

# Peru Community School Corporation Return to In-Person Plan 2023-2024

Updated 06-19-23

**COULD BE REVISED DUE TO INDIANA GOVERNOR MANDATES**  
**COULD BE REVISED DUE TO IN STATE DEPT OF HEALTH MANDATES**

Peru Community Schools will start the 2022-23 school year on August 4. We will have a full day with a full week (Monday thru Friday) and have 100 % attendance for students and staff.

PCS will not require students/staff to be vaccinated/boosted but will highly recommend that they do so before August 4.

PCS will not require face coverings/masks to be worn by students/staff but will be optional to be worn if so desired as of August 4.

PCS will continue to follow the recommendations of the ISHD/CDC for social distancing and contact tracing for public schools.

PCS will NOT offer a temporary virtual learning option for students (elementary/secondary).

This plan or components could change at any point due to Federal, State, or Local mandates/guidelines.

IN State Department of Health COVID-19 changes as of 12-30-2021

IN State Department of Health COVID-19 changes as of 02-23-2022: This document is only for individuals that test positive for COVID-19

Updates required per ESSER III by Jun 24 and Dec 24, 2021 & 2022 and June 24, 2023.

## Addressing Community Spread in Peru Community School Corporation (As recommended by local Health Department and State Health Department)

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials</li> <li>Low to few known active exposure cases <u>at school buildings</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials</li> <li>Minimal or moderate <u>active exposure cases at school buildings</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID spread is such that rolling closures are needed (could be short term or long term)</li> <li>Substantial <u>active exposure cases or absences</u> impacting school building attendance, and staffing</li> </ul>

## Risk Mitigation Approach

**Conduct self-screening** (prevent sick people from attending school)  
**Provide options** (take care of all who cannot attend, until they can)  
**Promote hygiene** (hand washing)  
**Increase cleaning** (disinfect surfaces)  
**Keep kids in cohort groups as much as possible** (limit contact)  
**Maximize distance** (as feasible)  
**Avoid large groups** (where possible)  
**Allow masks** (support those who do)  
 Decisions based on: 1) medical advice, 2) what is feasible, 3) what parents will support.

# Screening - Exclusion - Reporting

The following guidelines are highly recommended for staff and students.

\*\*\* **For any outbreaks or clusters of positive COVID-19 cases:** Close Contact is defined as any person that has been within 6 feet of a known positive for a total of 15 minutes or more within a 24 hour period with or without a mask. ~~IF defined as a close contact and you are fully vaccinated then there is no quarantine.~~ **IF ALL** persons within a classroom have been masked **100% of the time** then contact tracing may be done at 3 feet (if 1 person is unmasked at any time then the 6 ft rule is followed). If you are exposed to COVID-19, you will need to wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.

<b>Current Statistics for Miami County</b>	Source: <a href="https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm">https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm</a>
<b>Parent Screening Measures before a child leaves home – every morning (keep child home if one or more symptoms not otherwise explained):</b>	A fever of 100.4° F or greater • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing • Chills • Repeated shaking with chills • Muscle pain • Headache • Sore throat • New loss of taste or smell • Nausea • Diarrhea • Congestion/Runny Nose A child (or employee) should stay home from school/extra-curriculars if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit any of COVID-19 listed above based on IN St Dept of Health that is not otherwise explained. <b>Parents call and report absences if remaining home for this reason.</b>
<b>Return to school after having any symptoms above and testing POSITIVE for COVID 19 with symptoms:</b>	<b>First: Notify your school immediately of any positive test and provide school with a copy of test result.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stay home for 5 days</li> <li>- Return to school on Day 6 if asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and must mask for Days 6-10 in classroom</li> <li>- Fever-free for 24 hours without medication and other symptoms improving</li> <li>- Can resume extracurricular activities on Day 6 only if able to wear a mask properly at all times for Days 6-10, above conditions are met and cleared by physician (<a href="https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinicalguidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/">https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinicalguidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>Return to school after testing POSITIVE for COVID 19 but asymptomatic:</b>	<b>First: Notify your school immediately of any positive test and provide school with a copy of test result.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stay home for 5 days</li> <li>- Return to school on Day 6 if asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and must mask for Days 6-10 in classroom</li> <li>- Fever-free for 24 hours without medication and other symptoms improving</li> <li>- Can resume extracurricular activities on Day 6 only if able to wear a mask properly at all times for Days 6-10, above conditions are met and cleared by physician (<a href="https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinicalguidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/">https://www.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinicalguidance/covid-19-interim-guidance-return-to-sports/</a>)</li> </ul>

