

# PIPER USD 203

3130 N. 122nd St. | Kansas City, KS 66109

p. 913.721.2088 | f. 913.721.3573 | [www.piperschools.com](http://www.piperschools.com)



Dear Pirate Nation,

Good evening! One of my goals as a leader is to always be honest and transparent; it's literally the only way I know to build trusting relationships that won't crumble when the going gets tough. And to that end, as we are just 8 days plus a few hours away from Thanksgiving, I feel as though I owe you the truth...I am 50 years old, and I have never cooked a Thanksgiving turkey. Never. Not once. It's embarrassing I know. I have no real excuses to even offer; it's just the plain, ugly truth. This year I have been tasked with the creamy corn, green-bean casserole, homemade macaroni and cheese, and sweet potatoes. And listen, I am going to cook the heck out of those side dishes. I am hoping that my family will see my hard work and think to themselves, "maybe she IS ready to cook next year's turkey!" I can only hope; I can only dream. So, to all of those of you out there who lovingly prepare Thanksgiving turkeys—the roasters, the fryers, the smokers—I take this moment and salute you and can only hope that one day I will join you on the other side saying "Yes...yes I have prepared a Thanksgiving turkey!" Until then, my crockpots and I tip our lids to you! Go get 'em!

## Corporate Partners & Sponsorships

In the Piper School District, we believe it is a team approach that allows our students to really prosper and be equipped to handle real-world tasks after they leave our hallways. As such, you will never find a time in which we have leaned so heavily onto real-world learning opportunities cultivated and facilitated by our industry partners. The benefits are two-fold. For students, corporate partners offer access to a professional network, early exposure to a range of careers, build confidence and professionalism, provide a sense of purpose, and allows students to see the big picture. For employers and corporate partners, the benefits include access to a qualified talent pipeline, increased employee engagement and morale, creation of new business partners and relationships, and the value of knowing you have made an impact on a student's live forever.

**WE NEED YOU!** Please find attached to this week's *Tuesday Talk* our new Real World Learning Corporate Partnership Guide which highlights all the ways businesses can be involved in the District. Along with the benefit of helping our students, we will also feature business partners' logo on our Corporate Sponsorship Guide as well as in our Piper High School Programming Plan Guide. For more information, please contact our Coordinator of Community Relations, Partnerships, and Inclusion, Mrs. Amber Buck at [abuck@piperschools.us](mailto:abuck@piperschools.us)!

## Parents As Teachers

Do you know someone who is GREAT with little learners and looking for employment? Have we got an opportunity for you! The Piper School District has an exciting opportunity to employ a full-time parent educator to support our Piper families of young children. This position is a vital piece to our Piper community and our families to help prepare our children for success at an early age from birth to school age. These services include personal visits, screenings, coordination of group connections, resource and referral processes and distributing promotional materials that will encourage parents with children under the age of six to participate in the program on a voluntary basis. **Go to [www.piperschools.com](http://www.piperschools.com) to apply.**

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Dr. Jessica Dain, Superintendent of Schools

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## COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies and Optional Masking Protocols

As a reminder, at last week's Board of Education Meeting, the Board voted 7 to 0 for optional masking and quarantining for our high school students and staff at both Piper High School and the CTE Center. Please find below the guidelines we are following:

### 1. If there would be a positive COVID-19 exposure, all students and staff who were exposed (regardless of vaccination status) would have the following options:

- Option 1: 5-Day Masking & Testing  
Students will be allowed to stay in school if they wear a mask and test daily for COVID for five school days.
- Option 2: One Test on Day 5  
Student would quarantine at home and test with a PCR test on day 5 following exposure. If the test returns a negative result, the student may return to school day 7, assuming student has not presented with any COVID symptoms.
- Option 3: No Testing  
Students who do not wish to follow Option 1 & 2 would be quarantined from school for 10 calendar days.

### 2. Additional Information:

- All students must wear a mask riding the school bus whether to-and-from school or for extra-curricular events
- Masking will be optional for all school and district sanctioned events taking place at PHS and the CTE Building
- A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period with a person who has COVID-19

The Board of Education is dedicated to monitoring our COVID-19 data and discussing district protocols monthly. As we consider COVID protocols, please know that circumstances may change and, in turn, influence our decision-making and actions. Additionally, the Board of Education continues the monitoring of the district data to discuss the next steps and timeline of making masking optional for the rest of the district in the very near future. The next discussion of masking will take place at the **December 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Education Meeting**. If you are interested in addressing the Board at their December, please notify the Board Clerk, Mitch Nutterfield at [mnutterfield@piperschools.us](mailto:mnutterfield@piperschools.us) by the end of the day on **December 6<sup>th</sup>**.

We will continue to keep our school families informed and updated. The safety of students, staff, and our community is, and will continue to be, our top priority. Please know that there may be instances during the school

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year where unpredicted or unexpected circumstances lead to us needing to make quick decisions. If this occurs, we will communicate with you as quickly as possible.

At the current time, we have created a spot on our district website with [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding the specific COVID protocols we are following at this time.

**Please find below our weekly update on District COVID data:**

	<b>Students (Aug. 19- Nov. 12) *Running Total</b>	<b>New Student Cases (Week of Nov. 8-12)</b>	<b>Staff (Aug 13-Nov. 12) *Running Total</b>	<b>New Staff Cases (Week of Nov. 8-12)</b>
<b>Piper Early Childhood</b>	3	0	2	0
<b>Piper Prairie Elementary</b>	31	1	5	0
<b>Piper Creek Elementary</b>	24	3	2	0
<b>Piper Middle School</b>	15	0	1	1
<b>Piper High School</b>	23	1	3	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>96 (Running Total)</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>13 (Running Total)</b>	<b>1</b>

**Proud to be a Pirate,**

Dr. Jessica Dain  
Superintendent of Schools