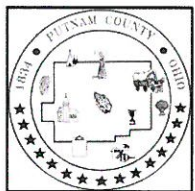


Putnam County Schools



SCHOOLS

- Columbus Grove
- Continental
- Fort Jennings
- Kalida
- Leipsic
- Miller City –
New Cleveland
- Ottawa-Glandorf
- Ottoville
- Pandora-Gilboa
- Putnam County ESC
- St. Anthony's
- St. Mary's
- Sts. Peter & Paul



To Putnam County Parents and Residents:

2021-2022 Back-to-School COVID Protocols

As we head into the beginning of a new school year, Putnam County School administrators realize some uncertainty remains as to what the future will bring. As you all know COVID is still with us and creates many concerns. All protocols indicated below will be followed by Putnam County Schools for the 2021-22 school year, but this could change with state-ordered mandates or case increases amongst children. Flexibility will be key as we begin yet another year. Therefore, please understand that the protocols and procedures described below **are subject to change**. Our respective school districts will do our very best to be open, honest and transparent with all decisions we make when it comes to your students.

Face Coverings

There will be no face covering (mask) mandates at Putnam County Schools to begin the 2021-2022 school year for staff or students. Face coverings (masks) **will be recommended** for staff, K-12 students and visitors at all times.

Hours of Operation

Putnam County Schools plan to be open for all K-12 students five days a week. Putnam County Schools will not deviate from that plan unless state-ordered mandates or case increases amongst children and/or staff affect changes to that plan.

Cleaning/Sanitizing Protocols

Putnam County Schools will put forth our best effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and other various illnesses. We will continue our COVID cleaning protocols regularly throughout this school year and Putnam County Schools will continue to encourage healthy habits such as frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer stations throughout our respective buildings.

Health/Temperature Checks

Please do not send your child to school if they have a fever of 100.5 or above or have symptoms of COVID. While we understand the importance of attending school, you as parents and guardians are the first line of defense.

COVID-19 Vaccine

Putnam County Schools have no plans to require any staff member or student to receive the vaccine as a requirement to attend school. Putnam County Schools believe receiving the vaccine is a personal decision of staff members, school visitors and parents of our students. Putnam County Schools will not conduct COVID-19 testing, nor will we inquire about the vaccination status of our staff or students. Putnam County Schools will remain neutral on the topic of a COVID-19 vaccine.

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Quarantine/Close Contact

If a staff member or student contracts COVID-19, they must be isolated until the Putnam County Health Department gives the all clear to return to school. Guidelines for determining Covid-19 exposure in K-12 classroom settings (i.e. close contact) are outlined in the Ohio Department of Health's Covid-19 Fact Sheet. That document is attached to this letter. Putnam County Schools will work to follow those guidelines.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Putnam County Schools intend to operate all athletics and extracurriculars without attendance restrictions, but we ask you to please not attend any school-related activities if you have a fever of over 100.5 and/or are not feeling well.

Respectfully,

Putnam County School Administrators

