HELPING YOU NAVIGATE THE SCHOOL YEAR SUCCESSFULLY DURING THE GLOBAL PANDEMIC

Responsibly reopening our schools is necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19 throughout the school year.

7235 WHIPPLE AVE NW | NORTH CANTON, OH 44720
330.493.9904 | STARKHEALTH.ORG

“Our mission is to assess, protect, promote, and improve the health of Stark County through leadership, quality service, and community partnerships.”
About the FAQ for Parents & Students

This frequently asked questions (FAQ) document is to be used by parents and students who would like more information regarding the opening of schools in the Fall. The following answers come from procedures supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH).

The FAQ touches on the recommendations of the Stark County Health Department (SCHD) to schools, parents, and students as the new school year approaches. You can find a PDF of this document on our department website at StarkHealth.org.

The SCHD encourages following this guidance and guidance laid out by the CDC, ODH, and the school district that your child(ren) attend. Questions on the following information can be found at the countywide RestartStark page which can be found by visiting www.Coronavirus.StarkCountyOhio.gov. The site also offers a place to file complaints, download posters, review new state orders, and more from this site. Regarding specific questions for your district, you may refer to the school contacts on the back page of this document.
Q: Is it safe for my child(ren) to go back to school this Fall?
A: Yes, the SCHD believes that school districts within our jurisdiction are offering comprehensive plans to keep your child(ren) safe this Fall. Through cleaning initiatives and the potential for online learning, students in Stark County are still on the right track for academic success. Your role is to ensure that they are wearing their mask or facial covering, washing their hands frequently, and keeping their distance from others. SCHD strongly encourages parents to take your child’s temperature and screen your child for COVID-19 symptoms prior to sending them to school.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: What happens if my child has been around someone that tests positive for COVID-19?
A: The SCHD recommends that your child(ren) should quarantine for 14 days at home if they have been in contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19. This includes close contact for longer than 15 minutes and if a mask or facial covering was not worn. Parents/guardians should call and schedule a telehealth visit for the child with their primary care physician (PCP) or community health center. If testing is recommended please also contact the local health department where the student/child or staff member lives because they may be considered a probable case and this will start a local health department (LHD) investigation. A positive test then initiates contact tracing. SCHD encourages parents to reach out to the appropriate school district official to make them aware and to see how your child(ren) can opt into online classes if needed and offered by the district.

Please refer to the SCHD Exclusion and Return to Work/School document at StarkHealth.org.

Visit RestartStark for more information on COVID-19, safe reopening guidance, posters, and more.
Q: Should I call my child(ren) off if they are showing symptoms of sickness?
A: The SCHD would recommend that if your child(ren) is exhibiting ANY signs of illness, it would be best to keep them home until their sickness has subsided. The following are possible symptoms for COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, runny nose, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea. If your child(ren) is experiencing any of these, you may want to contact their primary care physician. The primary care physician or nurse will offer guidance on next steps or schedule testing for COVID-19.

Students, who are feeling well enough, may be able to make up assignments on the online option if offered by the district. Parents or guardians should communicate with the teacher(s) and school if necessary for assignments.

Please refer to your district’s guidelines for further information.

Q: Will my other children need to stay home even if they have no symptoms (asymptomatic)?
A: The SCHD recommends that if one of your children is exhibiting ANY signs of illness, then your other children should stay home as well. Everyone should continue to stay home until the child exhibiting symptoms is evaluated by a health care provider and given either documentation of a diagnosis or cleared by the school nurse to return. If the diagnosis is COVID-19, everyone in the home would continue their quarantine until their designated day given to them by SCHD. Parents or guardians should communicate with the school to make them aware.

Please refer to your district’s guidelines for further information.

Q: Will my child(ren) still be served a hot lunch at school?
A: School cafeterias will operate using State COVID-19 Guidelines for food services. Lunches from the cafeteria should be pre-plated and served by those workers in the lunchroom. Other areas of the school could be used for lunches to help reduce the capacity in the cafeteria. The meal options and eating arrangements will vary by district.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: Will hand washing and hand sanitizing be available for my child(ren) during the day?
A: Yes, all districts within the SCHD jurisdiction have offered comprehensive plans to offer hand sanitizing and will remind students to wash their hands throughout the day. The SCHD recommends that parents send their child(ren) with an extra mask or facial covering in a brown paper bag with their name on it, packet of tissues, and a small hand sanitizer with them each day.

