Considerations for Reopening Schools in Pennsylvania

A Pennsylvania-specific research report prepared in partnership with the Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Mid-Atlantic and Mathematica, one of the nation’s foremost social policy research firms.

Main Components

Data and Research
The most recent and rigorous research on COVID-19, early evidence from international school reopenings, and estimations of educational and other losses from long-term school closures.

Stakeholder Feedback
Formal interviews with public health experts, education organization leaders, school and districts administrators, teachers, parents, state government officials, and others.

Predictive Modeling
Cutting edge, predictive modeling of COVID-19 disease transmission to anticipate differences in transmission associated with different approaches to re-opening schools.

Key Takeaways

1. Work collaboratively to address and resolve pupil transportation barriers.
2. Plan to offer some amount of in-person education for all students.
3. Focus limited resources on highest-leverage public health activities.

Next Steps

Schools can utilize the data and research in this report to inform:

- Development of supports for student and staff wellness
- Preparations for resuming in-person teaching and learning
- Decision-making around the creation of Health and Safety Plans