

Pineywoods Community Academy



2020-2021 Reopening Plan

Updated 8/3/2020

See Page 9 -Temperature

This is the best decision we can make for our district for now. This plan is subject to modification as new information or direction is given by CDC, TEA, or the PCA Board of Directors.

Pineywoods Community Academy is committed to the safety of our students and staff. Over the past few months the administration has worked to develop plans to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all stakeholders. The district will be working to clean high contact areas throughout the day and cleaning classrooms every evening. The following protocols are in place and subject to expansion or modification as new ideas are developed.

As we prepare for opening of school on August 12th, PCA will continue to adjust how we handle situations following guidance from the Texas Education Agency (TEA), Local Officials, and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). PCA posted a survey for parents to better learn their intentions for instruction when schools reopen. Thank you for the information as we developed this reopening plan.

As we now understand, this is an ever-changing situation. PCA may need to change protocols at any time to address specific needs and circumstances in order to protect the health and safety of students, employees, and the community. Please note, health guidance provided by CDC cannot anticipate every unique situation. PCA will continue to consult with Local Officials, CDC, TEA, and local medical staff as we continue to monitor the situation at hand.

According to CDC, precautions should be in place to help limit the spread of this virus. It is important to remember that COVID-19 can be spread by infected persons who have few or no symptoms. Due to the hidden nature of this threat, PCA expects all staff, employees, students, and families to follow prescribed health practices.

The Center for Disease Control stated that people with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms reported ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. Some symptoms such as coughing may be caused by allergies, therefore please be mindful of these symptoms that are “out of the norm” and keep your students home until they show no symptoms. Symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle and body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

The list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as they learn more about COVID-19.

General Principles

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should opt to receive Remote instruction until the below conditions for re-entry are met.

Staff and students should not enter campuses or district buildings if any of the following apply. The individual is:

- **Sick or has been sick in the past 14 days.** Symptoms to watch for: fever (100 degrees F or higher), cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.
- **Has a confirmed case of COVID-19 or has been in close contact for longer than 15 minutes with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19.** These individuals must follow all isolation and quarantine guidelines from the local health authority or their physician.
- **Has a household member who is awaiting COVID-19 test results, or who is awaiting their own test results.**
- **Has traveled internationally or on a cruise in the past 14 days.** These individuals must follow current CDC self-quarantine recommendations.

Teachers will monitor students and refer them to the nurse if symptoms are present.

Isolation Protocols

1. For students displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or are feeling feverish, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.
2. Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus has contacted the parent/guardian.
3. Other students will be removed from the classroom and taken to an alternate location on campus (go on a walk outside, transition to a different classroom, etc.) so that the classroom can be disinfected.
4. If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
5. School must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected.
6. District communication will be provided to the students who came in contact with a student or staff member displaying COVID-19 symptoms.

7. Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols including isolation from students and other staff members.
8. Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be permitted to return to school when:
 - a. They are 3 days (72 hours) fever-free without using fever-reducing medication;
 - b. Improved symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, etc.);
 - c. 10 days have passed since symptoms began.

General Safety Protocols

All sections of this document are subject to change as daily operations are assessed or modified by executive order by the Governor or directives issued by the TEA Commissioner of Education. The following sections will provide further information.

1. 2020-2021 Instructional Plan
2. Campus Visitors
3. District/Campus Cleaning
4. Student Arrival
5. Breakfast/Lunch
6. Class Change
7. Student Dismissal
8. Cough and Handwashing/Sanitization Training
9. Staff Arrival
10. PE, Athletics, Cheer, and Fine Arts
11. Notifications in the Event of Quarantined or Diagnosed Student or Staff Member
12. Transportation and Cleaning of Buses
13. Angelina College
14. After-School Care
15. Playground
16. Social Emotional Needs

Section 1 2020-2021 Instructional Plan

This fall, PCA will be implementing instructional practices following TEA guidance that will provide consistent learning following either On-campus or Remote Learning options. Remote Learning options acceptable to TEA include Asynchronous and Synchronous environments. Regardless of the learning platform chosen by parents, PCA is committed to providing an equitable experience and access to high quality instruction.