## Decision Making Model Based on Level of COVID-19 Spread

Level of Spread	Low to No Spread (Plan A)	Moderate Spread (Plan B, until we can return to Plan A)	Substantial Spread (Plan C, until we can return to plan B)
<b>Instructional Model</b>	<p>Traditional Learning (brick and mortar) 100% of students attend traditional school every day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>100% temporary eLearning option available for students/families that do not feel safe or comfortable returning to the traditional learning (brick and mortar) or for students who are high risk</p>	<p>Hybrid A/B Schedule (brick and mortar and eLearning) 50% of students attend traditional school every other day. eLearning on days students not in school. Subject to board approval and PCEA meet and discuss.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>100% temporary eLearning option available for students/families that do not feel safe or comfortable returning to the traditional learning (brick and mortar) or for students who are high risk</p>	<p>Crisis eLearning until Community Spread, determined by local or state health department regulations or executive orders, decreases and then transition back to the Hybrid A/B Schedule with eLearning or Plan A with full attendance.</p>
<b>Level of Response</b>	<p>School buildings are open with additional cleaning, safety, and protective measures in place. Teachers will provide instruction based on a traditional schedule. Technology used in the classroom will help students who participate in eLearning to participate.</p> <p>100% temporary eLearning will provide instruction from the teacher as close to if the student was in the classroom. To be modified and determined by Peru Administration and Board Approval, subject to local Union meet and discuss. Counselors and teachers are available for students on a virtual platform.</p>	<p>Hybrid A/B Schedule: Students are assigned one of two schedules (and assigned as a family) in order to reduce occupancy on buses and building by 50%)</p> <p>100% temporary eLearning Option Maintained.</p>	<p>Crisis eLearning will provide instruction from the teacher as close to if the student was in the classroom. To be modified and determined by Peru Administration and Board Approval, subject to local Union meet and discuss. Counselors and teachers are available for students on a virtual platform.</p> <p>Short term closures for cleaning Extended closures for community spread</p> <p>100% Crisis eLearning Option Maintained.</p>

# Teaching and Learning Plan

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All staff and students self-screen each day before starting the day</li> <li>• Staff or students who wish to wear masks may wear masks. (Highly Recommended)</li> <li>• Desks are separated as much as possible, unnecessary furniture is removed</li> <li>• Physical education held outside when weather permissible</li> <li>• Limit large group gatherings</li> <li>• Discourage the congregation of students in parking lots and common areas</li> <li>• Designating areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to walk to keep students separated (to the extent practicable)</li> <li>• Students are kept in a cohort group PK-6 and teachers rotate when possible</li> <li>• Assigned seating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same as low to no spread</li> <li>• Re-evaluate mask use policy</li> <li>• Hybrid A/B Schedule</li> <li>• Provide educational content virtually on the days students are not in school (with support) until they come back the following scheduled day</li> <li>• Facilities and buses are occupied at 50% to support social distancing</li> </ul>	<p>No students or staff in buildings</p>

# Temporary Virtual Learning Plan Semester 1 ONLY

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents register as normal but request building principal meeting for temporary virtual learning.</li> <li>• Building Principal works with parent/student to design best learning opportunities in a required virtual learning conference.</li> <li>• K-6 would sign up for 9 weeks and reevaluate continuing temporary virtual learning.</li> <li>• 7-12 would sign up for 1 semester and reevaluate continuing temporary virtual learning option.</li> <li>• Virtual Learning must be approved by building Principal before August 5, 2021.</li> </ul>	<p>Students would continue Temporary Virtual Learning with no changes to schedule.</p>	<p>All students on Crisis E-learning or continue temporary virtual learning plan.</p>

