



November 19, 2020

HHSD employees,

The PA Department of Health (PADOH) has issued two official Orders that Substantially impact our staff and school communities. The Orders address the following:

1. **TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS-** The PADOH made SIGNIFICANT changes to the current travel restrictions **effective Friday November 20th** for those who leave Pennsylvania to travel domestically or internationally and then return to Pennsylvania. (PADOH has done away with the list of states necessitating quarantining when you return from travel. The new order applies to travel to any other state or country)

This Order states the following:

- Pennsylvanians traveling out of state are required to have a COVID-19 test performed within 72 hours prior to their return to PA and the results must be negative or to quarantine for 14 days upon return to PA. This order does NOT apply to individuals who travel routinely for work or other critical purpose, such as medical appointments or to comply with a court order such as custody exchanges.

We ask that you fully comply with this Oder and not travel out of the state, if possible. If you must travel out of state, please email the following information to mgustafs@hhsd.org Marguerite Gustafson, RN, MSN, CSN (our COVID-19 School Nurse Liaison):

- a positive COVID-19 test result
- identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 person
- If being tested for COVID-19 and the results are pending
- the isolation or quarantine timeline if recommended by a physician or the Pennsylvania Department of Health
- any recent travel outside of Pennsylvania including:
 - The COVID-19 test result upon return to Pennsylvania or
 - The date of return to Pennsylvania and the quarantine timeline (if a test was not obtained)
- In addition, you must communicate your travel plans with your Principal/Supervisor as your choice to travel could impact your ability to return to in person instruction as necessary
- Should you need to quarantine due to elective travel, you will need to check with your Principal/Supervisor as to your ability to work remotely. This will be determined on a case by case basis. FFCRA leave is not available due to elective travel circumstances but available sick time may be used. Please follow up with Human Resources as needed.
- For additional information please review the information contained on the PADOH state website: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>

Should you need information on testing:

[Montgomery County COVID-19 Testing sites](#)

2. **Universal Face Covering-** The PADOH also put forward an Order that significantly reinforces and expands on the requirement for universal face masks. This order was effective November 18, 2020. The order includes a requirement that everyone wear a face mask when indoors, irrespective of physical distance. However, if a person is working alone, and has no- expectation of interacting with other people with little or no expectation of in-person interruption, they do not need to do so. "Working alone" is defined by the PADOH as:

- a. **A lone worker inside an office with four walls and a door**
- b. **A lone worker inside a cubical with three walls and a door or entryway, where walls are high enough to block the breathing zone of all people walking by, and the worker's activity will not require anyone to come inside that person's workspace.**

The full FAQ's on Universal Face Coverings are available here:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>

While thinking of the health and safety of yourself and fellow co-workers, we trust you to self-disclose if you are affected by these travel restrictions and we must abide by these updated Universal Face Masking orders. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and advance notice so we can plan accordingly.

I know these PADOH Orders will bring up many questions for our staff, and we'll be following up soon through the health and safety committee to address these questions.

In the meantime please reach out to our office with any questions 215-420-5016. Be well!

Christine Welsh

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Director Human Resources

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