1. Students will interact with instruction in two different environments (on-campus and remote instruction).
2. PCA will use best practices that may include imbedded learning videos that will assist in student learning.
3. Learning experiences are designed to meet the needs and environment of the learner while On-Campus or Remotely.

4. Students, regardless of learning environment, will engage in high quality learning experiences aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
5. Students beginning in On-Campus Learning may transition into Remote Learning in the event the school is closed due to an executive order of the Governor or county regulation, or due to student/staff illness that requires deeper cleaning.
6. On-Campus and Remote Learning experiences will use Google Classroom, provide similar expectations around coursework, and follow the same grading guidelines.

On-Campus Learning

1. Students and teachers will attend class in-person, for each instructional day identified on the calendar.
2. Teachers will provide face-to-face instruction, learning resources, and support utilizing Google Classroom.
3. Teachers will plan instruction that is quickly and easily transferable from on-campus to Remote in the event of temporary school closure.
4. District directed and campus designed safety procedures will be implemented and students must follow the guidance provided by the administrators for each campus.
5. Students in grades 6-12 will be assigned schedules based on their course selections made last spring.
6. Students who continually disregard safety protocols as directed by the administrators of a campus will be removed from on-campus Learning and placed in Remote Learning.

PCA Virtual Academy (Asynchronous Remote Learning)

1. PCA Virtual Academy is a Remote Learning opportunity that will allow students to engage in high quality learning experiences, utilize PCA instructional resources, and meaningfully connect with teachers. All activities will be designed to meet the needs of the student in the online environment through differentiated experiences that are consistent with those of their grade-level peers attending On-Campus instruction.
2. Teachers will teach Virtual Academy students from their classrooms or other approved PCA facility.
3. In the event the entire district is closed, teachers may teach from other remote secure locations.
4. In the Virtual Academy setting, teachers will provide instruction, learning resources, and support through Google Classroom.
5. Students must complete activities assigned each day.
6. Students show proof of participation in daily virtual instruction by satisfactorily completing assignments to demonstrate evidence of student learning (e.g. video, picture, or activity) submitted as lessons and/or completed assignments.

7. Students and parents will communicate with the teacher when additional assistance is needed with activities or assignments.
8. Parents will support students as a “learning coach” and ensure that students have access to a technology device, a place to work, internet access, and are engaged in daily virtual learning activities.
9. Parents will ensure that students complete activities assigned each day.
10. PCA will ensure open lines of communication between teachers, students, and parents as we work together to ensure each student is academically, socially, and emotionally prepared for the future.
11. Teachers will utilize the same curriculum for students who attend On-Campus instruction.
12. Grading will be consistent with the guidelines and practices used in all On-Campus instruction.

Scheduling Remote Learning Time

While Remote Learning may appear easier, it may provide more possibility that a student falls behind academically. Students, parents, and teachers must remain vigilant monitoring grades and assignments. As with traditional courses during a normal school year, there is a risk of receiving a lower grade if a student falls behind. If students struggle with time management, it is important that parents communicate with teachers and support the academic progress and expectations of students.

Attendance for the Virtual Academy

Students who login into their PCA assigned classroom (including but not limited to Google Classroom) are considered present for the day. Students who have not logged in by 3:00 p.m. each school day will be marked absent.

Parents will receive absence notifications via a PCA messenger system after 4:00 p.m. each day if their student has not logged into the PCA system. Parents will be reminded of the opportunity to resolve that day’s absence if the student engages in the learning activities before 11:59 p.m. of the same day.

Any absence recorded, but resolved by the student before 11:59 p.m. on the same day, will be reconciled based on login records.

Students must log in each school day to receive attendance credit. For example, if a student attending in the Virtual Academy logs in on Monday only and completes the entire week’s assignments or learning activities for the week, they will only receive attendance credit for Monday. They will be marked absent Tuesday – Friday.

It is important that parents and students understand that Virtual Academy attendance is based on DAILY engagement, not solely the completion of assignments. TEA has continued to stress that State law TEC §25.092 requires students to attend at least 90% of

their classes to receive credit and be promoted. Remote attendance will count in the same manner as On-Campus attendance in satisfying this requirement.

