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November 6, 2020

Dear CASA Families:

We have been incredibly pleased with the success we have had over the past few months as we've navigated this new educational experience. The hybrid model has been a significant change to our instructional delivery method, however, we have still been able to provide students with meaningful, rigorous lessons, both in-person and virtually. As a school community, we are truly appreciative of the students who have continued to model educational excellence during this time, as well as their compliance with health and safety procedures in school. We are also thankful for the parents and guardians who have been understanding and supportive in the decisions we had to make for the health and safety of our school community, as well as in holding their child accountable for their education.

On August 13, 2020, we sent home a Frequently Asked Questions document explaining how CASA will determine instructional delivery methods throughout the year. Now that we are entering the second marking period, we are at a point where we need to update families on the conditions in the community and our potential transition to all students utilizing the fully virtual learning model.

1. Where does Dauphin County currently stand in its level of community transmission? Where does CASA currently stand in its number of cases?

As of Friday, October 30, 2020, Dauphin County entered the "substantial" level of community transmission category. On Monday, November 2, 2020, Mr. Wendling had a conference call with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education (PDE), an Infectious Disease expert, and other school leaders in the county. Both state agencies continue to *recommend* that schools follow the matrix below when determining their instructional delivery methods. The matrix uses measurements from the White House Coronavirus Task Force, identifies thresholds representing low, moderate, or substantial community transmission of COVID-19, and provides a *recommendation* for instructional delivery models by the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Education. For ease of use, once per week, the Pennsylvania Department of Education publishes a list identifying the level of community transmission in each county over the most recent seven-day reporting period.

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	Percent Positivity Rate (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5%	Full In-Person Model OR Hybrid Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100	OR	5% to <10%	Hybrid Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100	OR	≥10%	Full Remote Learning Model

CASA currently has one active positive case of COVID-19 amongst the school community, and three probable cases. Individuals who are considered close contacts have been notified and are currently in quarantine. At this time, it seems that there has been no transmission of COVID-19 within the school. Again, this is thanks to student and staff vigilance in wearing face coverings, washing hands, and maintaining appropriate physical distance.

2. What do the current statistics mean for CASA’s educational model?

As of today, November 6, 2020, CASA will continue with the hybrid model of instructional delivery. CASA will closely monitor the level of community transmission, recommendations from the DOH and PDE, and the number of cases in the CASA community. We will continue to follow CASA’s Health and Safety Plan while monitoring DOH and PDE guidelines.

If the community spread determination continues in the substantial category and CASA begins to see potential transmission of infection in the building, we will transition to a fully virtual instructional delivery method. To ensure the most effective transition for students between instructional delivery models, it may be appropriate for CASA to wait, up to a full marking period, to transition back to an instructional model that increases in-person instruction. Because CASA is comprised of students from 30 Central Pennsylvania School Districts, CASA will monitor several counties, in addition to Dauphin County. It is important to note that a significant and/or widespread outbreak may require moving to our fully virtual model more quickly. The Department of Health will provide proactive, consultative assistance to school entities should such an outbreak occur.

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/Pages/DeterminingInstructionalModels.aspx>

3. If CASA moves to a fully virtual instructional delivery model, what will that model look like? What are the expectations for students?

During the fully virtual model, students will continue to use the hybrid schedule that they received at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. This schedule is not the same schedule that is listed in PowerSchool, but was a sticker they received in their agenda book on the first day of school, or in an email if they were participating in the virtual option. If a student needs another copy of this schedule, they should contact Mrs. Rhinehart at arhinehart@casa-arts.org.

When in the fully virtual model, all students will be expected to follow their daily hybrid schedule. ***All students, including those who were previously fully virtual, will be expected to attend Zoom classes on the designated days identified below.***

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>9th and 10th grade students will attend Zoom sessions with their live-taught teachers according to their hybrid schedule. They should complete CAOLA courses during the periods of time they are not attending a live-taught Zoom session.</p> <p>11th and 12th grade students will learn virtually utilizing Canvas and CAOLA for their lessons.</p>	<p>9th and 10th grade students will attend Zoom sessions with their live-taught teachers according to their hybrid schedule. They should complete CAOLA courses during the periods of time they are not attending a live-taught Zoom session.</p> <p>11th and 12th grade students will learn virtually utilizing Canvas and CAOLA for their lessons.</p>	<p>All students will learn virtually. Students will be able to contact their live-taught teachers with questions and Zoom during scheduled office hours.</p>	<p>11th and 12th grade students will attend Zoom sessions with their live-taught teachers according to their hybrid schedule. They should complete CAOLA courses during the periods of time they are not attending a live-taught Zoom session.</p> <p>9th and 10th grade students will learn virtually utilizing Canvas and CAOLA/ALEKS for their lessons.</p>	<p>11th and 12th grade students will attend Zoom sessions with their live-taught teachers according to their hybrid schedule. They should complete CAOLA courses during the periods of time they are not attending a live-taught Zoom session.</p> <p>9th and 10th grade students will learn virtually utilizing Canvas and CAOLA/ALEKS for their lessons.</p>

Zoom sessions will begin based on the periods below. Students should follow their hybrid schedule and attend their assigned teacher’s Zoom session during that set time. Zoom links are available in every teacher’s Canvas course. Students who have a CAOLA or ALEKS course on their schedule should not

attend Zoom sessions, but should work independently on their CAOLA or ALEKS courses during that period. Below is the bell schedule with each period's start and end time noted. Please use this and the student's individual schedule to identify the time a student should be logging in to a certain teacher's Zoom session.

