



August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian and Students:

On behalf of the Polaris Career Center's Board of Education and Superintendent Bob Timmons, we welcome you to Polaris Career Center and wish you a successful 2020-2021 school year!

First Day of School

Our first day of classes will be Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Polaris Career Center will be starting the school year utilizing a blended-learning model. This means that students will be following a weekly schedule created by their program teachers which includes both in-person lab and classroom instruction and remote learning. Program teachers will be contacting students and parents during the week of August 24 – August 28 to inform students of their weekly schedules.

Daily Schedule

We have adjusted our school day slightly for the beginning of this school year. Juniors will attend Polaris from 8:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and seniors will attend their classes from 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Again, program teachers will be contacting their students and parents with specific schedule information based upon each program.

Transportation

Bus transportation will be provided by each associate school while Polaris is in session. During the days that a student's associate school is closed and/or offering classes remotely, and Polaris is in session, transportation will be provided to and from their high school and Polaris. Students will need to adhere to their associate school policies and procedures to ride the bus which will likely include face coverings and a designated number of students per seat. Please contact your district's bus transportation department if you have specific questions. Students may drive to Polaris and park in the student lot. Parking passes are free of charge this year and will be available at the Atrium or the Welcome Center.

Arrival at Polaris

Students may enter Polaris through our two main entrances. The Atrium entrance is dedicated for student drivers while the front Welcome Center entrance is dedicated for students who ride the bus or are dropped off. Upon entering the building, students will need to wear appropriate face coverings. Polaris will provide each student with an individual face covering during the first day of school for use in classroom and lab activities. School personnel will be assigned to designated student entrances to supervise the flow of student traffic following social distancing guidelines. There will be hand sanitizer and hand washing stations at building entrances. Infrared temperature scanners are located at each entrance to verify student temperatures.

Hallway Travel and Lockers

Face coverings will be required while in the building, including passing in the halls. Signage will be posted to indicate the flow of student traffic. Locker rooms will be available with a limited number of students in the locker room at any given time.

Sanitation

Drinking fountain spigots have been disconnected but individual water bottles may be filled at the fountains. Polaris has identified and purchased proper cleaning products and has established a cleaning protocol that meets safety standards established by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Each classroom will be equipped with cleaning wipes, hand sanitizer and extra face coverings. Students will sanitize their hands between classroom and lab instruction.

Clinic

On a daily basis, our school nurse, provided by Southwest General Health Center, will assist any student who may appear to have an elevated temperature or may be feeling ill. For the health and safety of all, we ask parents not to send students to school who are ill. An additional space has been prepared (located near the high school office) to separately support the safety protocol we have in place if a student has a fever or is displaying symptoms associated with Covid-19. Taking student temperatures and contacting parents for student pick-up are two of the action steps associated with this separate clinic area.

Food Service – Polaris Café

Students will be able to purchase light breakfast and lunch items through our Center Café or may bring packed items with them. Students may eat in the center of the Commons with a maximum of four (4) students per table. Our Center Café has been modified to reduce lines. Payment is now available through ApplePay or a touch-less system. Cash will also be accepted. Please understand that breakfast and lunch item selections will be limited and social distancing will be enforced for students while waiting in lines.

Census Data – Infinite Campus

Finally, a friendly reminder that all Census Data updates must be completed in Infinite Campus prior to the first day of school. Information to complete the Census Data was emailed to parents in July. If you need assistance in completing the Census Data, please contact Jean McLaughlin at (440) 891-7713.

Polaris Career Center Website

For the most up-to-date information regarding Polaris Career Center, please visit our website at www.polaris.edu.

We hope your summer break was enjoyable and look forward to welcoming our students to Polaris beginning September 8, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gerald D. Lanning".

Gerald D. Lanning
Principal
Polaris Career Center