Section 2 Campus Visitors

The purpose of this section is to provide information concerning visitors on campus. Campus staff should consider utilizing virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors. All visitors who enter the building will be required to wear a face covering and those who proceed beyond the reception area will follow specific guidelines for visitors.

1. Parents are discouraged from entering the building and will not be allowed beyond the reception area.
2. Volunteers are NOT allowed to visit campus at this time (including military recruiters, mentors, college representatives, and guest speakers).
3. Lunch with parents, guardians, or special family members are currently not allowed.
4. Students must bring their lunch daily or purchase a lunch from the cafeteria. **Lunches may not be dropped off at schools.**
5. Virtual tools will be used to conduct meetings such as PTSO, ARDS, LPAC, etc.
6. When meetings must be held in person, safety protocols will be implemented:
 - a. Facial Covering
 - b. Six-foot social distancing to the extent possible
 - c. Limiting the sharing of materials/supplies
7. ALL visitors will be subject to screening by way of a self-screening form before entering any Pineywoods Community Academy facility.
8. If visitors have COVID-19 symptoms, or are lab confirmed with COVID-19, they must remain off campus until they meet criteria for re-entry.
9. All individuals entering the building will be required to wear face coverings.
10. Any individuals permitted to proceed beyond the reception area must follow all safety and campus protocols and follow the directions of PCA staff.

Section 3 District/Campus Cleaning

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting will support a healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.

Daily Campus Cleaning

1. Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day.
2. All high-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day.

3. Custodians will be expected to wear masks and gloves during work hours.
4. Staff and students will have access to disinfecting items to sanitize working surfaces, shared objects, and high-touch areas after use and during breaks in education.

Restrooms

1. Staff should supervise and limit the number of students that enter the restroom at one time to comply with health agency recommendations and promote social distancing.
2. The scheduling of whole class breaks is recommended, to the extent possible, to eliminate comingling of students across various classes and to ensure teacher promoting social distancing.
3. Increased disinfecting will occur throughout the school day. Staff and students must wash hands with soap and water prior to exiting the restroom area. Proper handwashing techniques will be taught to all students.

Common Areas

1. All students and staff will be required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting common areas.
2. Class/grade levels will use common areas as assigned or approved in advance by request.
3. Students will be trained on procedures for sanitizing their spaces before and after usage.
4. The number of students in common areas will be based on social distancing to the extent possible.

Positive COVID-19 cases on campus

1. If a classroom or facility is closed due to COVID-19 spread, quaternary disinfectant will be used to fog and disinfect.
2. Custodial staff will fog and disinfect classrooms, restrooms, athletics, fine arts, and all additional areas throughout the school facility.

Section 4 Student Arrival

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance to parents, students and staff regarding morning drop-off.

Arrival

When possible, separate entrances will be utilized for car riders from elementary and middle/high school. All staff will be utilized for duty to maintain a line of sight in hallways and distancing of hallway cohorts. Students will go straight to the designated areas set by each campus. Parents will not be allowed to walk students into the building.

1. Students can be dropped off at 7:30 a.m. Please do not drop off students prior to this time as no one will be on duty to supervise them.
2. **Parents must check students' temperature prior to bringing their child to school.**
3. Elementary students will enter from the ramp and Middle/High School students will enter through the front entrance. Families with students in both age groups may drop off their students in the front.
4. Students may be screened when entering the building using thermal scanners. Students showing ~~100.4~~ **100.0** or more temperature will be isolated and parents will be notified to return to school. (Temperature originally set by CDC has been modified by Texas DSHS)
5. Students (of appropriate age as determined by CDC guidelines) must put on a mask before entering the building.
6. All students and staff will use hand sanitizer upon entering the building.
7. Hand sanitizer stations will be located at each entrance.

General Building Arrival Guidance

Students

1. Students will use hand sanitizer upon arrival.
2. Students will follow campus entry and transition procedures that reduce large group gatherings in close proximity.
3. Students will adhere to schedules for morning arrival.
4. It is required for students of appropriate age to wear masks when entering the building and waiting in designated waiting areas.
5. Students must sit in assigned seats in their classroom.
6. If students use the restroom upon entering the building they should observe social distancing and wash their hands after leaving. If the bathroom door is not propped open, students are encouraged to use their paper towel to open the door.