Please refer to the CDC on the importance of hand washing.
Q: Are drinking fountains going to be turned on during the school day?
A: This may vary by district but the SCHD recommends that all drinking fountains be unavailable due to the high touch nature of the surfaces. If districts are allowing drinking fountains to operate, they should be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized multiple times a day. Students and staff should be allowed to carry water bottles with them throughout the day and inside the classroom.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: What is the cleaning frequency and procedure for classrooms?
A: School districts, within our jurisdiction, have comprehensive cleaning plans for district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. The SCHD recommends that each district refer to CDC guidelines on disinfecting throughout the school day and after hours. Only EPA sanitizers and disinfectants should be used. District’s should be cleaning surfaces frequently throughout the day, especially high touch surfaces and shared materials. That includes door handles, light switches, drinking fountains, etc. for the safety of students. Students are also encouraged to wipe down desks with approved sanitizer after use in classrooms and other areas within the school.

The SCHD recommends districts to quarantine books or materials being returned to the library for 48 hours. Transmission of COVID-19 virus on paper products is believed to be insignificant. If books can be stored by student in an individual student desk, that is fine. Otherwise, use good handwashing after handling the books. If sharing books between classes, emphasize good handwashing both before and after handling of the books. Staff and students should use effective hand hygiene when handling books and materials. The placement of sanitation wipes or disinfectants (labeled for use against COVID-19) should be available in each room and shared space areas.

These cleaning procedures may vary by district and all questions should be referred to the appropriate contact person for your district. That full list is attached for your use.

Q: If my child(ren) has allergies, what happens if they have a reaction to the chemicals?
A: The SCHD recommends that each district inform parents or guardians of any and all sanitizers and disinfectants being used in each building. If the student is allergic or starts to experience a reaction, a staff member should be informed and contact the main office or school nurse. Students may need to be excused early before an area is thoroughly cleaned or sanitized. CDC recommends certain techniques and cleaning safety tips.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.
Q: Will my child(ren) be required to wear a mask or face covering? If so, are schools offering them?
A: Yes, all students Kindergarten through 12th grade are required to wear a face mask in public settings especially when social distancing of 6 feet or more is not possible. This comes directly from the current state mandate by Gov. DeWine and Health Director Himes. Students should be wearing masks or facial coverings when changing class or when social distance cannot be maintained. Many districts are allowing students to remove masks only when social distancing is possible. The SCHD recommends following the mask or facial covering policy for districts. Some school districts may have masks available but students are responsible for having their own each day. Cloth masks or face coverings should be washed each day.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district to see if they are offering a medical exemption.

Q: Are schools offering temperature checks to children?
A: The SCHD recommends that districts offer a process for staff and students to self-report their temperatures during morning arrivals. Parents should also consider purchasing a thermometer during school supply shopping. Further recommendations include, temperature teams to take the temperature of each staff member in the afternoon, temperature stations for those feeling warm, and mandatory checks for visitors/vendors into the school building.

If a staff member or student has an elevated temperature (100 degrees or higher), then they should be excused for the rest of the day. Those with an elevated temperature should seek advice from their health care provider.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: Is gym or recess planning to be offered to children?
A: The SCHD recommends that students still be offered recess or gym at their appropriate grade level. This is an important part of the school day and offers children the chance to be active. Masks or facial coverings do not need to be worn unless social distancing of 6 feet or more cannot be maintained for the duration of the period.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: What are safety measures for busing and bus stops?
A: The SCHD recommends that all those that ride a bus to school socially distance 6 feet or more when being picked up or dropped off at the bus stop. Many districts within our jurisdiction are asking students to fill in the bus from the back, sit with sibling(s) if going to the same household, and wear a mask or facial covering for the duration of the ride if social distances cannot be maintained.
Q: (Bus stops continued)
A: It is recommended that all bus drivers should be wearing a mask and spray disinfectant on surfaces once all students have exited the bus when the bus is returned to the bus garage or before the next pick up/drop off.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: Can my child(ren) ride home with another student?
A: The SCHD recommends that students who are accepting a ride home from a fellow student or their parent, wear a mask or facial covering for the duration of the ride. This may vary by district and you should refer to their policy on car pools or ride sharing.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: What does it mean for our schools if our county is elevated to red or purple risk levels in the Ohio Public Health Advisory System?
A: This decision is up to the school district and its board of education unless otherwise directed by the governor or health director to close because of the increased threat of COVID-19. School districts are advised to toughen their current procedures and practices if indicators reach levels of caution outlined by the state. Continued practices like social distancing, hand washing, wearing of masks or facial coverings, and other procedures from the state should be adhered to.

