



August 28, 2020

Friday Flashback...

A Family-Friendly Weekly Update

To provide additional communication for families on the re-opening of school, this short newsletter will be available each Friday.

Notes from Dr. Graczyk:

This week, Allegheny Valley welcomed students back for the 2020-2021 school year! We were very excited to begin education, even if it was remote learning. Although some challenges came about, it has been a very positive start for students and staff. Next week the District will notify students and families if we will be moving into a blended phase or not within the next two weeks. The District will utilize the recommendations for pre-K-12 schools identification of cases of COVID-19 metrics for Allegheny County and the recommendations for pre-K-12 schools in determining instructional models to make a determination. We ask that you keep in mind that even if the District moves forward with its transition into the next phase of our plan, at any given time we could reverse direction depending on the guidance from county and state officials.

In addition, with the most recent guidance from Allegheny County and the WPIAL, sporting events, marching band, cheerleaders, and players are the student groups permitted to attend games. At this time, no spectators are permitted. While we are disappointed for our loyal dynamo fans, students, and friends, the Allegheny Valley School District respects and understands the guidance provided by the state and Allegheny county. As we receive updated information, we will communicate that information to our families.

District staff continues to prepare the facilities for our students. Items ordered for safety and education continue to come into the District and be integrated into the buildings. Administrators continue to work on plans for transportation, food service, health, and athletics as changes and updates continue to come from state and federal agencies.

Best,
Dr. G



Allegheny Valley School District
Together We Can

Committee Reports:

Reopening of School

- The committee met on Wednesday to continue discussions.
- Information for parents will be distributed as it comes available.

Health & Safety

- The committee met this morning to continue discussions.
- The teaching staff has been in the buildings since August 17. The committee continues to work with them to review safety measures and see that they are being followed at all times. On-going training will occur.
- Nurses are also working with staff to answer questions and establish best practices for having individuals in the buildings

Menus

Meal Service Available While School Buildings Are Closed
Menu for week of August 31:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday – cold cut sandwich with chips and a breakfast item for the following day.

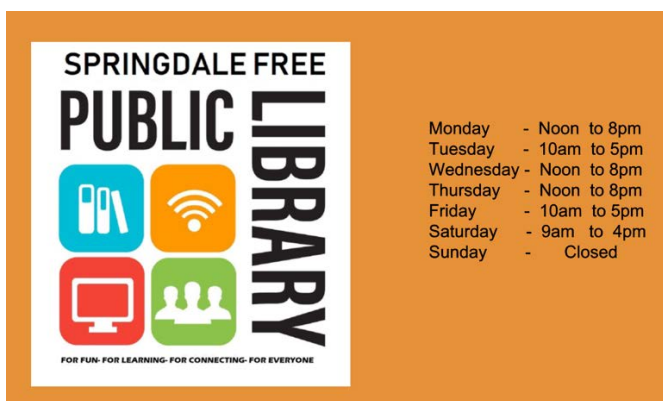
Wednesday & Friday - PB&J

Food Service Flier, see Attachment A

Resources

Athletics - New guidance has been provided by Allegheny County and the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletics Association (PIAA) – **See Attachment B**

Springdale Free Public Library - The Springdale Free Public Library offers resources for area families. Please contact them for additional information:



Important Dates:

- Sept. 7 Labor Day Holiday, District closed
- Sept. 8 School Board Planning Session, 7:00 p.m.
Monthly planning meeting of the Board.
- Sept. 15 School Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.
Monthly meeting of the Board.

Friday Flashback is a publication of the Allegheny Valley School District. All questions concerning the newsletter or information contained in the newsletter should be sent to: pgraczyk@avsd.k12.pa.us.

PK-12 Cyber School

- For information on the Dynamo Virtual Academy, please contact:

Elementary:

Jennifer Vecchio

jvecchio@avsd.k12.pa.us

Secondary: Andrew Leviski

aleviski@avsd.k12.pa.us

[.us](http://www.avsd.k12.pa.us).