Parents

1. Parents are encouraged to talk with their child about the health benefits of wearing a mask, social distancing at school, and frequently washing their hands or using hand sanitizer.
2. Parents are expected to provide their own PPE for their child. Masks may be any color but should not interfere with the instructional program.

Teachers/Staff

1. All faculty and staff will be required to document self-screening daily.
2. Classroom teachers will greet students at their classroom door at 7:30 a.m. each morning.
3. All faculty and staff will be required to have masks on when entering the building. Staff will ensure that students are wearing masks and social distancing as appropriate.
4. Staff will dismiss students using staggered release schedules when possible.

Section 5 Breakfast/Lunch

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance on the lunch guidelines and procedures.

Cafeteria - Breakfast and Lunch

Based on building capacity and student enrollment, campus administration will determine areas that may be utilized for lunch. These areas may include classrooms.

Teachers will monitor the cafeteria and hallways to promote social distancing practices. Depending on the number of students in the school, students may have meals in both the cafeteria and in classrooms. Cafeteria capacity will be based on current guidelines. Physical distance will be provided around each occupied seat. Posted signage and staff will reinforce social distancing and traffic patterns in the cafeteria. Microwaves will not be provided in the cafeteria due to the opportunity for cross contamination with a high-touch device. Hand sanitizing stations will be available at entrances and exits of the cafeteria.

1. Lunches from PCA will be “grab and go” contained lunches.
2. Students must bring their lunch each day or obtain a lunch from the cafeteria.
3. **No “drop-off” lunches will be allowed.**
4. Students will not be allowed to share food with others.
5. Students will follow teacher’s directions for disposing of lunch.
6. Students must remain seated during lunch time unless the teacher/monitor has given them permission.
7. Students will sanitize before and after lunch.

Students

1. Students will be expected to follow campus guidelines for lunch procedures.
2. Students will be seated according to a seating plan that adheres to social distancing.
3. All students are expected to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before eating.
4. Students are encouraged to adhere to the expectations for proper social distancing.

Parents

1. Visitors will not be permitted in the school building during COVID-19, so there will be no lunch visitors or lunches dropped off at school.
2. Parents are encouraged to speak to their children about safety protocols and social distancing.
3. Parents are asked to read and be familiar with all school communication regarding health and safety protocol.
4. Parents should talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.

Teachers/Staff

1. Ensure that appropriate social distancing is followed.
2. Provide a seating plan when applicable.
3. Supervise students to ensure sanitization and social distancing protocols are met.

Section 6 Class Change

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance to parents, students and staff regarding safety protocols while transitioning in and out of the classroom.

Standard Classroom Procedures

Classroom protocols and procedures will include expectations regarding not sharing school supplies, social distancing, limited group work and hand washing or sanitizing, etc. Teachers will ensure high-touch areas in the classroom are wiped frequently.

1. Students will be reminded of distancing requirements in all classrooms.
2. Refillable alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations.
3. Access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces.
4. Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize the spread of the virus.
5. Technology should be utilized when students are involved in collaborative work.
6. Group or pair work must be implemented while maintaining physical distancing.
7. In classroom spaces that allow it, teachers will place student desks a minimum of six feet apart when possible.
8. In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, teachers will plan for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing as possible.

Classroom Training

1. Students should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering each classroom.
2. Students will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.
3. Students will wear face masks in all classes (age appropriate).
4. Teachers will take into consideration individual student health concerns and physical activities in the class to determine if a student or students are allowed to remove their face masks.

Parents

1. Parents are asked to read all school communication regarding health and safety protocols.
2. Parents should talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.
3. Parents must check their child for temperature and COVID-19 symptoms prior to sending them to school each day. If a child is displaying symptoms, please do not send the child to school. Notify the school.
4. **Students reporting ill for a school day, for any reason, will be allowed to participate remotely and not be counted absent for the school day if they fulfill asynchronous requirements.**

Teachers/Staff

1. Teachers/staff should be stationed outside their door to provide adequate supervision of their classroom and hallway.
2. Teachers will receive training from school administrators and school nurses to deliver classroom lessons on health protocols.
3. Hand sanitizer, tissues, and trash cans will be available in classrooms and common areas.
4. Teachers will post signs with clear class protocols that are consistent with CDC guidelines.
5. Teachers will limit student movement within the classroom such as turning in assignments, materials being passed out, etc.
6. Teachers will create assigned seating arrangements to ensure social distancing consistent with TEA guidance.
7. Teachers will assign district provided learning technology to limit the sharing of items so that only one student is using an item.
8. Teachers and/or students will clean district provided supplies after each use.

