



Good Afternoon Sylvania Secondary School Families,

Today we bring you an update regarding our secondary reopening. The Sylvania Schools Phase II Reopening plan has been a combined effort by the Phase II Reopening Committee, administrators, staff, and parents. Due to a necessary emphasis on space and a wide range of building layouts, schools need to be considered individually while we also work to maintain reasonable consistency throughout the district.

Our current philosophy as we continue to operate under the restraints of a “temporary new normal” is that it is more important to have students in our classrooms as often as possible in order to further the educational process. ***If Lucas County remains within our district’s green thresholds, our secondary schools will reopen under the new plan on Monday, November 9th.***

During our Phase II Reopening Committee meeting, a general recommendation was formulated by the committee members to help move the district forward with our next steps to increase face-to-face instruction for our Sylvania students. The general recommendation and feedback from the secondary committee members resembled that of the elementary committee and were as follows:

- Return to school four (4) days per week
- 100% of student attendance

The original goal was to have our secondary students in grades 6-12 begin this new schedule on the same day as their elementary peers (Monday, October 26th). However, due to the need to purchase additional Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) in such large quantities, our new target **start date is Monday, November 9th for students in grades 6-12**. Please note, this date for our secondary Sylvania Schools to pivot to a modified green plan will depend on two variables:

1. [District metrics](#) for pivoting to green remain within range AND
2. We have the necessary PPE in our possession for our students and staff

We look forward to when we can return to a much more familiar classroom environment, but for now our focus must be on student and staff safety. Below we have highlighted some key components that will help support our successful pivot.

- Sanitation is of the utmost importance right now, and it is much easier for our custodians to keep classrooms clean and sanitized when there are fewer objects in them. We have encouraged our staff to evaluate and eliminate all non-essential furniture from classrooms.
- Desk spacing should be maximized to the greatest extent possible.
- While we cannot accomplish social distance between student desks or tables, the combination of masks, face shields, hand sanitizing/washing, contact tracing and cleaning protocols offer 4 of the 5 key mitigation strategies as defined by the CDC.
- Plexiglass barriers will also be used when and where possible to offer another layer of protection.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Present and Future Communication

This document is meant to provide a basic overview of our plan to move toward a green instructional model. Next week, Sylvania Schools will provide a more comprehensive secondary transition guide for our parents with additional information about reopening schools.

Why are classes not held on Friday?

We are currently operating both in-building and online education options for our students, which adds another layer to our academic program. The addition of SALA and its staffing demands created a ripple effect across all building schedules. This layer interrupts teacher planning and other normal teaching conditions. Teachers need the proper time to plan as well as accommodate quarantined and isolated students. We have had to make necessary schedule adjustments which includes using Fridays for a number of educational purposes such as planning and individual intervention.

What will transportation look like?

District transportation will be provided for our students. Children from the same household will sit together. Assigned seats will be in place. Students will be required to wear a mask while riding the bus. While transporting students, windows and ceiling vents may be opened to increase ventilation. We respectfully request if you have signed up to receive transportation and no longer need bussing, please contact our transportation department so the stop can be removed from the daily route. We appreciate your partnership to help coordinate efficient routes and support cost-saving measures.

What about breakfast and lunch?

Breakfast will continue to be available for students. Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria and potentially other locations throughout the building that will help to increase social distancing. Students will be encouraged to practice social distancing while traveling through the lunch line. Plexiglass barriers will be in place on the cafeteria tables to provide an extra barrier of protection.

Will this be forever?

This won't be forever. We are living through an unusual situation that demands unusual, temporary solutions. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. We can do this!

Have questions? Need assistance? Contact one of us!

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