



# Update to the PPS School Board

May 11, 2021



TOGETHER  
**WE WILL**

PORTLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Let me say it clearly: it is our expectation that we will fully reopen for five days a week of in-person instruction this coming fall.

We’ve been living in a fluid and dynamic reality the last year, but unless health conditions and guidance from public health and the Department of Education officials do not yet permit it, we expect and intend to welcome all students back to school this September.”

- Guadalupe Guerrero, PPS Superintendent



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# Our Guiding Principles

- Our core values, theory of action, and Vision will continue to guide all that we do.
- Our reopening and embracing continuous improvement is reflected in our relentless pursuit of racial equity and social justice.
- We will also be guided by these three principles as the foundation of our reopening work:
  - Ensure health & wellness for staff and students
  - Strengthen & innovate teaching and learning
  - Build deeper connections and relationships.



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# Tonight's Topics

- Variables Shaping Fall 2021
- Latest COVID-19 Metrics
- COVID-19 Vaccinations
- Latest on State and Federal Guidelines
- Space Considerations
- Other Variables Under Consideration
- Our Commitment to Our Community



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# Variables Shaping Fall 2021

We've been living in a fluid and dynamic reality the last year. Even though there is significant progress in the fight against COVID-19, we will need to consider these and other variables:

- COVID-19 Variants // COVID-19 Cases
- Vaccinations // Access + Hesitancy
- Evolving Public Health & Fed/State Guidance

What will remain constant is our continued pursuit of racial equity and social justice. We will remain committed to the health and safety of our students and staff. We will partner with our community-based partners, public health experts, labor partners, and the business community to create the conditions for our schools to open fully in Fall 2021.

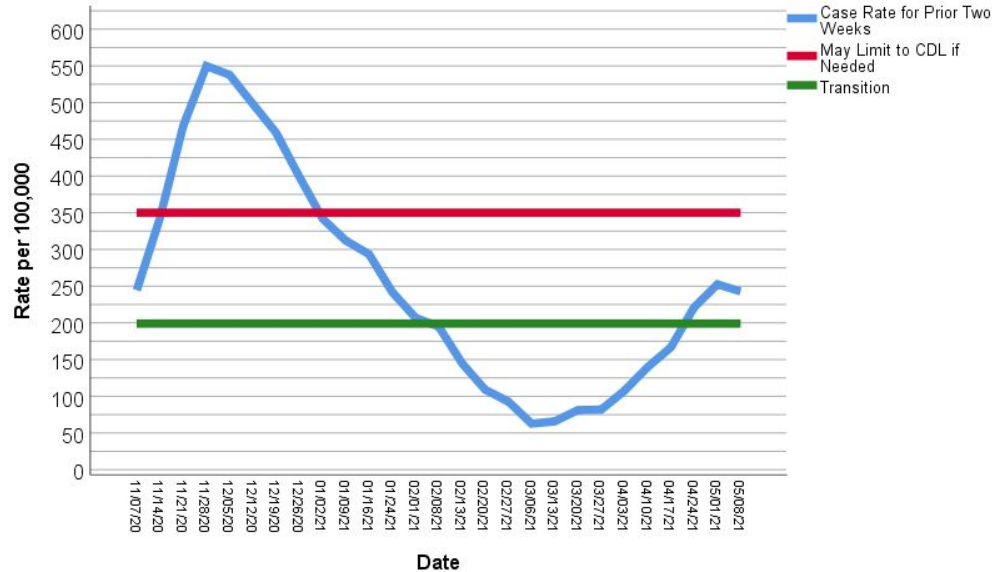


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# COVID-19 Metrics

Multnomah County Case Rate for Prior 2 Weeks



# 242.8

Cases per 100,000  
March 28-May 10, 2021  
in Multnomah County  
(ODE/OHA Weekly Update)



