PEVS
2020-2021
PANTHER VIRTUAL LEARNING
(PVL)

Making a difficult decision:

Returning to school in-person vs. Using the Panther Virtual Learning option

We understand that you have a difficult decision to make regarding your child's education for the 2020-2021 school year in light of COVID-19. We want to ensure you we are taking your child's, and our staff's, health and safety very seriously as we create our re-opening procedures, requirements, and expectations. We appreciate that you are entrusting your child's education to PEVS, either in-person or virtually. We are asking that you review this information sheet and use the details given about both options and outlines the expectations of the Panther Virtual Learning (PVL) option when making the decision for your child's education.

Questions:

Paulding Exempted Village Schools
  419-399-4656
  www.pauldingschools.org
Paulding County Health Department
  419-399-3921
  www.pauldingcountyhealth.com
Others:
  coronavirus.ohio.gov
  cdc.gov
  service.aap.org (American Academy of Pediatrics)

…Consider the importance of In-Person Instruction for your child(ren)

- It is important to weigh the benefits and risks of both in-person and virtual learning options.
- Available evidence indicates COVID-19 presents relatively low risks to children when there is low community transmission.
- School plays a vital role in educating the whole child – academics, social skills, peer relations.
- In-person instruction allows for children to receive differentiated instruction and responsive intervention as academic needs are observed.
- Social interaction provided through in-person education helps with the development of language and communication skills.
- Children are able to develop and maintain friendships and learn to work with others.

Information above is from The CDC's and The American Academy of Pediatrics' re-opening schools articles.

Parent/Guardian Considerations:

*Can I create a routine/schedule for my child(ren) to follow when continuing their education with Panther Virtual Learning?
*Do I have the time to oversee my child(ren)'s education?
*How did my child(ren) do with distance learning during the school closure last spring? Was he/she cooperative with me and attentive about completing school lessons at home?

PANTHER VIRTUAL LEARNING

Program Outline:

- PEVS will be using NOVA (Northwest Ohio Virtual Academy) coursework as our Panther Virtual Learning (PVL) platform.
- This is an online program. All instruction and assignments are provided through NOVA. PEVS staff are not the main instructors for the courses. A staff member will be available to answer program trouble-shooting questions, via email, from 8:00-3:00 each day we are in session.
- Students will be enrolled in courses similar to what they would be taking if physically attending school at PEVS.
- Each course will have an outline including educational activities and assignments.
- Each activity/assignment will have a due date.
- Assessments (tests and quizzes) will be included in the courses.

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Guidelines for Participation in PVL:

- Your child(ren) must have daily access to reliable internet access.
- School fees per grade level will apply and must be paid at your child's building office.
- Attendance: students must be actively logged in per enrolled course to meet attendance requirements. This means the child is logged into NOVA and is actively interacting with the program. Students who do not meet weekly attendance requirements will be considered absent and truancy policies will apply.
- Students will need to complete all assignments by the assigned due date. This will require organization and an awareness of all activities, assignments, and assessments NOVA outlines for them. Any work not completed by the assigned due date will be reported in the gradebook at a 0% F. The work will not be permitted to be made up at a later date.
- Students enrolled in PVL are not eligible to participate in co-curricular on-site classes, such as band or choir.

- PVL students are eligible for extracurricular activities; however, PEVS would have concerns about your choice to do so.
- If PEVS is closed for an extended period of time, students enrolled in PVL will continue on with their same PVL courses (NOVA).
- Parents/students must respond to school communication efforts to touch base regarding student progress and/or concerns.

Computer Requirements:

- Along with internet access, your child(ren) must have daily access to a reliable computer or device.
- Students may rent a school-owned Chromebook or laptop for $25 **(if the student is in 12th grade the fee will be $50)** or they may use their own device. The school will not be responsible for troubleshooting issues on a personal device.

Notes:

- The Panther Virtual Learning option is available for the 2020-2021 school year only. Families will need to commit to the option for a semester at a time.
- **If your family/child(ren) does not complete the requirements and expectations listed above, the child(ren) will be required to return to in-person education at their assigned PEVS building.**

To Proceed:

It is our hope you will decide to have your child(ren) return to the physical classroom in their assigned buildings with their classmates and friends so our staff can do what they do best. However, if you feel the risks your family would encounter outweigh the benefits of in-person instruction, PVL application information is as follows:

- The attached application form must be completed and delivered to Mr. Amstutz at the PEVS District Office by Friday, August 7th, at 3:00 pm. No late applications will be accepted.
- You will be enrolling your child for one semester. You will be contacted in December to determine whether you would like to stay with PVL or return to in-person instruction for the second semester.