



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PDE Update

August 9, 2022

Topics of Discussion

- COVID Response
- Act 55 – School Code
- Act 1
- Superintendent/CEO Listening Sessions
- Other Items of Interest

COVID Response

- Pennsylvania Department of Health and CDC
- Weekly Aggregate School-level Reports
 - Begin Friday, August 19, 2022
 - ONLY REQUIRED if you have a positive case in your school
- LEA Health and Safety Plans
 - Required by ARP-ESSER
 - Must be reviewed/updated every six months (September 30, 2024)
- Free Testing Programs Remain Available
- Test to Stay – Masking Requirement Eliminated

Act 55 of 2022 – School Code Bill

- *Act 66 Extension – August 1, 2022 Deadline
- *Graduation Requirements – Two-Score Composite Pathway
- *Industry-Recognized Credentials Added to Transcript
- *Structured Literacy – PD and Ed Prep
- *Revised Lunch Shaming Provisions
- Dual Enrollment – July 31, 2023
- Home Education Students – Policy for Coursework by 2023-24
- *Plan-Con Moratorium

Act 55 - School Safety Initiatives (*PCCD)

- *School Safety and Security Committee
- *School Mental Health and Safety and Security Grants
 - *Physical Security Grants
 - *Mental Health Grants
 - *Mental Health Services Survey – August 1-31, 2022
 - For each grant: min. \$100,000/district; min. \$70,000 per other eligible LEAs
- *School Safety and Security Coordinator Required
- *School Safety and Security Coordinator Training (up to 7 hrs.)
- *School Safety and Security 2-Hr Training (Drills don't count!)
- Threat Assessment Team Training (Annual requirement)
- School-Based Mental Health Internship Grant (PHEAA)
- School Safety Training in Ed Prep Programs (3 credits)

Act 55 – Workforce Initiatives

- Act 45/48 Moratorium (and Paraprofessionals)
 - FAQ on website
- Reciprocity for Out-of-State Licensed Educators
- Temporary Waiver of Basic Skills Test
- Chief Talent Officer at PDE
 - Talent Recruitment and Oversight of the Educator Workforce Strategy

Act 1 of 2022 Assisting Students Experiencing Education Instability

- Act 1 promotes timely high school graduation and equal access to academics and extracurricular activities by removing barriers for students experience education instability
 - Signed January 26, 2022
 - Act 55 made Act 1 retroactive to 2021-2022 school year
 - Guidance (BEC) issued on August 1, 2022
- Identification
 - Student experiences one or more changes in enrollment during a single school year
 - Homelessness
 - Adjudicated Dependent
 - Adjudicated Delinquent
 - Adjudicated as part of court-order – voluntary/custodial placement agreement
 - Students in Foster Care

Act 1 of 2022 (continued)

- LEA Responsibilities
 - Establish single Point of Contact
 - Ensure timely completion of all required tasks
 - Get to know impacted student/s
 - Name and contact information placed in student record
 - List of responsibilities in BEC issued August 1, 2022
 - Ensure Equal Access – Remove Barriers
 - Eliminate Fees and Fines
 - Graduation Planning
 - Assess Graduation Progress
 - Individualized Graduation Plan
 - Provides Three Pathways to Graduation
 - Current LEA, Previous LEA, Keystone Diploma issued by PDE
 - Retroactive to 2022 Graduates

Superintendent/CEO Listening Sessions

- Monthly topics to include:
 - Discipline of students with disabilities
 - Recruiting and retaining employees
 - Emergency planning and risk management
 - Understanding accountability reporting
- Weekly sessions – Your schedule
- Registration through PATTAN

Other Items of Interest

- Emergency Instructional Time Template/Flexible Instructional Day
 - EITT – pandemic-related emergency ONLY
 - FID – weather or other emergency closings
- Accountability Plan Revisions
 - 15-day public/legislative review
 - Sets stage for exit/redesignation for school improvement
- Homeless App
 - Assist homeless students, families, and those who provide service to the homeless with easy, direct access to services and information
 - www.findingyourwayinpa.com
 - https://youtu.be/79wcaGM4s_Q
- 21st Century Community Learning Cohort 11
 - 44 grants totaling over \$19 million



USS Greeneville

Contact/Mission

For more information please visit PDE's website at www.education.pa.gov

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The mission of the Department of Education is to ensure that every learner has access to a world-class education system that academically prepares children and adults to succeed as productive citizens. Further, the Department seeks to establish a culture that is committed to improving opportunities throughout the commonwealth by ensuring that technical support, resources, and optimal learning environments are available for all students, whether children or adults.