Questions & comments should be emailed to:

pgraczyk@avsd.k12.pa.us

[a.us](http://www.avsd.k12.pa.us)

Attachment A: Meal Service Information



Allegheny Valley School District - Meal Service Meals Available While School Buildings Are Closed August 24 – September 18

The Allegheny Valley School District is providing meals to students in the District
The District invites families to drive-thru and pick up meals for their children
(no registration necessary) *No meal pick-up Labor Day September 7th

Who:	Allegheny Valley Students (Pre-K thru Grade 12)
What:	Meals During District Building Closure
When:	Monday thru Friday
Times:	10:30am till Noon
Price:	Free/Reduced/Paid – based on student eligibility
Where:	Springdale JR/SR High School or Acme Elementary

High School: Colfax Street parking lot - follow orange cones to D-Wing double door entrance
Acme: Proceed to back parking lot turnaround area – rear Cafeteria door
*Meals can be picked up at either location regardless of the building students attend

Contact the District with questions or concerns at:

Email: meals@avsd.k12.pa.us

Phone: 724-274-2118

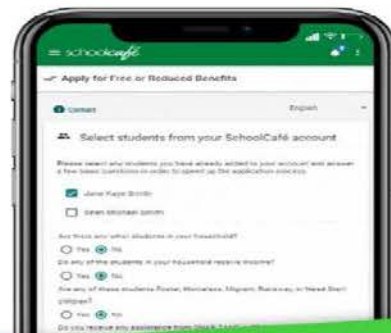
*FREE or REDUCED Price Meal Applications available online at:

www.schoolcafe.com

The SchoolCafe logo, featuring the word 'schoolcafe' in a green, lowercase, sans-serif font with a leaf-like flourish above the 'e'.

APPLY FOR FREE & REDUCED MEALS

Applying for free and reduced meal benefits has never been easier. Apply, submit, and track your application status from start to finish.



Apply online today at schoolcafe.com or download the app from your app store!

Attachment B: Allegheny County & PIAA Information



ALLEGHENY COUNTY
ALWAYS INSPIRING



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 21, 2020

Contact: Amie M. Downs
Allegheny County
412-350-3711 (office)
412-327-3700 (cell)
amie.downs@alleghenycounty.us

Amy Scheuneman
Western PA Interscholastic Athletic League
412-921-7181 (office)
ascheuneman@wpial.com

ACHD, WPIAL Statement on Meeting County Guidelines for Outdoor Gatherings

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Health Department and Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) issued the following statement on meeting county guidelines for outdoor gatherings:

The Allegheny County Health Department's limit on outdoor gatherings of 50 remains in place and applies to youth and K-12 sports-related activities. The purpose of the measure is intended to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our community. That is particularly true for groups of youth who can be asymptomatic while having the virus, not realizing that they are spreading it.

The guidance set forth by the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) and the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) includes extensive protocols that were incorporated into school Health & Safety Plans reviewed and approved by the state. These measures are outlined in the PIAA's Return to Competition Considerations:
http://www.piaa.org/assets/web/documents/Return_to_Competition.pdf.

Specifically, the plans provide for the following:

- Spectators are prohibited from attending in-person K-12 sports-related activities.
- Personal health assessments are expected of each participant on the day of any game.
- Physical distancing of 6' is required at all times when not actively engaged in competition.
- Coaches and staff should be masked at all times unless they meet one of the exceptions in the state's universal face coverings order.
- Participants may not share uniforms, towels, apparel or equipment, and are expected to bring their own water bottle or rehydration beverages.

Based on these considerations and plans, each team is considered a pod. On a sideline, team members as well as coaches and staff, are physically distanced and following the order for universal face coverings. They are spread out and are not exceeding the 50-person gathering limit. On the opposite side of the field, the same is occurring in another pod. While playing the game, there is a third pod established with those players engaged in competition. All activity is occurring with mitigation

measures in place for athletes, and established policies to address cases and outbreaks from games, should they occur.

The Health Department, in consultation with the WPIAL, recommends that these further guidelines be incorporated by participating schools into their plans. The considerations outlined by the PIAA, along with these guidelines, are all aimed at limiting groups that would be in close contact with one another for an extended period of time while outdoors. When met, these plans can provide a safe environment for interscholastic athletic events to occur in Allegheny County while simultaneously complying with the Health Department's gathering restrictions.

- Events must be hosted at a facility where regulation can occur.
- An administrator and/or designee must be present to monitor gatherings and ensure compliance.
- Teams and/or pods must not exceed the gathering size of 50 people in a close proximity to each other (such as an individual sideline, on the competition area during a contest, or in a section of the bleachers).
- While on the sidelines and not engaged in competition, coaches, athletes and staff should have a face covering and keep 6' of distance between each other.
- Athletes and coaches should comply with their school's Health and Safety Plans with regard to health screenings prior to practice and competition.
- Events should be limited to the time necessary for appropriate warm-up and competition. Schools should avoid arriving at a facility well in advance of the starting time and should leave as soon as possible after the completion of the competition. There shall be no congregating in groups after the event.
- The total facility capacity may not exceed the state mandate of 250 individuals.

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