

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

John M. Patterson Elementary

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Philadelphia, PA 19142

**Kenneth Jessup
Principal**

**215 400-8190(O)
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Dear Patterson families,

The School District of Philadelphia's priority has not changed throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, which is to deliver an excellent education to students and keeping our students safe. We thank our educators and leaders for their tireless efforts to maximize learning during this unprecedented period of time. We also thank you for your support during this phase of digital/virtual learning. Since school closures in March 2020, we have been working towards the goal of a safe return for students to school classrooms for in-person instruction.

Through the guidance of the Philadelphia Department of Public Health, federal and state entities, The School District of Philadelphia will transition Pre-Kindergarten through second grade students back to schools for a hybrid model of in-person learning. Students are scheduled to return on [Monday, February 22, 2021](#).

The return to in-person learning is for parents who completed the survey in October 2020, opting for in-person instruction (Hybrid model) instead of virtual instruction. The School District of Philadelphia will use that same information to schedule your child for in-person learning.

Parents who opted for in-person learning (Hybrid) when the survey was completed and who may now want to remain 100% digital, may do so. However, if parents opted for 100% virtual instruction in October, their child must remain 100% digital at this time.

Here's what that means:

- Families of Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 2 students will now have the option to have their child return to school buildings for a portion of the week for in-person instruction if they selected in-person instruction on the October 2020 survey.
- The Hybrid Model allows for students to attend school in-person two days per week ("A" group: [Monday & Tuesday](#) or "B" group: [Thursday & Friday](#)).
- Students will participate in virtual instruction the remaining three days of the week.
- The School District of Philadelphia will assign your child to a hybrid learning group (A day group or B day group) based on their selection from October 2020.

In preparation for students' return on Monday, [February 22, 2021](#), Patterson staff will engage in various professional developments on health and safety beginning Monday, February 8, 2021 through Friday, February 19, 2021. Teachers will inform you of their virtual classroom schedule changes as they participate in scheduled professional developments.

Pre-Kindergarten – Second Grade Students Instructional Schedule

Monday [February 8, 2021](#) will be an asynchronous instructional day (self-paced and independent). There will not be any synchronous (live instruction) learning on this day. This is to allow teachers to participate in some essential training so that they can implement health and safety protocols upon students return. It also provides them with an opportunity to initially organize their classrooms so they can return to some synchronous (live) instruction beginning on Tuesday, [February 9, 2021](#). Teachers will notify parents of classroom schedule changes for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 – Friday, February 19, 2021

Regular class schedules will resume on Monday, February 22, 2021 with the exception of half-days on Wednesdays instead of Fridays. For all questions, please contact Patterson School at (215) 400-8190.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Jessup

FAQ for Families Returning for Hybrid

General

All parents/guardians will be required to conduct a daily Pre-Arrival Screening of their children at home, before they leave for school. This involves taking your child's temperature daily and monitoring for the symptoms identified below:

- Fever of 100.4 °F or greater, new onset of cough, or shortness of breath unrelated to a pre-existing condition.
- Two of the following symptoms: sore throat, chills, headache, muscle pain, loss of taste or smell.
- Close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19.

If any of the following are true, please keep your student at home. Parents/guardians may contact the school nurse for further instructions. If possible, individuals with serious underlying medical conditions should not be responsible for escorting children. If you are called to pick up your child early from school due to please arrive within 30 minutes. Pick up may be from your school's Main Office.

What is the schedule for hybrid learning?

Hybrid assignments will be (A or B). A= Mondays & Tuesdays attend school: B= Thursdays & Fridays attend school. Wednesdays everyone is virtual.

Can families return to digital learning?

Families can return to 100% digital at any time.

Health and Safety

Are students required to wear masks?

- All students are required to wear facial masks/covering during the school day. Masks are only removed during meals and naptime. Families should wash / change masks daily.

Will masks be provided for students?

- Students should arrive at school wearing a mask, replacement masks will be available if needed.

Should families take their child's temperature daily?

- Families should take their child's temperature before coming to school every morning and enter reading on the student's sign-in sheet daily.
- Parents/Escorts will be asked to answer a few questions related to COVID-19 symptoms on the sign-in sheet daily.
- Childcare centers that escort students will be required to record the child's temperature as reported by the parent.

How do I know when I should keep my child at home?

Keep your child home if they have any of the following:

- Fever of 100.4 °F or greater, new onset of cough, or shortness of breath unrelated to a pre-existing condition.
- Two of the following symptoms: sore throat, chills, headache, muscle pain, loss of taste or smell.

What is the procedure if my child gets sick at school?

If you are called to pick up your child early from school, please arrive within 30 minutes. Pick up may be from your school's Main Office.

Arrival/Dismissal

Can I have different family members drop off and pick up my child?

- It is recommended that the same escort drop off and pick-up your child every day. A photo ID must be presented at arrival and dismissal so teaching staff can properly identify escort.

How will social distancing be during arrival?

Staggered arrival will take place during admittance to school buildings so that social distancing can be maintained.

If possible, individuals with serious underlying medical conditions should not be responsible for escorting children.

All escorts must wear face covering/masks during both the drop off and pick-up procedures.

Will all escorts sign in on the same form at the sites?

Each child will have their own sign in/out folder with a pen and forms to be completed by their escort, there will be several COVID-19 related questions on the sign/out form.

What is the expectation as children enter the building?

Hand sanitizer will be available and located at the entrance of the facility to allow children and staff to clean their hands before entering the facility.

Children are required to wash their hands immediately upon arrival.

Nutrition

How will students eat breakfast and lunch?

Individually packaged breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be served in the classroom.

If my child stays in virtual learning, will meals still be provided?

Children can receive the five-day meal box for virtual learning days.

Volunteer Time and Documentation

Can I go into my child's school to volunteer?

Due to the Pandemic restrictions and CDC Guideline, volunteer service cannot be provided in an in-person educational environment.
