

# Port Allegany School District



## *Athletics Health and Safety Plan*

### Fall 2020 Sports Activities

This plan, and the guidelines stated herein, apply to the Fall 2020 sports activities beginning with the official first practice date of Monday, August 24. Mandatory review sessions have been held for all coaches that are responsible for implementing this plan, and its guidelines, prior to the commencement of any activities. The high school principal, athletic director, or designees shall be present during the review sessions to advise coaches on items such as COVID-19 symptoms, the screening process, and the protocol to be adhered to when a student athlete or staff member exhibits symptoms of, or has tested positive for, COVID-19.

### Guidelines

- Coaches must review and consider the CDC guidance to modify activities to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This includes focusing on individual skill building and conditioning versus competition and limiting contact in close contact sports. Only student athletes and staff members are permitted to be at activities. Spectators for sporting events will be permitted in accordance with state guidelines. For purposes of this plan, the term “staff members” shall mean board approved coaches, and board approved volunteers.
- Any staff member or student athlete that is sick is hereby directed not to attend a scheduled activity until cleared to so by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.
- In the event an athlete or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the district will assist in notifying all potential contacts of the individual. All facilities used by that individual will be sanitized and disinfected thoroughly prior to re-opening of those facilities, and all District-owned equipment used by that individual will be sanitized and disinfected.

- Staff members must screen and monitor student athletes and themselves for COVID-19 symptoms prior to, and during, activities based on guidance provided through the Port Allegany School District Health and Safety Plan.
- It may become necessary for the District to conduct health screenings prior to any travel to an athletic event. The Port Allegany School District will work collectively with the participating schools in the Intermediate Unit 9 'bubble' to adhere to health measures required by the receiving school.
- Coaches, athletes, and volunteers must wear face coverings, unless they are outdoors and can consistently maintain social distancing of at least six feet. Athletes are not required to wear face coverings while actively engaged in workouts and competition that prevent the wearing of face coverings, but must wear face coverings when on the sidelines, in the dugout, etc. and anytime 6 feet of social distancing is not possible. Individuals must wear a face covering unless the mask impedes their vision, they have a medical or mental health condition or disability that impedes their ability to wear a face covering.
- Staff members at risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to age, underlying medical conditions, or otherwise must inform the high school principal and the athletic director prior to the commencement of participation in any activity so that appropriate steps can be taken with respect to the staff member, based on the advice of the staff member's physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant. If a student athlete is at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to an underlying medical condition, the parent/guardian must inform the high school principal, or designee prior to participation in any activity so that appropriate steps can be taken with respect to the student athlete, based on the advice of the student athlete's physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant.
- Signs shall be posted conspicuously in common areas that promote protective measures and how to stop the spread of germs.
- Members of the varsity football team, band, and cheerleaders who would have normally attended a home football game will be given (4) season passes each that they may share with friends or family members.
- Members of the junior high football team and cheerleaders who would have normally attended a home football game will be given (7) season passes each that may be distributed to friends or family members.
- Members of the junior varsity and varsity volleyball teams will be given (4) season passes each that may be distributed to friends or family members.

- Due to current state restrictions at indoor events, no passes will be available for junior high volleyball games held in the auxiliary gym.
- Passes will not be required for attendance by any spectator for home soccer games.
- Receiving schools (away games) will set their own guidelines for attendance at sporting events.
- Information will be provided to all student athletes, staff members and families about the symptoms of COVID-19 and when to stay home. Student athletes also will be educated on proper hand washing and sanitizing. All student athletes and staff members are required to wash their hands properly at the start of, and at the conclusion of, each activity. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer may be used and will be made available by the district.
- Staff members and student athletes must maintain appropriate social distancing whenever possible, including on the field of play, locker rooms, sidelines, dugouts, benches, and workout areas. During down time, student athletes and staff members should not congregate.
- All student athletes and staff members must bring their own water and drinks to activities. Team water coolers for sharing through disposable cups are not allowed. Fixed water fountains should not be used. Additionally, whenever possible, equipment and other personal items (towels, clothing, shoes, hats, food, utensils, etc.) should be separated and not shared. Following an activity, all student athlete clothing, equipment or materials used during the activity must be taken home and washed or disinfected before being used again. Shared equipment should be disinfected between users, when possible.
- Activities that increase the risk of exposure to saliva are not allowed, including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers, and eating sunflower seeds.
- Student athletes and staff members are to avoid shaking hands, fist bumps, or high fives before, during or after activities and limit unnecessary physical contact with teammates, other athletes, and staff members.
- Student athletes and staff members should come to activities already dressed and prepared for the activity when applicable. At the completion of an activity, all shared equipment should be disinfected and cleaned before the next scheduled activity.
- Weight room capacity shall be limited to 25 persons (including student athletes and staff members) at one time.

- If multiple activities are to be held at the same facility, adequate time shall be scheduled between contests to allow for facilities to be cleaned and disinfected, and to minimize interaction between student athletes. Sports complexes with multiple fields may operate simultaneous activities on fields within a complex only if social distancing can be maintained.

#### Primary Point of Contact for Questions

All questions in reference to summer preseason, in-person sports activities and related to COVID-19 should be directed to the High School Principal, Mr. Marc Budd or Athletic Director, Mr. Mike Bodamer, who are the designated primary points of contact for any such questions. Mr. Budd can be reached at [mbudd@pasdedu.org](mailto:mbudd@pasdedu.org) Mr. Bodamer can be reached at [mbodamer@pasdedu.org](mailto:mbodamer@pasdedu.org)

#### Notification to Parents

Participation in in-person sports activities, and participation in sports in general, is voluntary. While the district will implement this plan and its guidelines to the best of its ability, the district cannot ensure that your child will not be exposed to COVID-19 while participating. As a parent, you must consider your child's, and your family's, unique circumstances (medical and otherwise) and make a determination as to whether or not you will permit your child to participate and assume any associated risks of participation.

Please also be advised that, in order to protect the health and safety of all student athletes and staff members, your child plays an important role by complying with these guidelines and you, as a parent, play an important role in educating your child about the importance of these guidelines and the importance of practicing good habits to prevent the spread of viruses.

#### Notification to District Volunteers

While the district will implement this plan and its guidelines to the best of its ability, the district cannot ensure that you will not be exposed to COVID-19 while participating in in-person sports activities. You must take into account your own, and your family's, unique circumstances (medical and otherwise) and make a determination as to whether or not you would like to volunteer and assume any risks associated with your participation in in-person sports activities.

# Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for Port Allegany School District reviewed and approved the Athletic Health and Safety Plan on September 26, 2020.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes 8

No 0

Affirmed on: October 12, 2020.

By:

Malcolm

*(Signature of Board President)*

Mrs. Erica Petruzzi

*(Print Name of Board Vice President)*