Students

1. Students will be expected to adhere to class and school-wide protocols that are consistent with CDC guidelines.
2. Students will avoid sharing school supplies.
3. Students will sit one per table when it is possible.
4. Students that want to use hand sanitizer should use it at the beginning of class. If a sink is available in the classroom students should wash their hands at the beginning of class.
5. Students may bring personal classroom snacks as long as they labeled with the student name and are not shared.
6. Parents need to be mindful of other students with allergies, such as peanut allergies, while choosing snacks for their child while at school.

Classroom Arrival

Students

1. Secondary students may sanitize their desks and seats before sitting down.
2. After washing hands or using hand sanitizer, students are expected to immediately sit down in their assigned seat.
3. Students should avoid touching high-touch areas if possible.

Teachers/Staff

1. Classroom doors should prop open to allow for additional air circulation between classes so students do not touch doors or handles.
2. Classroom doors should be in "Locked Position."

Water Consumption

Water Fountains

1. Water fountains will be allowed only for the refilling of water bottles. Water fountains will be monitored for use between classes.
2. Water fountains will be cleaned frequently during the day.

Students

1. Students may not drink from water fountains.
2. Students are expected to bring their own reusable water bottle for use throughout the day and are expected to take water bottles home to be cleaned on a daily basis.
3. Students will be allowed to refill water bottles with the assistance of a staff member located at the water fountain.

Parents

1. Parents are asked to secure a reusable water bottle for their child to bring to school on a daily basis.
2. Parents are asked to assist students, as needed, to clean water bottles on a daily basis.

Teacher/Staff

1. Teachers will demonstrate how students should fill water bottles from the water fountains.
2. Teachers will monitor that students do not drink directly from a water fountain.

Hallways (Classroom Transitions & Hallways)

Elementary

1. Students must follow school hall traffic flow directions while maintaining social distancing guidelines to the maximum extent possible.
2. Where possible, one-way traffic will be established in halls.
3. In two-way halls, students are expected to stay to the right in the hallway.
4. Elementary stairwells will be a walk to the right when necessary, and one way when possible.
5. For grade levels that implement departmentalization of subject areas, teachers will move to students and students will remain in their classrooms to the maximum extent possible.
6. Staff and students (age determined by CDC guidance) must wear face coverings in the classroom and halls and avoid gathering in large groups during passing periods.

Secondary

1. Students and staff must wear face coverings in the halls and avoid gathering in large groups during passing periods.
2. Staggering releases from each class will be organized to limit the number of students in the hallway during transitions.
3. Traffic patterns will be established throughout the campus that separates individuals to the greatest extent possible.
 - a. One-way traffic will be established for hallways as much as possible.
 - b. In two-way halls, students are expected to stay to the right in the hall.
 - c. Staircases will be assigned up or down one-way traffic.
4. Visual markers will be developed to help students maintain physical distances and adhere to established campus traffic flow in hallways.

5. Students should immediately report to their next class and will not be allowed to congregate in the hallway. Students who continually disregard safety protocols and directives of adults may be assigned to Remote instruction.

Section 7 Student Dismissal

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance to parents, students, and staff regarding afternoon dismissal.

Elementary School Dismissal

Elementary teachers and students will stay in their homeroom classroom during dismissal. Staggering the groups of car riders, and students that go to after school programs will help manage student movement in the building and decrease the risk of potential crowding outside at dismissal time. Sanitizing stations will be placed at each exit and students will be encouraged to sanitize hands prior to exit. Parents picking up students during the day must call ahead so that students can be sent or accompanied to parent vehicles upon arrival.

1. **Parents must remain in their cars and not congregate on the ramp during dismissal.**
2. Students are encouraged to wear masks when they leave the building.
3. PCA Staff will enter and call students' names and/or numbers.
4. Parents will occupy Lane 1 and Lane 2.
5. PCA staff will load students in the cars.
6. There will be no sibling pickup permitted.

