**

10. Can the kids switch from online to in school at any time and vice versa? **Yes but we encourage consistency.**

11. If the internet goes out, which it does quite often, will kids be able to watch the recorded live streaming? **Google classroom will allow for that to happen.**

12. Will there be a certain pick up time to pick up the books, etc from the school for the online learning? **During school hours. 8:00-4:00**

13. Explain more about the daily classroom stream and is it one way or two way communication, and is it live or recorded? **The goal is to use Google Meet which allows for two way communication. This platform is live.**