Please refer to the attached list of contact information for your district.

Q: Does my child still need vaccinated before the beginning of the school year?
A: Yes, immunizations are more important than ever, and at this time, we expect students to be current on their immunizations unless they have an exemption on file.

Please refer to the attached information on SCHD immunization clinics.

Together, we will protect our children and our community from this global pandemic
- Health Commissioner Kirkland Norris, RS, MPH
UNDERSTANDING CONTACT TRACING

Why is the health department contacting me?

Once you are a confirmed case, the health department is notified and will call to help track your sickness. They can offer education and guidance while monitoring symptoms.

IF CONTACTED BY THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT, PLEASE ANSWER OR CALL THEM BACK!

Key tips to stay social but remain safe from COVID-19

- Wash Up
- Mask Up
- Back Up
- Stay home when sick!

Visit RestartStark for more information!
FAQ for Parents & Children

Q: Will vaccine clinics be offered at my child's school this year?
A: No. Due to COVID-19 there will be no vaccine clinics offered at Stark County schools for the 2020-2021 school year. There will be limited sites around the county and at the Stark County Health Department.

Q: My child is doing the online option for their school district. Does he/she still need their vaccinations?
A: Yes. Though some children may be doing their school year from home, Stark County school children are still required to receive their normal vaccinations for the 2020-2021 school year.

Q: Does our family need to have health insurance for the VFC program?
A: No. Those with or without insurance can receive vaccinations at the Stark County Health Department or the limited sites around the county. Those taking part in the VFC program will only be charged a $21 administration fee.

Q: Is my child eligible for the VFC program?
A: Children are eligible if it is before their 19th birthday and they qualify for Medicaid, don’t have insurance, and are American Indian or Alaska Native.

Vaccines Offered

The following list of vaccines are normally required for school children in Ohio:
- Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP/DT Tdap/Td)
- Polio
- Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR)
- Hepatitis B
- Chickenpox (Varicella)
- Meningococcal (MCV4)

Call 330.493.9928 ext. 2050 for an appointment

Vaccines for Children

The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program helps ensure that all children have a better chance of getting their recommended vaccines. VFC has helped prevent disease and save lives. In 2019, 74% of our clients qualified for the vaccine program.

Visit StarkHealth.org for more information!
Vaccine cost is based on eligibility

The Health Department now accepts several health insurance companies. Please let us know when scheduling your appointment what insurance coverage you have. Medicaid and Medicaid HMO’s are accepted. If you have no insurance then you are a self-pay client and payment is due at the time of the visit. SCHD provides age appropriate preventive vaccines regardless of the patient's ability to pay for children eligible for the Ohio Department of Health’s (ODH) Vaccine for Children Program (VFC) and for adults who qualify under the ODH Adult Immunization Program.

Immunization record is required for children

Children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

### Children Clinics

Please call for an appointment (330) 493-9928 ext. 2050

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic Location</th>
<th>Scheduled Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>School District Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stark County Health Department Clinics 7235 Whipple Ave. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of every month</td>
<td>9:00-11:00 am</td>
<td>No cancellation for weather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Jacobs Lutheran Church 1460 State St NE North Canton, OH 44721</td>
<td>2nd Monday of every month</td>
<td>1:00-3:30 pm</td>
<td>Lake Local Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canal Fulton Christian Fellowship Church 2021 Locust St. S Canal Fulton, OH 44614</td>
<td>3rd Tuesday of every month</td>
<td>1:00-3:30 pm</td>
<td>Northwest Local Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fohl Memorial United Methodist Church 121 Basin St. Navarre, OH 44662</td>
<td>4th Tuesday of every month</td>
<td>9:00-11:00 am</td>
<td>Fairless Local Schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stark County Health Department Clinics 7235 Whipple Ave. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>1st &amp; 4th Monday of every month</td>
<td>12:30-6:45 pm</td>
<td>No cancellation for weather</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Adult Clinics

Please call for an appointment (330) 493-9928 ext. 2042

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinic Location</th>
<th>Scheduled Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>School District Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stark County Health Department Clinics 7235 Whipple Ave. NW North Canton, OH 44720</td>
<td>Every Thursday</td>
<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>No cancellation for weather</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School District Contacts for COVID-19 Questions or Concerns

