

Shaler Area School District

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July 19, 2021

Dear Shaler Area families:

We hope that your summer is off to a great start! While the past school year has only recently ended, preparations are well underway for the next school year. As we shared at the end of last school year, the plan for the 2021-2022 school year includes a full reopening for daily in-person instruction for all students.

As we prepare to bring students and staff back into our schools in the fall, the district revised its Health and Safety Plan, which the school board approved on July 14 and is available on the district website: [ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan](#). The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) also released information and guidance relative to K-12 schools on July 9, 2021. The district is currently reviewing this information and awaiting further guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education and state Department of Health. Additional information and details specific to Shaler Area will be released later this summer.

While we are very excited to welcome all of our students back to the classroom, we acknowledge that some families may still prefer a full virtual option. These families may choose to enroll in the Shaler Area Virtual Institute (SAVI) for grades K-6 or our Titan Cyber Academy for grades 7-12. Parents choosing SAVI or Titan Cyber are asked to **complete an online education enrollment form by July 25** so we may determine staffing.

- K-6 Enrollment Form - <https://forms.gle/ve39Nc6VUqZYYEaq7>
- 7-12 Enrollment Form - <https://forms.gle/J1hNotdwCjd55Yz38>

All other students will default to in-person instruction, with the option to enroll in our virtual academies for January 2022.

As a reminder, our virtual offerings provide families the option of full-time online instruction as an alternative to returning to a physical school building and with an option to return to in-person instruction at the start of each semester. Students in grades K-6 who are enrolled in SAVI will receive instruction from SASD teachers both synchronously and asynchronously following the SASD curriculum. Students in grades 7-12 will experience a typical schedule of core content and elective classes offered by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit's Waterfront Learning program supported by Edgenuity curriculum. Instruction will be facilitated by a PA certified educator. Students enrolled in SAVI and the Titan Cyber Academy are Shaler Area students who may participate in all district activities and events. Enrolled seniors will graduate from our high school and receive a Shaler Area diploma.

If you have additional questions about Shaler Area's virtual options for the 2021-22 school year, please contact either Dr. Shannon Howard at Howards@shalerarea.org or Mrs. Eloise Milligan at Milligane@shalerarea.org.

With your support, we will fulfill our district's mission of providing a safe, collaborative, innovative, and creative learning environment for all.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Sincerely,

Sean C. Aiken, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Bryan E. O'Black, Ed.D.

Deputy Superintendent