

July 3, 2020



CHAMBER of COMMERCE

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MEMBER NEWS

Preble County Recovery Edition 74



ENJOY A SAFE & HAPPY

Independence Day

MAY WE ALL PROSPER UNDER ONE FLAG.

#chamberstrong

Member updates & resources



Did you miss our recent Chamber Energy Program Zoom calls? Our small business community has been hit hard by mandatory closures and safety measures required to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). Many business owners are struggling to cover their bills and are asking for help and wondering what they can do. Along with over 200 Chambers of Commerce in the State of Ohio, we offer the Chamber Energy Program to our members to help reduce their utility costs. On average, members are saving 15-20%. Learn how to reduce your costs so you can immediately put money back into your

business. Our partners at CEA have planned another call, in coordination with the Southern Ohio Chamber Alliance. Find out more and register to attend [HERE](#).

The Ohio BWC is hosting a webinar titled **What does a Safety and Health Program Look Like?** on Tuesday, July 7 (11 a.m.-noon.) The webinar will identify essential elements of a safety policy statement, program elements, the roles and responsibilities of the employers and employees, and tips for establishing a training program. This webinar will be instructed by Lisa Houston, an industrial safety consultant specialist in BWC's Columbus Service Office. Additional information, including registration instructions, can be found [HERE](#). For more information or assistance when registering, contact BWC's Kaylee Blevings at Kaylee.b.1@bwc.state.oh.us.



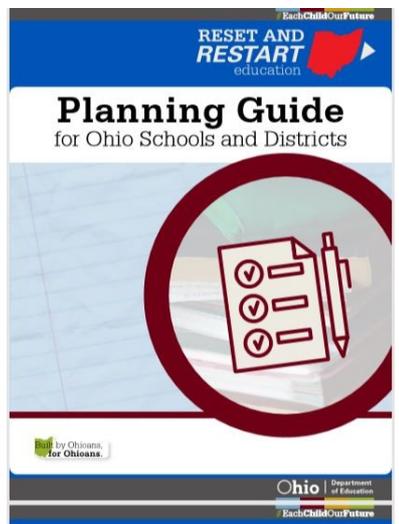
From the Statehouse

Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Lt. Governor Jon Husted on Thursday afternoon provided the following updates on Ohio's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

K-12 SCHOOL GUIDANCE: Governor DeWine announced the new guidance for resuming school in the fall.

"We know that each school system, and perhaps each school building, will likely look different in the fall. We also know that Ohio has a long history of local control and that school administrators and teachers know their schools best," said Governor DeWine. "Working together and consulting with educators and other health officials, we have developed a set of guidelines, backed by science, that each school should follow when developing their reopening plans."

The newly issued guidance report advises schools to vigilantly assess symptoms, wash and sanitize hands to prevent spread, thoroughly clean and sanitize the school environment to limit spread on shared surfaces, practice social distancing, and implement a face coverings policy.



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"Just as we have done in the business sector with employees, we are requiring school staff to wear face coverings to reduce the spread of the virus, unless it is unsafe or when doing so could significantly interfere with the learning process. When face coverings aren't practical, face shields may be considered," said Governor DeWine. "We strongly recommend that students in 3rd grade and up

wear face coverings as well." To assist schools in their efforts to implement the guidance, the Ohio Department of Education has created a document titled, "The Reset and Restart Education Planning Guide for Ohio Schools and Districts," which you can download [HERE](#), which is designed to help teachers, principals, and administrators with solutions to safety challenges. The document provides resources and information for community decision-makers as they contemplate how to reopen safely.

The guidance announced was developed in consultation with school superintendents, teachers, parents, the Ohio Federation of Teachers, Ohio Education Association, Ohio Association of Public School Employees, Buckeye Association of School Administrators, Ohio School Boards Association, Ohio Association of School Business Officials, Alliance for High Quality Education, and Ohio Association of Career Tech Education. Governor DeWine also committed to working with the Ohio General Assembly on a plan to ensure that federal CARES Act dollars are made available to Ohio's school districts for unforeseen expenses associated with creating a safe environment.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY ALERT SYSTEM:

Governor DeWine also announced that going forward, Ohio will maintain vital, necessary baseline orders to control the spread of COVID-19 while also implementing a new alert system. The Ohio Public Health Advisory System will provide local health departments and community leaders data and information to combat flare-ups as they occur in different parts of the state. The system consists of four levels that provide Ohioans with guidance as to the severity of the problem in the counties in which they live.



"Our new Public Health Advisory System will help make clear the very real dangers happening in individual counties across Ohio," said Governor DeWine. "This is a color-coded system built on a data-driven framework to assess the degree of the virus' spread and to inform, engage, and empower individuals, businesses, communities, local governments, and others in their response and actions."

Data Indicators -- A county's alert level is determined by seven data indicators:

1. New Cases Per Capita
2. Sustained Increase in New Cases
3. Proportion of Cases that Are Not Congregate Cases
4. Sustained Increase in Emergency Room Visits
5. Sustained Increase in Outpatient Visits
6. Sustained Increase in New COVID-19 Hospital Admissions Intensive Care Unit (ICU) Bed Occupancy

Additional measurements still in development include county-level data on contact tracing, tests per capita, and percent positivity.

Detailed descriptions for each indicator can be found [HERE](#). The Alert Levels are:

Alert Level 1 Public Emergency (Yellow): Baseline level. County has met zero or one indicator. Active exposure and spread. Follow all health orders.

Alert Level 2 Public Emergency (Orange): County has met two or three indicators. Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.

Alert Level 3 Public Emergency (Red): County has met four or five indicators. Very high exposure and spread. Limit Activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.

Alert Level 4 Public Emergency (Purple): County has met six or seven indicators. Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders. Counties that are approaching Alert Level 4 are indicated with a star.

As of Thursday, Preble County is under a Level 2 Alert.

Ohio data: According to Ohio data released by Ohio Department of Health on Thursday afternoon, there have been 54,166 total confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19, 8,038 reported hospitalizations, 2,903 deaths, and 2,035 admissions to ICU.

Preble County data: As of Thursday, July 2, Preble County Public Health reported 70 total confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19, with 52 reportedly having recovered. There were 17 active cases. There remains one reported COVID-19-related death.

Find additional resources & information @
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