

# FAQ

The following questions were submitted by parents of Perry County School District 32 students, and answered by District staff.

## **Why is District 32 the only school in Perry County not attending school 5 days per week?**

All schools in Perry County have created the very best plans for their unique circumstances. At District 32, we have created a 5-level plan that aligns with the Community Alert Levels used by Perry County Health Department. Each level has its own pandemic mitigation requirements. At the current Moderate (Yellow) Alert Level, this means that the number of students in our buildings must be reduced. Without this reduction in attendance, it would not be possible for our facilities to support physical distancing safety measures. For a more detailed answer, we suggest that you view the video of Mr. Comstock and the administrative team at <https://youtu.be/oIViph0SsYk>.

## **When does school start, since Aug. 26 is a Wednesday?**

Perry County School District 32 schools WILL begin classes on Wednesday, Aug. 26. All Perryville Primary Center and Perryville Elementary School students will attend school Wednesday-Friday, Aug. 26-28.

Students assigned to the "A" Group at Perry County Middle School and Perryville High School will attend school on Wednesday, Aug. 26.

Teachers and custodians will clean and use sanitizing sprays to disinfect desks and high-touch areas on Wednesday evening. However, not all areas may be disinfected with electrostatic sprayers in that time.

The students who are assigned to the "B" group will then attend class on Thursday and Friday, Aug. 27 and 28.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 31, all Pirates On Campus students at Perryville Primary Center and Perryville Elementary School will attend classes on campus on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesday will be an online learning day.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 31, all Pirates On Campus students assigned to the A Group at Perry County Middle School and Perryville High School will attend classes on campus on Mondays and Tuesdays, with online learning Wednesday-Friday.

Beginning Monday, Aug. 31, all Pirates On Campus students assigned to the B Group at Perry County Middle School and Perryville High School will attend classes on campus on Thursdays and Fridays, with online learning Monday-Wednesday.

Your student will receive their A or B Group assignment and class schedule no later than Aug. 20.

All students enrolled in Pirates On Campus will be issued a Chromebook to use at home and/or be given paper packets for learning online days.

All students enrolled in Pirates On Campus will have the opportunity to sign up for their necessary support options on Wednesdays (for example: teacher conferences, speaking with counselors, academic lab, etc).

***Pirates At Home starts Aug. 26***

Pirates At Home also begins Wednesday, Aug. 26. Students enrolled in Pirates At Home will be assigned a Chromebook and charger to use at home while enrolled in the district's online learning option.

Students must use the assigned Chromebook: The District is able to monitor this device for safety, push notifications to, and provide some remote technical support services to these devices.

Pirates At Home will not "watch" classroom instruction for 8 hours per day. Those students will receive age-appropriate and grade-level aligned curriculum through the District's online platforms. This will vary by grade level, with primary students expected to complete about an hour of instruction per day plus reading time, and high school students expected to complete up to 3 hours of instruction per day plus all assigned work and lessons.

Pirates At Home students are enrolled in 100% online instruction for the entire first semester. However, those students will also be given opportunities for necessary supports on Wednesdays (for example: teacher conferences, speaking with school counselors, academic lab, etc.)

If you have questions about your child's instructional program, please contact your building principal directly.

**When will we receive student schedules?**

Schedules and any classroom assignment changes will be shared by Aug. 20. Middle and high school students will receive their schedules during orientation.

**How will you determine which students attend school on A Days, and which students attend on B Days?**

This process begins with dividing the alphabet, with A-L last names in the A Group and M-Z last names in the B Group. From there, our administrators and counselors are working to make sure that household family members can attend on the same days if at all possible, regardless of the first letter of the last name. Finally, a student's schedule may impact their attendance days: for instance, if they are in an advanced physics class that is offered only on A Days, or if they are grouped by an activity like band.