Secondary School Dismissal

Secondary teachers and students will stay with their last period teacher for dismissal. Sanitizing stations will be placed at each exit and students will be encouraged to sanitize hands prior to exit. Parents picking up students during the day must call ahead so that students can be sent or accompanied to parent vehicles upon arrival.

1. Students are encouraged to wear masks.
2. PCA Staff will enter and call students' names and/or numbers.
3. Parents will occupy Lane 1.

Section 8 – Cough and Handwashing/Sanitization Training

On the first day a student attends school on campus, PCA will provide instruction on appropriate hygiene practices including the practice of covering coughs/sneezes with a tissue or clothing, or coughing or sneezing into their elbows, hand washing with soap and water or hand sanitizing for 20 seconds.

1. Students will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.
2. All students will be trained on information about the spread of infectious viral diseases.
3. Parents are asked to talk with their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.
4. Teachers attend training and develop classroom procedures consistent with TEA, PCA, and CDC guidance.
5. All staff will be trained on COVID-19 screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of the spread of viral diseases, and sanitation of work areas.
6. All staff will monitor students that exhibit symptoms and will be required to notify the nurse if a student is showing any symptom of COVID-19.

Section 9 Staff Arrival

General

Screening Protocols

Staff will be required to complete a self-screening process prior to entering a Pineywoods Community Academy building, and the district may require further screening of employees at any time based on current state and federal guidelines. Staff are expected to sign in any time they are accessing a district facility/building utilizing district technology programming or a campus sign-in sheet.

Section 10 PE, Athletics, Cheer, and Fine Arts

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance regarding specialized classes.

Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities will only be offered in the On-Campus learning environment.

Students opting for the PCA Virtual Academy learning environment will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities. Parents concerned about their student attending school during the school day will face the same concerns when their student enters the school, gymnasium, workout room, or competition in events off campus.

All extracurricular practices and contests will be conducted following safety protocols provided by guidance from PCA, UIL and TEA. This will include COVID-19 screening, group sizes, sharing and sanitizing of equipment, locker room usage, etc.

All students will communicate with Athletic Trainers, Coaches, Directors, or Instructors to notify them of any exposure or positive tests.

Physical Education

1. When possible, physical education classes will utilize outdoor spaces for physical education.
2. Students will not be required to dress out. All changing is optional.
 - a. Restrooms/changing areas will be monitored for students who wish to change clothes for physical activities.
 - b. Student numbers will be limited for changing.
 - c. Changing areas will be wiped down between groups.
3. All students will have an assigned space on the gym floor. Students will be trained to know their spot on the gym floor for social distancing expectations.
4. Activities requiring students to share equipment will be avoided to the maximum extent possible.
5. Activities requiring multiple student participation will be avoided to the maximum extent possible.
6. Equipment will be disinfected in an ongoing basis.
7. Sanitizing areas and access to handwashing will be provided.

Athletics & Cheer

1. Similar to summer strength and conditioning activities, practices and contests will follow protocols established by UIL, TEA and PCA. In-season and off-season activities will follow the most current guidelines available.
2. Coaches will provide an orientation of protocols and expectations for students at the beginning of their respective season(s).
3. Specific entrances and exits of athletic facilities will be utilized by students for appropriate separation and distancing. Signage will serve as a visual cue and reminder for students.
4. Student-athletes will be assigned to groups for the purposes of maintaining proper distancing and capacity in locker rooms to dress before and after practice sessions.
5. Athletic equipment and uniforms will be issued to athletes. These items will be taken home each day and not left in their athletic locker. Practice uniforms will be laundered at home. Game issued uniforms will be laundered on campus with coaching staff following proper protocols.
6. Equipment used during practices will be sanitized frequently during practice sessions.
7. Athletic areas will be frequently disinfected during the week with an electrostatic misting tool.
8. Athletes will not be allowed to socially congregate before, during, or after practices/workouts.