# Protective Measures

## Low to No Spread

- All staff self-screen each day before starting the day
- Staff or students who wish to wear masks may wear masks. (Highly Recommended)
- Teach and reinforce good hygiene practices like hand washing, covering coughs, etc.
- Signs are posted throughout the school about how to minimize the spread, how to wash hands, and staying home when you are sick
- Hands are washed/sanitized at the start of school, prior to eating, after using the restroom, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing, and after using shared equipment (Highly Recommended)
- Playground—recess times are staggered, hand sanitization prior to and after recess, equipment is cleaned daily
- Spread desks far apart in the classroom. Seating charts are maintained
- All desks face the same direction as possible
- Students are kept in a cohort group PK-6 and teachers rotate when possible
- If desks are shared, they are wiped between use
- Minimize the use of shared supplies and materials. Sanitize between each use if shared as feasible
- Protocols established for students who begin to feel sick at school, including isolation rooms in each building
- Water fountains are closed. Students bring non-glass water bottles from home. Bottled water provided by the PCS in each office.
- Reporting process in place to track symptoms, absence, COVID cases, and communicate with the health department

## Moderate Spread

- Same as low to no spread
- Re-evaluate mask use policy
- Hybrid A/B Schedule
- Facilities and buses are occupied at 50% to support social distancing when possible.

## Substantial Spread

No students or staff in buildings

# Protecting Vulnerable Populations

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide 100% remote temporary learning option</li> <li>● Provide high-risk students and staff with PPE gear as requested and practical</li> <li>● Establish a point-of-contact with the local health department</li> <li>● Identify local COVID-19 testing sites</li> <li>● Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff</li> <li>● Masks are allowable by vulnerable students and staff as needed throughout the day</li> <li>● Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually through the 100% temporary eLearning option</li> <li>● Establish a process for regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff</li> <li>● Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes on a case by case basis.</li> <li>● Limit large group gatherings/ Interactions for vulnerable students and staff</li> <li>● Students who test positive for COVID or who are quarantined may shift to remote learning until they can return.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Hybrid A/B Schedule</li> <li>● Re-evaluate mask policy</li> <li>● Facilities at 50% occupation to promote social distancing and the use of high touch surfaces as much as possible.</li> <li>● Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually through the 100% temporary eLearning option</li> <li>● Establish a process for regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff</li> <li>● Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes on a case by case basis.</li> </ul>	<p>No students or staff in buildings</p>

# Cleaning and Sanitizing

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cleaning budget increased to hire additional work hours, equipment, supplies and contracted services as needed</li> <li>● All staff self-screen each day before starting shifts</li> <li>● Soap and hand sanitizer are available throughout the building and outside each classroom</li> <li>● Students and Staff are highly recommended to utilize the hand sanitizer stations when transitioning between classrooms and entering buildings.</li> <li>● Routine cleaning is performed on a regularly scheduled basis by district custodial staff assigned to that building or area. Routine cleaning includes daily cleaning and disinfecting of all restrooms, scheduled sweeping of all floors, sanitizing of cafeteria tables, emptying trash and other building based tasks</li> <li>● Supplemental cleaning is performed by custodial staff over and above what is considered routine. Supplemental cleaning is focused on cleaning and disinfecting high touch surfaces, specifically for the purpose of preventing spread of disease</li> <li>● Emergency cleaning: The emergency cleaning plan will be implemented at the direction of the Superintendent or designee in response to an actual infection located at or attributed to a particular school or location or when directed by County or State health authorities</li> <li>● Barriers added where appropriate. (example: office, counselor, attendance, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Same as cleaning in low to no spread</li> <li>● Hybrid A/B Schedule</li> <li>● Facilities at 50% occupation to promote social distancing and reduce the use of high touch surfaces when possible.</li> <li>● Upon direction to implement an emergency cleaning plan, the facility will be evacuated and plans for the length and scope of facility closure will be communicated to the public and staff. This may only affect a portion of the facility.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Deep cleaning procedures conducted by custodial staff at the direction of the Superintendent and Assistant to the Superintendent</li> </ul>

# Extra-Curricular and Co-Curricular

\*\*If a student chooses the temporary virtual learning model, they will be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities (grades 3-12). Secondary students (grades 7-12) must follow IHSAA guidelines for eligibility.\*\*