Canton Local School District
600 Faircrest St. SE, Canton, OH 44707
COVID-19 Contacts:
Communications Coordinator: Karen Vrabec - karen.vrabec@cantonlocal.org
Nurse: Lori Serafini - lori.serafini@cantonlocal.org

Fairless Local School District
11885 Navarre Rd., Navarre, OH 44662
COVID-19 Contacts:
Superintendent: Broc Bidlack - broc.bidlack@fairless.sparcc.org
Secretary: Connie Horton - connie.horton@fairless.sparcc.org

Jackson Local School District
7602 Fulton Dr., Massillon, OH 44646
COVID-19 Contacts:
Director of Communication: Todd Porter - tporter@jackson.sparcc.org
Nurse: Lori Fisher - laf2jc@jackson.sparcc.org
Nurse: Carrie Anne Shoop - cas2jc@jackson.sparcc.org
Nurse: Jackie Ingol-Callahan - jmi2jc@jackson.sparcc.org

Lake Local School District
436 King Church Ave. SW, Uniontown, OH 44685
COVID-19 Contacts:
Administrative Assistant: Susan Mendenhall - mendenhallsusan@lakelocal.org
Nurse: Therese Gilbert - gilberttherese@lakelocal.org

Louisville Local School District
407 East Main St., Louisville, OH 44641
COVID-19 Contacts:
Nurse: Sue Gronow - sue.gronow@lepapps.org
Nurse: Hope Richards - hope.richards@lepapps.org
Communications: Karen Vrabec - kvrabec@lepapps.org
Marlinton Local School District
10320 Moulin Ave. Alliance, Ohio 44601
COVID-19 Contacts:
Public Relations: Lea Packey - l_packey@marlintonlocal.org
Nurse: Kaylee DiPietro - k_dipietro@marlintonlocal.org

Minerva Local School District
406 East St., Minerva, OH 44657
COVID-19 Contacts:
Superintendent: Gary Chaddock - chaddog@minerva.sparcc.org
Special Services Director: Andrew Burman - burmana@minerva.sparcc.org
Nurse: Olivia Scott - scotto@minerva.sparcc.org

North Canton City School District
525 7th St. NE, North Canton, OH 44720
COVID-19 Contacts:
Superintendent: Jeff Wendorf - jeff.wendorf@northcantonschools.org
Communications: Polly Doyle - polly.doyle@northcantonschools.org

Northwest Local School District
2309 Locust St. S, Canal Fulton, OH 44614
COVID-19 Contacts:
Director of Instruction: Debora Clark clark.d@northwest.sparcc.org
Nurse: Janet Allen - allen.j@northwest.sparcc.org
Nurse: Aubrey Neuenschwander - neuenschwander.a@northwest.sparcc.org

Osnaburg Local School District
310 Browning Ct., East Canton, OH 44730
COVID-19 Contacts:
Middle School Principal: Gregory Dente - gregory.dente@osnaburglocal.org
High School Principal: Gary Hinton - gary.hinton@osnaburglocal.org
Nurse: Tiffany Belknap - belknapt@starkhealth.org

Perry Local School District
4201 13th St. SW, Massillon, OH 44646
COVID-19 Contacts:
Nurse: Rebekah Silla - rebekah.silla@perrylocal.org
Plain Local School District
901 44th St. NW, Canton, OH 44709
COVID-19 Contacts:
Public Relations Director: Mary Beddell - beddellm@plainlocal.org
Nurse: Nancy Cooley - cooleyn@plainlocal.org

R.G. Drage Career Technical Center
2800 Richville Dr. SW, Massillon, OH 44646
COVID-19 Contacts:
Job Developer: Valery Paris - valery.paris@rgdrage.org
Nurse: Betsy Lautzenheiser -betsy.lautzenheiser@rgdrage.org

Sandy Valley Local School District
5362 State Route 183 NE, Magnolia, OH 44643
COVID-19 Contacts:
Superintendent: David Fischer - d.fischer@svlocal.org
PR/Social Media Director: Allison Morris - a.morris@svlocal.org
Assistant: Sarah Leyda - s.leyda@svlocal.org
Nurse: Mary Leopold - m.leopold@svlocal.org
Nurse: Rachel Leyda - r.leyda@svlocal.org

Tuslaw Local School District
1835 Manchester Ave NW, Massillon, OH 44647
COVID-19 Contacts:
Superintendent: Melissa Marconi - mmarconi@tuslawschools.org
Nurse: Megahn Wilson - mwilson@tuslawschools.org

“Striving Toward a Healthier Community.”
“Striving Toward a Healthier Community.”