9. Attendance at scrimmages and games for spectators is yet to be determined and will be communicated as this information becomes available from the UIL and/or TEA. This may also impact ticket sales and seating configurations.
10. Parents and students will be expected to provide timely notification of any health concerns to their coach and athletic trainer (if applicable). Communication, quarantine, and proper disinfecting will occur in the event of a confirmed diagnosis.
11. Coaches will organize water breaks with safety and efficiency in mind. Athletes must bring their own reusable water bottle clearly marked with their name. Sharing of water or sport drinks will not be allowed.

Fine Arts

1. Large group practice sessions, sectionals, and rehearsals will adhere to social distancing guidelines provided by an authorized entity (e.g., PCA, TEA, UIL, etc.).
2. Off-campus fine arts performances will only be conducted if specific guidance is provided by an authorized entity (e.g., PCA, TEA, UIL, etc.).
3. Concerts/performance may be adjusted based on health and safety guidelines provided by an authorized entity (e.g., PCA, TEA, UIL, etc.) including but not limited to transportation procedures, number of attendees, and the orientation of concerts.
4. Fine arts performances will be streamed online when possible.

Section 11 Notifications in the event of quarantined or diagnosed student or staff member

1. All stakeholders will be notified in the event a student/or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 following CDC and TEA guidance.
2. PCA will notify CDC and local health department immediately when a student or staff notifies the school concerning a quarantined or positive diagnosis of COVID-19 following CDC and TEA guidance.
3. The protocols include identifying areas that will require cleaning and sanitizing following CDC guidelines.

Section 12 Transportation and Cleaning of Buses

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance to parents, students, and faculty regarding procedures for transportation of students and cleaning of buses. Safety protocols and disinfecting efforts are described below. Buses will run at normal capacity while requiring all bus drivers and students to wear masks and practice social distancing guidelines when possible.

Bus Stop Expectations

1. Students should practice social distancing, whenever possible while waiting for and approaching the school bus in designated loading areas.

2. Students should NOT share food, drinks, personal devices, or school supplies.

Bus Boarding Procedures

1. Students will wait in designate “pre-loading” areas for bus arrival.
2. Students should practice social distancing as they approach and board the bus.
3. Upon boarding the bus, use hand sanitizer located near the bus stairwell.
4. Students will be seated in assigned seats on the bus.
5. Students must wear face masks while on the bus.
6. Students will board the bus beginning with the back seats working toward the front seats.
7. Students will remain seated until instructed to exit the bus by the bus driver.

Unloading at the Bus Stop

1. Students will disembark the bus beginning from the front of the bus following instructions of the bus driver.
2. As students depart the bus, they should immediately walk into the building following campus guidelines and proceed to their designated location while maintaining social distancing when possible.

Disinfecting Protocol for School Buses

1. Between Campus and Angelina College
 - Bus drivers, bus assistants, or staff will disinfect the bus after each bus route, in high-touch areas including seats and stairway handrail.
 - Bus windows will be open to allow outside air to circulate when weather permits.
2. Weekly Cleaning
 - Buses will be electrostatically sprayed with a sanitizing agent at the end of the last school day of each school week.

Section 13 Angelina College

1. Parents may provide transportation for students who begin or end their day at Angelina College. Students not picked up at Angelina College by 3:30 p.m. will be transported back to PCA campus for safety of students.
2. When students arrive at Angelina College, they must report to their assigned classrooms.
3. Students must wear masks while at Angelina College and on school buses to and from PCA.

4. Students may not congregate in groups while at Angelina College.
5. Students must leave campus immediately upon dismissal from their mentoring area.
6. If a student has any symptoms of COVID-19, they must report the illness to the high school office and remain home.
7. Students are responsible for coursework at Angelina College.
8. When students arrive at Angelina College they will receive a wrist band where they will record their temperature and date each day.
9. Students may carry their own hand sanitizer and sanitizer wipes to clean and disinfect their work areas.
10. Students will maintain social distancing to the maximum extent possible even when working in groups.
11. Students must go directly to their face-to-face class and return to their assigned mentor group upon completion of the class.
12. Failure to comply with any directive from an adult either employed by Angelina College or Pineywoods Community Academy may result in removal from courses at Angelina College.

Section 14 After-School Care

The purpose of this section is to provide clear guidelines for After School Care for our parents, students, teachers, and staff.

