

## St. Joseph County Department of Health

"Promoting physical and mental health and facilitating the prevention of disease, injury and disability for all St. Joseph County residents"

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## St. Joseph County Department of Health Advises on Health Protocols for a County-wide Reopening of Schools

In order to ensure a coordinated, effective, and evidence-based response to COVID-19, the St. Joseph County Department of Health, together with representatives from John Glenn School Corporation, Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation, School City of Mishawaka, and South Bend Community School Corporation, have been discussing common health protocols for each district in preparation for the reopening of schools.

Schools have played a vital role in helping to stop the spread of the coronavirus across the state and here in St. Joseph County. Closing school buildings in March was difficult for everyone but evidence shows this action was essential in our common fight against COVID-19. Moving forward, as each district reopens schools in the fall, we realize the need to continue to work together for the health of our school families in St. Joseph County.

Today, each of these districts will be sending letters to their school communities outlining the common health protocols and safety measures that align with the guidance from our department. Together, we will coordinate to make the reopening of schools safe and successful for all.

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