Low to No Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All athletes and essential personnel must self-check for COVID-19 symptoms at home prior to coming to practice/games.</li> <li>● First-time athletes are required to have an IHSAA pre-participation physical</li> <li>● Returning athletes are not required to obtain a new physical but must provide a 2021-22 IHSAA Supplemental physical form located on final forms and at the athletic office.</li> <li>● Adhere to all social distancing guidelines as feasible according to recommended by CDC and IDOE guidelines phase 1-3. (located on website)</li> <li>● Coaches are highly encouraged to wear masks at all times when social distancing is not possible</li> <li>● When not participating in vigorous activity, and social distancing cannot be achieved, athletes are highly encouraged to wear masks. PPE gear available upon request.</li> <li>● All equipment must be sanitized before and after every use</li> <li>● Students encouraged to bring their own water bottles and no sharing of water bottles will be allowed. Water is provided.</li> <li>● Locker rooms used at 100% capacity. Athletes must come to practice ready. All athletes must take clothing home each day to be washed.</li> <li>● If receiving treatment from the trainer, both the student and the trainer should wear face coverings</li> <li>● Students must wash hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer before and after all workouts</li> <li>● Gathering sizes should be decreased. Workouts should be in small groups with the same group.</li> <li>● Weight room is at 100% capacity. Spotters will be allowed and required to wear a mask (based on mandates).</li> <li>● Schedule may be adjusted to reduce the number of events, duration, and participants present (based on mandates).</li> <li>● Spectators may be present at competitions based on mandates of local, state or federal governments.</li> <li>● Concessions can be sold in prepared, prepackaged formats. Food handlers and cashiers must be separate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Same as low to no spread response</li> <li>● Hybrid A/B Schedule</li> <li>● Events, activities and crowd attendance evaluated with county health department</li> <li>● Re-evaluate mask policy</li> </ul>	<p>No students or staff in buildings or on school grounds</p> <p>All school practices, meetings, activities, concerts, performances, and competitions are canceled</p>



# Transporting Students

## Low to No Spread

- Parents may transport children to and from school as they feel most comfortable
- Assigned seats on buses, siblings sit together, fill the bus back to front and exit front to back if feasible.
- All staff self-screen each day before starting routes
- Parents are encouraged to conduct health screening (page 2) prior to placing students on the bus and have students wash hands prior to getting on the bus. Do not send children to school if they have any symptoms (see page 2)
- Students are highly encouraged to use hand sanitizer or wash hands before they enter the bus
- Bus drivers and students are Federally Mandated to wear masks. PPE will be provided upon request for staff and students.
- Bus is sprayed down and wiped with disinfect between each route
- Field trips will be allowed following local, state, and federal guidelines.
- Students are highly encouraged to wash hands or utilize hand sanitizer upon arrival at school
- Student bus stops should avoid the gathering of large groups following local, state, and federal social guidelines.

## Moderate Spread

- Same as transporting students in low to no spread.
- Hybrid A/B Schedule
- Bus occupation is at 50% permitting greater social distancing when possible.
- Re-evaluate mask policy

## Substantial Spread

School buildings are closed

# Serving Meals

## Low to No Spread

- All students are encouraged to wash hands prior to breakfast and lunch
- Hand sanitizer is provided for students and staff
- Food service staff wear masks as they prepare and serve food.
- No student self-serve service allowed
- Assigned seating in the lunchroom or students assigned as groups to tables to support cohorting and tracing when possible.
- Scan cards used in place of keypads when possible
- Disposable plates and utensils are utilized
- Cafeteria is cleaned between each meal service
- Floor is marked to space students while they wait to receive their meals
- Food should not be shared
- Students go in small groups to dispose of trash in cans spread throughout the cafeteria

## Moderate Spread

- Same as serving meals in low to no spread.
- Hybrid A/B Schedule
- Facility occupation is at 50% permitting greater social distancing when possible.
- Bulk food distribution for students on the days they are not in school
- Possible “Grab and Go” from cafeteria to permit eating of meals in the classroom

## Substantial Spread

- School buildings are closed
- Reduce contact by providing a week’s worth of meals at one pick up
- Serve 5 breakfasts and 5 lunches for pickup during the week at the town distribution site used during the summer
- All staff in masks
- Return to bus-pick up sites as was done in the spring and summer (subject to USDOE waivers).