



# Wyoming Valley West School District DANA – Full Return 4/12/21



**April 2021**

Dana Street Elementary Center is planning for a full return on April 12, 2021. As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, these plans may change, depending on guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Center for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, and other governmental agencies, but what will remain constant is our concern for the safety, welfare, and education of all of our students and staff. Here is what you can expect:

## **1. ENHANCED FOCUS ON SAFETY AND HYGIENE**

- All staff and parents/students will be expected to perform a **daily self-check** prior to coming to school. Individuals with elevated temperatures or symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illness are expected to stay home. Students/staff returning to school after an absence of three days or more are required to provide verification from a medical provider of fitness to return to the school setting.
- We will institute **daily hand-washing and hand-sanitizing protocols**, and our daily routines will include frequent reminders about hygienic practices. Our school counselor will provide **in-class instruction** on hygiene and Coronavirus safety. Face-to-face interactions will be minimized and will be subject to PDE/CDC/DOH/Governor's Office guidelines for **distancing**. We will have hand-sanitizer stations located in each room along with frequent signage to increase our vigilance in sanitary behaviors.
- Our school building will be **cleaned and disinfected** each day, and high-traffic areas of the building will be sanitized throughout the day. Specific classrooms will use disinfectant materials and techniques between classes.
- **Students and staff will be required to wear masks during the entire day including recess periods.** Students will be expected to bring their own masks to school.
- We will have a designated **Quarantine/Isolation area** for students who become ill or symptomatic during the school day.

## **2. TRANSPORTATION PROTOCOLS**

- Our transportation plan is being reviewed to provide the safest possible environment to transport students to school and will include designated seating and other precautions.
- **All bus students will be required to wear masks and sit in assigned seats.**

## **3. REVISED BUILDING ENTRY & DISMISSAL PROCEDURES**

- Dana Elementary has new specific protocols for the arrival and dismissal of students. The protocols are designed to eliminate the congregation of students and/or parents outside of the building.
- All students/staff will be required to **wear masks to be admitted to the building.**
- **ENTRY/ARRIVAL:**
  - **Students will not be permitted to “line up” outside the building prior to entry.**
  - Students arriving at school by bus will be released at specific times, **no earlier than 8:40AM, and enter the school directly from the bus, using the East and Main doors.**

- **Students dropped off at the school or walking to school will be admitted beginning at 8:45AM** and their arrival at school should be timed accordingly. **Self-transported students will enter the building through the West door.**
  - Students entering the buildings will report directly to their classrooms/homerooms. (Breakfast will be eaten in the classroom rather than the cafeteria.)
  - **DISMISSAL:**
    - Students will be dismissed on a staggered basis beginning at 3:30PM to reduce the simultaneous exit of large groups of students into the hallways and outside of the buildings.
- Walkers will be released using all three doors after the buses have departed.**

#### **4. DISTANCING/OPERATIONAL PROTOCOLS**

- **Classroom organization** will include appropriate distancing according to PDE, CDC, & WHO guidelines.
  - All desks will be spaced to the maximum extent possible and face the same direction.
  - Safety shield barriers will be used where appropriate.
  - All students and staff will use **PPE** as appropriate, including masks, shields, disposable gloves, and other equipment.
- **Student movement will be reduced** to the maximum extent possible; for grades where the teaching is departmentalized, the students will remain in their classrooms and the teachers will change rooms.
- Students will be assigned their own supplies like crayons, scissors, etc. where possible to minimize sharing of materials.
- **Stairways will be designated directionally (one way, up or down)** to reduce students passing each other face-to-face.
- **Lunches** for the remainder of the year will be “grab-and-go” lunches to reduce lunch lines where students congregate. Distanced seating will be utilized in the cafeteria.
- **Mask Breaks** will be held at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Mask breaks may take place in the classroom or preferably outdoors for 10 minutes or less per break. While unmasked students will maintain a 6 foot separation.

\*The district is opening in a traditional five days a week in-person student learning mode. All students have the opportunity to attend school five days per week or may choose to receive remote packet learning for the remainder of the year. The choice is between five days in-person learning or five days fully remote learning.