



QUASICS

COVID-19 Reopening Plan

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I. Purpose of this plan

This plan will outline the current COVID-19 guidelines and detail the plans being put in place by Quasics leadership to safely resume in-person team meetings.

II. Summary of the [GSD reopening plan](#)

Our school district is currently offering our students three ways to come back to school for 2020-2021: Blended, Cyber, and GATE. Students in the Blended model will be in school two days per week. While on site, students will observe one-way traffic patterns in the halls and wear masks. Masks must be worn at all times, aside eating or during a health emergency. For the full plan, click the title link above.

III. CDC / PDE guidelines

- A. [CDC guidelines](#)
- B. [PDE guidelines](#)

IV. Quasics meeting resumption plan

A. Meeting attendance

Meeting attendance during the COVID-19 pandemic is entirely optional, but (consistent with pre-pandemic guidance) students are expected to notify the coaching staff when they will not be attending a meeting, so that they may plan accordingly.

We are open to 'virtual attendance' in areas such as creating documentation and outreach materials, awards preparation, and more. Meeting attendance will be taken for the purpose of potential contact tracing, but attendance will not be held against any team members in any way throughout the pandemic. The choice to attend team meetings lies with each team member and their families.

Quasics coaches are considering rotation of which adults are physically present so as to reduce contact and provide coverage in the event of a positive test.

B. Pre-meeting screenings

1. Questionnaire

Similar to our sports and band programs, questions will be posed to each meeting attendee, and recorded electronically by a team coach. Data will be shared with the GHS Principal for the purposes of contact tracing. Questions include COVID-19 symptoms and potential contact with people tested positive. We ask for complete honesty to the best of your knowledge in the answering of these questions.

If the coaching staff becomes aware that a student has knowingly given us false information in regards to the questionnaire, the School District will be notified and it will be handled on a case by case basis.

2. Temperature Scan

A touchless temperature scan will also be done prior to admittance to team meetings. Individuals with readings above 100.4°F will be turned away. *(While we realize normal internal temperatures can vary person to person, 100.4°F is the CDC guideline.)*

3. Non-admittance procedures

Team members who are sick with *any* illness are expected to remain at home, per PDE/CDC guidance.

Team members or coaches **must** be able to safely get home if they are unable to be admitted to a meeting due to issues with the questionnaire or temperature check. This means anyone getting dropped off must have their ride wait until after they have passed the checks, in case the team member cannot be admitted. If a student is staying after school for another activity, they must be able to get home safely if they cannot be admitted to a Quasics meeting.

Per PDE guidance for sports-related activities at the PK-12 level, attendance at meetings will be limited to students, coaches, and staff only. Parents, friends, or others who are providing transportation for team members will be required to wait outside the school building.

Team members will be met by a member of the coaching staff on the cafeteria loading dock, or just inside the vestibule to be checked in at the beginning of each meeting. Should a team member arrive at the school once the meeting has already started, they will be asked to call, text, or email a member of the coaching staff. An adult will meet the team member at the vestibule to check them in.

C. Actions to reduce COVID-19 spread

1. Masks and hand washing

Due to our meetings taking place primarily indoors, a “masks required” policy will be in effect 100% of the time in the workshop. The shop windows and doors will be open to help with air circulation. We encourage all team members to wash their hands before, during, and after meetings.

2. Social distancing

Social distancing guidelines will be followed when possible, but there may be unavoidable situations where team members and Coaches will be in closer proximity than 6’ due to the nature of the training and building we do.

It is our intention to minimize these situations, and we hope that observance of other guidelines will offer sufficient protection in those situations when they do arise.

3. Computers

Based on the room’s resources, we will seat students that need computer access (e.g., for programming and 3D modeling) 1-2 seats apart. It is likely we will book the room next door as well for extra computer space. We will also assign seats in order to decrease risks of exposure from touching multiple keyboards / mice.

4. Food/drink policies

Per PDE guidance, all team members (students and coaches) must bring their own water / drinks to team activities. These drinks should be for their own consumption only, and should be in a sealable container (at a minimum, a cup with a lid).

We recognize that some students/coaches may need to eat during a meeting, particularly if they are coming directly from other school activities and have been unable to have dinner (or lunch, on Saturday afternoon meetings). Food should be consumed outside the school building, or in the hallway outside the workshop, with appropriate social distancing being observed.

5. Personal safety glasses

Each team member and coach will need their own pair of Safety Glasses. The team will buy the first pair for everyone. They should be labeled and brought to every meeting. This will decrease the risk of exposure from the ‘shared safety glasses bin’. (Note: all safety glasses currently in the bin will be sanitized and stored for future use.)

D. Sanitization

Students and coaches will be responsible for wiping down high-touch areas and tools between use. Everyone will be encouraged to wash their hands before, during, and after team meetings. The classroom has been outfitted with a hand sanitizer dispenser.

Per Mr. Brown, the District's custodial staff will be cleaning all spaces daily. Any areas used outside of the normal school day will be cleaned after that use.

V. Outbreak response

Quasics will suspend all in-person meetings if the school district closes the high school or moves to 100% virtual learning for any reason.

If any Quasics members (students or coaching staff) test positive for COVID-19, we will have the meeting attendance logs for contact tracing. Mr. McMahon will be notified by the District, and the Principal will suspend our activities until further notice. In such an event, attendees will likely need to self-quarantine in compliance with current PDE/District guidelines.

If someone at a team meeting tests positive but the school does not close, we will seek guidance from the Pandemic Committee on our next step and let everyone know what we will do prior to the next scheduled meeting.

VI. What tournaments could look like

A. FIRST Robotics Competition

In a September 30 blog post¹ (and in discussions with the Quasics coaching staff), *FIRST* outlined new plans for the 2020-2021 FRC season.

Traditional FRC events may very well not be played in person in early 2021. *FIRST* has offered FRC teams 3 new virtual ways to participate in 2021: a Game Design Challenge, INFINITE RECHARGE at Home, and the FIRST Innovation Challenge. This all comes at a reduced registration fee of \$2000 for returning teams like ours. In-person tournaments *could* still take place, but none are scheduled at this time.

B. FIRST LEGO League

FLL is holding all-virtual events. Team will compete remotely monthly in November, December, and January. There will be a fully online State Championship event in February 2021. More information can be found on our FLL partner website: <http://pafll.com/currentseason/>

¹ <https://www.firstinspires.org/robotics/frc/blog/2021-more-details>