After school care will not begin on August 12th. A survey will be sent out to parents who choose On-Campus learning after the first day of school to ascertain the number of parents who need after-school care. This survey will help to determine the number of staff required to monitor and provide for a safe environment while maintaining social distancing.

If the After-School care program is determined to be needed the following will be enforced:

All After School Staff will work together to ensure that each child participating in the program will adhere to the CDC guidelines. This includes providing a clean and safe environment for each child.

1. All students will remain in the classroom until an After School Care worker retrieves them.
2. Students will be located in an area in which they can practice social distancing requirements and masks will be required for all students of appropriate age as determined by CDC guidelines.

3. Students will wash or sanitize hands frequently (e.g., before and after snacks, after coming inside, after sneezing, blowing your nose, or coughing) with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or by using hand sanitizer.
4. Snacks will be provided by Food and Nutrition Solutions.
5. A member from Food and Nutrition will call the Director of After-School care upon arrival and an After-School Care worker will meet them at the front door and bring in the snacks.
6. Students will work on homework and study.
7. After School Care will only be using the new cafeteria.
8. Hand sanitizer will be available at all times.
9. While serving snacks, staff will wear gloves.
10. School supplies (e.g., papers, scissors, glue etc...) will not be provided or allowed to be shared between students.
11. Students must bring their own supplies and reading materials.
12. Parents will not be allowed in the building during pick-up.
13. Parents will need to call the Director of the After-School program upon arrival.
14. Students will be walked to the front for dismissal. The location will be determined once the survey data has been collected.
15. After-School Care Staff will clean and sanitize the area once all students are dismissed.

Section 15 Playground

The purpose of this section is to provide guidance for teachers and staff as it relates to utilizing the playground.

Recess/Playground

Administrators will provide training for staff on guidelines and procedures associated with outdoor play and student activities. Administrators will develop a schedule for students to access the playground equipment. Teachers will monitor students to ensure safety guidelines are followed. Campuses will consider limiting the number of students per recess group. Staggered schedules and consistent cohorts will be utilized.

1. Only one class at a time will be permitted on the playground.
2. Playground will have 4 quadrants to spread students out as much as possible.
3. Students will not have to wear masks during outdoor activity.
4. All students and staff will be required to wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer before entering the playground and upon exiting the playground.

5. At the end of each school day the playground equipment will be sprayed with alcohol based spray.
6. If recess is indoors due to weather, brain breaks and “mask breaks” will be implemented as needed, at the discretion of the campus/teacher.

Section 16 Social Emotional Needs

The purpose of this section is to inform parents that PCA is aware of difficulties that students may have after a long break from an educational environment supported by caring staff members.

The direct and indirect impacts of the global COVID-19 pandemic are expected to have a lasting effect on students and staff. In addition to our students’ educational well-being, Pineywoods Community Academy is committed to maintaining a multi-tiered system of support that provides for the social-emotional needs, behavioral needs, physical needs, and overall well-being of all district students and staff.

PCA will reinforce and enhance curriculum and supports focused on social-emotional learning, relationship-building, and successful transitions to new learning environments, whether in-person or through our virtual learning platform. Instructional staff will participate in a series of professional learning modules on social-emotional learning and mental health supports throughout the year.

Plans for the 2020-2021 school year include:

- Consultation with classroom teachers about student needs and development of classroom guidance lessons as appropriate to the age and grade level.
- Teach social-emotional learning strategies to help students adjust to the changes in their environments.
- Provide individual counseling to students who express fears, loss, anxiety and/or signs of depression or other needs as they arise.
- Check PCA staff to determine their mental health needs and work with Employee Assistance program as needed.
- Work with school nurses to provide strategies for stress management for staff and students.
- Provide staff development with a focus on how teachers should talk to students in an age-appropriate manner about the possibility of a return to Remote Learning.
- Provide information for staff regarding typical childhood reactions to stress and trauma that might have resulted from home isolation.

- Work with local, state and national organizations to ensure our district is using best practices and providing relevant resources to students, staff, and families.

***Remember, these are the best decisions we can make for our district for now.
We appreciate your continued support as we work to ensure the safety of all
students as we work to re-establish a semblance of normalcy.***

Pineywoods Community Academy strives to ensure a great start to an ever changing situation. If you need further assistance with individual concerns, please contact your campus principal.