**Does my child have to be logged on at a certain time each Wednesday? Will they be at their screen for 8 hours?**

Some teachers will set a standard time for live, online instruction or class meetings each week, but this will be for 30-60 minutes. Most assignments can be completed anytime

during the day. You will receive more information during orientation. No student should ever need to spend 8 hours at the computer if they are completing work daily.

**When does my first-grade Pirates At Home student have to be online and are parents required to sit there with them. I work and can't sit there all day.**

You will receive additional information about Pirates At Home during orientation. In general, a Primary student would receive one hour of online instruction per day and would complete any assignment, including reading, on the family's schedule.

**Can middle school students use a backpack this year?**

Yes.

**Do my Pirates At Home students need to attend orientation?**

Yes. This is when students will be issued Chromebooks and chargers, as well as information and resources to help them succeed in online learning.

**How will you administer medications to students at school this year?**

Our school nurses have worked with the Perry County Health Department to develop daily protocols to protect our students visiting the health office for medication. Those students will not visit the same area as students who display symptoms of COVID-19. If you have specific questions about your child's medication, please contact your school nurse or principal.

**I want my child to wear a mask at all times, except while eating lunch. Will this be allowed?**

If your child has specific health concerns that require all-day mask usage, please contact your building's school nurse or principal. Accommodations will be made to support your child's wellness.

**Will bus transportation be offered this year?**

Yes. Since physical distancing cannot be guaranteed on the school bus, all students and drivers are required to use approved face coverings while on the bus. If you have specific questions about your child's bus route, please contact the Transportation Department at 547-7500 Ext. 790. You can also email Director Sarah Orf at [sorf@pcsd32.com](mailto:sorf@pcsd32.com).

**Will my student be able to participate in the PHS A+ Program this year?**

Yes. If you have specific questions about your child's participation, please contact A+ Ryan Mueller at [rmueller@pcsd32.com](mailto:rmueller@pcsd32.com).

**Will my student be able to participate in the PHS dual enrollment program this year?**

Yes. PHS students will be able to participate in dual enrollment courses through Mineral Area College and Southeast Missouri State University.

**Will sports be offered at middle and high school this year?**

Yes. The Missouri State High School Activities Association rules allow schools that offer in-person instruction to participate in athletics. For Fall 2020, PHS will offer boys' soccer, girls' volleyball, girls' softball, football and cross country. At PCMS, students may participate in football, cross country and volleyball. In Winter 2020, boys' and girls' basketball will be offered at both PCMS and PHS. Please note, however, that practices or competitions may be canceled at any time due to current pandemic conditions.

**Will classes like band and choir be offered this year?**

Yes, students enrolled in Pirates On Campus will have the opportunity to participate in classes like band and choir. Those classes may look a little different, as students will be physically distanced for safety.

**I have concerns about the toxic chemicals that will be used to disinfect schools, and the physical barriers that will restrict socialization. Can you speak to that?**

The District uses a non-toxic disinfectant that is safe for use in classrooms and schools. We do not use or store bleach or other toxic chemicals in student areas.

The District will be using clear plexiglass barriers in some classrooms where students cannot be physically distanced. This is a critical component of our mitigation strategy, and allow us to reduce the amount of time students will be required to wear approved face coverings. Students will be given ample opportunity to socialize, although that may look different than in years past.

**For middle school, are the 3 days a week online teacher led? Or are you relying on parents to not work but be with the child to administer? If parents have to do it, can we do it according to our schedule and not 8-4?**

The online portion of your child's school week will consist of teacher-guided online instruction. At the middle school, the online learning platform is called Edgenuity. Your middle school student should be able to navigate this process without much assistance. Instruction for the 3 days of at-home learning will be teacher-guided, may include paper packets as well as online instruction, and most assignments can be completed anytime during the day. You will receive additional details at orientation.

**Will the free and reduced lunch program still be available?**

Yes. All families are encouraged to complete the free and reduced meals form at <https://www.perryville.k12.mo.us/o/district-32/browse/132581>. If you have additional questions, please contact Kim Dunker at 573-547-7500 Ext. 330.