



Tidioute Community Charter School

Providing a World Class Education in a Small Town Environment

July 10, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

TCCS staff has planned for the safe return of students, employees, and visitors to our school. We want to provide you with information so you are confident that your child will be safe at school. We have developed this document with current CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines and our planning is subject to change pending any new guidelines or requirements.

When school resumes in person starting in August 2020, TCCS is required to have all students wear a cloth face covering in school due to Pennsylvania Department of Health requirements. The current CDC guidelines recommend that everyone over the age of 2 wear face coverings in public unless a medical condition makes it unsafe to do so, including those who have a respiratory issue that impedes breathing, a mental health condition or disability, and students who are unable to remove the face covering without assistance. While it is encouraged that your child continue to wear a face mask throughout the day, your child may remove their mask to eat or drink when students are spaced at least 6 feet apart, and while engaging in activities at least 6 feet apart such as face covering breaks, recess, and while seated at assigned desks. As an alternative, your child may wear a face shield if they are unable to wear a cloth face covering due to the above referenced medical conditions. Cloth face covering requirements could change based on Pennsylvania Department of Health requirements or orders of Governor Wolf. If you have any questions or concerns regarding cloth face coverings, you may contact us by calling or sending an email.

First and foremost, we need to ensure that sick employees, visitors, and students remain at home until they are safely able to return to school to prevent the spread of illness. TCCS will follow the CDC recommendation to screen students and staff for Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms daily.

Signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Fever (100.0 or greater) or chills
Cough
Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Muscle or body aches
Headache

New loss of taste or smell
Sore throat
Congestion or runny nose
Gastrointestinal symptoms; nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

241 Main Street * Tidioute, Pa 16351
Phone (814)484-3550 Fax (814)484-3977
www. Tidioutecharter.com

We ask that **you** screen your child each morning for a fever as well as any symptoms of illness **before** sending them to school. We require employees to do this as well.

Staff and students will have their temperature checked by a kiosk each day upon arrival at school. Those students and staff who have a temperature above 100 degrees, any sign of illness, or exposure to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be sent home.

Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms or signs of illness is required to stay home by TCCS policy. Employees and students should **stay home**, isolate themselves from others, and contact their healthcare provider if the above symptoms of COVID-19 are present. If the provider recommends testing, please follow up as directed. The provider can also screen for other illnesses with similar symptoms and provide a written release for the student to return to school. If you or your child tests positive for COVID-19, the Pennsylvania Department of Health will be in contact with you to discuss quarantine and isolation measures.

CDC guidelines which would allow a return to school if one was not tested are:

- A minimum of 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared. The last 3 days (72 hours) must be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath.

Anyone who knows he or she has been in close contact with a person having COVID-19 should self-quarantine and contact their healthcare provider. If your child has no symptoms but was tested because they were exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19, they may discontinue isolation after the following conditions are met per CDC guidelines:

- At least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test assuming they have not subsequently developed symptoms since their positive test (If they develop symptoms, then they must follow the guidelines above for students with symptoms.)

If you or your child have any of the symptoms or have tested positive for COVID-19, please notify School Nurse Susan Shiley at 814-484-3550 ext. 106, for tracing purposes and extra cleaning of buildings. If there is a case of COVID-19 in TCCS and your child may have been exposed, you will be notified. The school nurse and the chief school administrator will collaborate with the local office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health to coordinate contact tracing. TCCS will close for a minimum of two days for deep cleaning of the building if a student, employee, or known visitor tests positive for COVID-19.

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Please see the attached pages of educational materials for your review and share this information with your children. We will remain positive with your children and will educate them on hand washing techniques, social distancing, and the use of cloth face coverings in school. We thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Thanks for choosing TCCS. We will continue to post updates to the TCCS website and TCCS Facebook page.

Sincerely,

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TCCS Pandemic Team

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