Daily Bell Schedule

Period 1	8:00 a.m. – 8:52 a.m.
Period 2	8:55 a.m. – 9:39 a.m.
Period 3	9:42 a.m. – 10:26 a.m.
Period 4	10:29 a.m. – 10:59 a.m.
Period 5	11:02 a.m. – 11:13 a.m.
Period 6	11:16 a.m. – 11:46 a.m.
Period 7	11:49 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Period 8	12:03 p.m. – 12:33 p.m.
Period 9	12:36 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.
Period 10	1:23 p.m. – 2:07 p.m.
Period 11	2:10 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.

Students will be expected to be on time for their Zoom sessions. Students should come prepared with necessary materials for learning (pen/pencil, notebook, etc.) and will also be utilizing digital materials on Canvas. Students should identify a quiet place where they can work and participate in their Zoom lessons. Students are expected to be actively participating with their cameras on so the teacher can engage them in the lesson. The daily lesson will consist of a variety of educational strategies, but will closely mirror activities and lessons that they would experience in their classrooms at CASA. Due dates for activities such as classwork, homework, and/or projects will be at the discretion of each teacher based on the content and course pacing.

On the days when students are learning virtually, they should continue to work through their classes like they have on virtual learning days during the past marking period. Students are encouraged to prioritize their academic courses first, then their art courses, and finally their CAOLA/ALEKS courses. Students who need assistance completing assignments should reach out to their live-taught teachers via email or via Canvas. Teachers will respond to students in a timely manner in order to provide assistance and support. Special Education students are encouraged to contact their teachers, and/or Mr. Shickley at ashickley@casa-arts.org. For CAOLA content support, students should contact their CAOLA teachers through the system. All staff members are available on Wednesdays for Zoom sessions for individual tutoring and support. Please contact those individuals for specific tutoring times or to make an appointment.

4. How is student attendance determined during the fully virtual model? What if my child is sick or has an appointment? What if we experience an issue with our technology?

Student attendance in the school-wide virtual model is based on student attendance in their scheduled Zoom sessions and assignment completion. Students must attend the Zoom sessions with their live-taught teachers on their scheduled days and actively participate in the daily lesson. On days when students do not participate in scheduled Zoom sessions, students must sign in to Canvas and CAOLA/ALEKS and complete their assignments, or demonstrate progress if completing a multiple-day

assignment. If assignments are not submitted and/or a student does not work in their CAOLA/ALEKS classes, that student will be marked absent from that class for the day. In addition, if assignments are not submitted for **three or more classes**, the student will be marked absent for the entire day. Parents must submit absentee notes for students who are unable to attend Zoom sessions or complete virtual assignments on any given day. Teachers will be notified of excused student absences. Students must submit all virtual assignments by the due date for full credit. If assignments are submitted after the due date, they can receive a maximum grade of 75% for the assignment. If they are able to submit late assignments prior to the weekly attendance update, they will not be marked absent on that date. Attendance for virtual learning will be logged weekly by administration. Due dates for live-taught assignments will be at the discretion of CASA teachers. CAOLA due dates will be based on the weekly benchmark chart and be checked every Wednesday by 8:00 a.m.

Parents and guardians should notify Mrs. Chambers at vchambers@casa-arts.org or 717-732-8450 when their child is sick, has a scheduled appointment with a medical/dental/mental health professional, or has an approved educational field trip. These will all be considered an excused absence and the student will have time to make-up assignments. Students who experience technology issues or extenuating circumstances which may conflict with their ability to complete assignments should contact our Assistant Principal, Mrs. Rhinehart, at arhinehart@casa-arts.org or 717-732-8450 to discuss accommodations.

For more specific details about attendance and virtual learning, please view the Attendance Policy Video on our website at www.casa-arts.org.

5. What is the schedule for upcoming weeks that are not a full five (5) days?

Please use the calendar information below for the second marking period. If the date states your child is “in-person” but we are utilizing the fully virtual option, your child should attend Zoom sessions for that date.

Wednesday, November 11, 2020	No School
Monday, November 23, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 in-person, Grades 11 & 12 virtual
Tuesday, November 24, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 virtual, Grades 11 & 12 in-person
Wednesday, November 25, 2020 through Monday, November 30, 2020	No School
Tuesday, December 1, 2020 and Wednesday, December 2, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 in-person, Grades 11 & 12 virtual
Thursday, December 3, 2020 and Friday, December 4, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 virtual, Grades 11 & 12 in-person

Monday, December 21, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 in-person, Grades 11 & 12 virtual
Tuesday, December 22, 2020	Grades 9 & 10 virtual, Grades 11 & 12 in-person
Wednesday, December 23, 2020	All students virtual (1/2 day)
Thursday, December 24, 2020 through January 1, 2021	No School
Monday, January 18, 2021	No School
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 and Wednesday, January 20, 2021	Grades 9 & 10 in-person, Grades 11 & 12 virtual
Thursday, January 21, 2021 and Friday, January 22, 2021	Grades 9 & 10 virtual, Grades 11 & 12 in-person

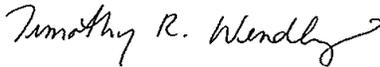
With flu season and the winter months approaching rapidly, please remember to continue following the safety guidelines. These safety protocols are our best method in reducing the spread of infectious diseases.

- Wear a mask.
- Maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance.
- Wash your hands and use sanitizer frequently.
- Stay home if you or a close relative in the home exhibit symptoms. Please see the symptom checklist on our website at www.casa-arts.org.

Keeping students and staff members safe, and providing challenging and engaging educational opportunities are our two guiding principles. We are grateful for your cooperation during the pandemic and we will continue to follow the CDC, DOH, and PDE guidelines and recommendations, along with our Health and Safety Plan. Thank you.

If you have any questions, please call 717-732-8450.

Sincerely,



Timothy Wendling
CEO/Principal



Amanda Rhinehart
Assistant Principal