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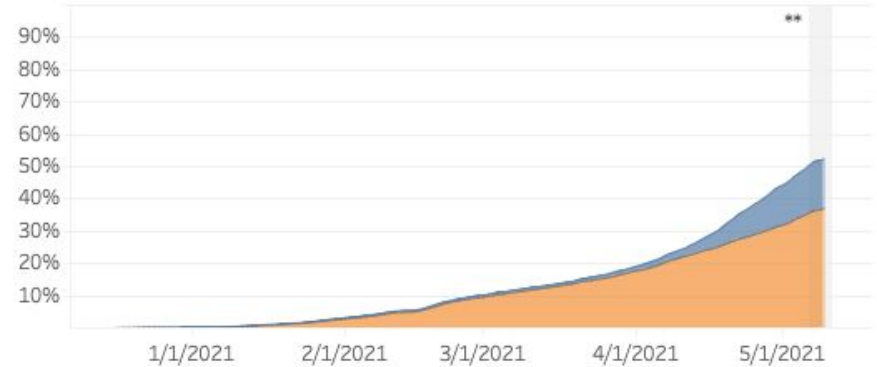
# COVID-19 Vaccinations

- All Oregonians age 16 and older eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine.
- 52.3% of people in Multnomah County are vaccinated against COVID-19. (15.5% still need 2nd dose; 36.8% received 2 shots)
- On May 10, the US Food & Drug Administration authorized COVID-19 vaccine distribution for use in children ages 12 to 15. The CDC will need to affirm FDA's recommendation, which could happen as early as Wednesday, 5/11.
- PPS will continue to partner with public health officials, labor partners and community-based organizations to help in our collective effort to get people vaccinated:

	% Population Vaccinated	% Population In Progress	% Population Series Complete
Statewide	46.5%	12.1%	34.4%
Multnomah	52.3%	15.5%	36.8%

## 52.3% of people in Multnomah County are vaccinated

15.5% are in progress while 36.8% have completed the series people



VACCINES WORK. Safe & effective COVID-19 vaccines are now available.

### COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic

Oregon Convention Center  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12  
9AM - 1PM

All students age 16+ and their family members are eligible to receive a free vaccine. Shots are available. Visit the PPS website for more information.

PPS.NET/COVID-19VACCINATION

Data current as of 12:01 am 5/10/2021.



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# State & Federal Guidelines

- Superintendent Guerrero and PPS Senior Leadership continue to engage with public health and state officials to revise the “Ready Schools, Safe Learners” guidance, which is expected to be released on July 19, 2021, 44 days before the first day of school.
- We anticipate these guidelines providing Oregon school districts updates on:
  - Continued Use of School Metrics
  - Health and Safety Requirements
    - In Schools, Classrooms, Transportation, Athletics, etc.
  - Distance Learning Requirements
  - Instructional Times



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# Space Considerations

- Using current CDC and RSSL guidelines, we have started to do preliminary analysis on a possible social distance requirement of 3 feet.
- Early data suggest that an overwhelming majority of our classrooms will be able to accommodate full student enrollment with 3-foot distancing.
- We anticipate physical changes may be necessary, including purchase of new fixtures, furniture and equipment; educators relocating rooms; repurposing non-traditional classroom spaces, etc.
- We are building on this preliminary analysis to determine school specific impacts, including but not limited to the impact on communal spaces (cafeteria, library, etc.), transportation, etc.



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# Other Considerations

We hope and expect Fall 2021 to be more like a traditional school opening. Our central office teams and school leaders are making plans for:

- Staffing
- Transportation
- Teaching and Learning
- Nutrition
- Building Maintenance
- Community Partnerships
- Distance Learning

As part of our regular updates to the School Board, we will frame our updates by attempting to answer these questions:

- What do we know now? and
- What don't we know, and when will we know more?



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# Our Commitment

- We will work closely with the School Board, Labor Partners and Community-Based Organizations to create the conditions that will allow for a return to full-time, five days a week in-person instruction for 2021-2022.
- We will adhere to federal and state guidance and create path that appropriately mitigates transmission of COVID-19.
- We plan to provide a comprehensive virtual learning option for those students and families who are unwilling or unable to return to in-person learning in the Fall.
- We will continue to work with public health officials and community partners to educate students and families about vaccine safety and to improve distribution systems, including the potential of using school as vaccinations sites.
- We will provide regular updates to the School Board and community as we learn more and plan for Fall 2021.







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