



PHILLY CAN DO THIS!

1. **First Rule – Do No Harm!** – Schools should re-open for *in-person* instruction when the science indicates that that opening with reasonable protocols does not put children, school personnel and the families of all students and school personnel at the heightened risk of COVID infection.
2. **No Matter What - All Students Must Continue to Learn!** – The plan envisions providing every family with the choice of homebased instruction. The instruction must be high quality and engaging for every student including ELL and SPED students. Further, the District must deploy significantly more training to help our teachers become highly effective at delivering engaging, remote instruction.
3. **Parents Must Have Confidence in Health Protocols - Mandatory Temperature Screening, Sanitizing and Social Distancing Will Save Lives!** – Every student and all school personnel must be required to comply with on-site temperature checks upon entering school every day. A voluntary system of compliance will not give parents or staff the needed confidence to promote in-school attendance. When a person has a temperature, a designated isolation space must be available until the person leaves the school building. Classrooms and hallways need to be outfitted with sanitizing dispensers for students and staff to regularly use in accordance with best practices recommended by the CDC. Further, the district's rostering plan must be developed with explicit instructions that students are assigned to class and activity rooms that permit six feet of social distancing when the rooms are in use for the rostered activities.
4. **Schools Must Meet the Highest Standards of Cleaning and Sanitizing!** – In order to meet the stringent cleaning protocols aligned with the CDC and EPA guidance and the district must hire additional staff to keep schools clean and sanitary. Further, the district must create a transparent system of communicating to parents in real time that cleaning protocols, are being met in accordance with CDC and EPA guidance. Based on the challenges the District has faced with ensuring buildings are cleaned regularly, significantly improved training, oversight and support of all building maintenance staff is a necessary predicate for re-opening.

5. **Parents need Predictability and Standard Responses in the Case of Infection are a Must!** – Simple directives must be released before the start of school so that parents know whether instruction will continue in-school or shift to home-based instruction should an employee or student test positive for COVID.
6. **Air Quality Problems Must Be Avoided!** – Where there is no reliable and highly functioning ventilation in any room or school building, the policy must clearly state there will be no instruction or school activities in those rooms or buildings. In addition, any school space known to contain hazardous asbestos, lead or other containments that put staff and/students at risk, must not be used for instruction or activities, at all.
7. **Traveling to/from School Students Must Be Protected from Infection!** – For students who must ride public transit to get to and from school, SEPTA, the City, and the District should mobilize its staff resources and volunteers, so that students can ride transit safely with assurance that the transit system is appropriately sanitized.
8. **In All Spaces, Keep Our Students and Families Safe from Infection!** – While it is important for students to be active and stay outside as much as possible, athletic activities involving contact sports should be suspended. Alternatively, schools should offer students non-contact sport options (i.e. baseball, track and field, tennis, etc.) and other extra-curricular activities to keep them physically and mentally active.
9. **Keep Parents and Stakeholders in the Loop!** – Provide weekly public briefings on progress toward readiness for opening, and once schools open, staff a hotline where parents or staff to report problems; and announce all committees and committee chairs managed by the District or the School Board so that parents and key stakeholders can access information and share updates or problems.
10. **Funding Will Be Key!** Engage every Philadelphian to demand more Federal and State funds to support the educational needs of our children while keeping our communities safe from COVID. At a state level, this includes, but is not limited to, the distribution of the \$100M in unallocated CARES funding. At a federal level, this includes, but is not limited to the passage of the HEROES Act, which will bring more than \$3B in critically needed funding for K12 education.

We recognize that the best efforts made by our teachers, parents and students to continue instruction and protect public safety depend on federal and state action and resources and well-crafted local plans to ensure that any reopening considerations do not jeopardize the lives of our community members.