

October 9, 2020

# Focus...

## A Family-Friendly Weekly Update

To provide additional communication for families, this short newsletter will be available each week.

# Notes from Dr. Graczyk:

To provide additional information to parents, here are some things to expect when the District moves to the in-person, traditional phase:

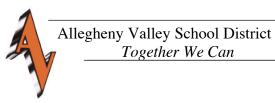
- Student drop off and pick up will create an abbreviated student day because many parents are providing transportation.
- Avoiding large gatherings will be a challenge.
- Masks/face coverings will continue to be required.
- Social Distancing will rarely be 6 foot, but closer to 1-3 feet.
- Students will be spread out into classrooms or large areas in each building during lunch, so that they can remove their masks/face coverings when they eat.
- The Acme gym will be used for lunch.
- Bus seats will have two students on busses.
- The District will need time to reset classrooms because furniture was removed to allow for 6-foot social distancing.

In addition, here are some other concerns that necessitate action and might trigger a prolonged stay in our Hybrid Phase instead of moving to the in-person Traditional Phase (or potentially moving to a Virtual Phase):

- Teacher shortage
- Custodian shortage
- Other Staff shortages
- An increase of positive COVID cases in Allegheny County
- Positive COVID cases among students and staff

The District will continue to update parents and provide information as soon as it becomes available. Parents should prepare plans for their students in all possible phases of District education.

Best. Dr. G



Together We Can

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Reopening of School**

Information for parents continues to be distributed as it comes available.

Parents/guardians are reminded to see the District web site for Reopening of Schools information.

### **Health & Safety**

The committee continues to meet and review safety measures for students and staff.

Nurses are also working with staff to answer questions and establish best practices for when students enter the buildings

## **Focus On: Food Service**

**Food Service** - The USDA has extended the universal FREE meals program for all enrolled students through the end of December 2020. Whether your child is in the classroom or distance learning, the District will continue to serve free breakfast and lunch meals daily. For additional information, please see <a href="https://www.avsdweb.org/district-information/food-service-department/food-service-cafeteria-menus">https://www.avsdweb.org/district-information/food-service-department/food-service-cafeteria-menus</a>

## **Focus On: Additional Information**

A letter from the Superintendent was sent out today information parents about a positive case of COVID at Acmetonia Elementary School. District personnel has been discussing communication protocols as we continue through the various stages of education at Allegheny Valley. This information will be provided to parents so they understand where to find necessary information, ask questions, or discuss concerns. Please use the provided contact email addresses and phone numbers whenever necessary.

## Focus On: Resources

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



# **Focus On: Important Dates**

Oct. 13 School Board Planning Session

Oct. 20 School Board Meeting

Focus 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.

#### **Contact Information:**

#### Nurse Hotline

A resource for parents/ guardians to ask medical questions.

cell 724-900-5443 office 724-274-2911

#### Food Service Department

A resource for questions about the Free Meals Program.

meals@avsd.k12.pa.us

# **Technology Assistance**Help and information on iPads and Chromebooks

TechSupport@avsd.k12.pa.us

## **Dynamo Virtual Academy** Elementary:

Jennifer Vecchio

jvecchio@avsd.k12.pa.us

Secondary: Andrew Leviski

aleviski@avsd.k12.pa.us

Questions & comments should be emailed to: pgraczyk@avsd.k12.pa.us