

PFT COVID-19 Update 5-13-20: Adjusting to Yellow - Turzai Outcry - CTE Mask Story - links

CORONAVIRUS



Updates

What Does Yellow Mean? Guidance For Our County's New Color.

As is evidenced by new ways of doing the things we used to do — shop, meet, work, socialize, etc.— we've all had significant adjustments to make as we've "*learned to live with it.*"

With Allegheny County moving into a “yellow” phase of reopening this Friday, a new host of questions has arisen that local leaders tried to address earlier this week, outlined nicely in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*.

Local leaders stressed individual and corporate responsibility as [Allegheny County gears up for a partial reopening Friday](#), following weeks of economic shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Staggering shifts, limiting meeting sizes and continuing telework where possible were among the state guidelines that local congressional representatives, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, Mayor Bill Peduto and local business leaders emphasized Tuesday during a virtual press conference.

[Click here to read the entire Pittsburgh Post-Gazette article.](#)

Taking A Stand Against Foolhardy Suggestions & Political Grandstanding.

Two significant statements were released yesterday in response to outgoing PA House speaker Turzai's suggestion [on video](#) in which he implied that Pennsylvania schools should reopen because “*kids can develop herd immunity*” and are “*not at risk unless they have an underlying medical issue*” — while suggesting that teachers are paid enough to plan around a pandemic.

AFTPA united with Philadelphia and Pittsburgh locals to release an excoriating press statement for an unmistakably clear statewide message. [Click here to view, download or share.](#)

The PFT took it one step further (*since Turzai is in our backyard*) by calling on members to voice their displeasure and demand the Speaker's immediate resignation. **Missed yesterday's message?** [Click here to view, download, share or take action.](#)

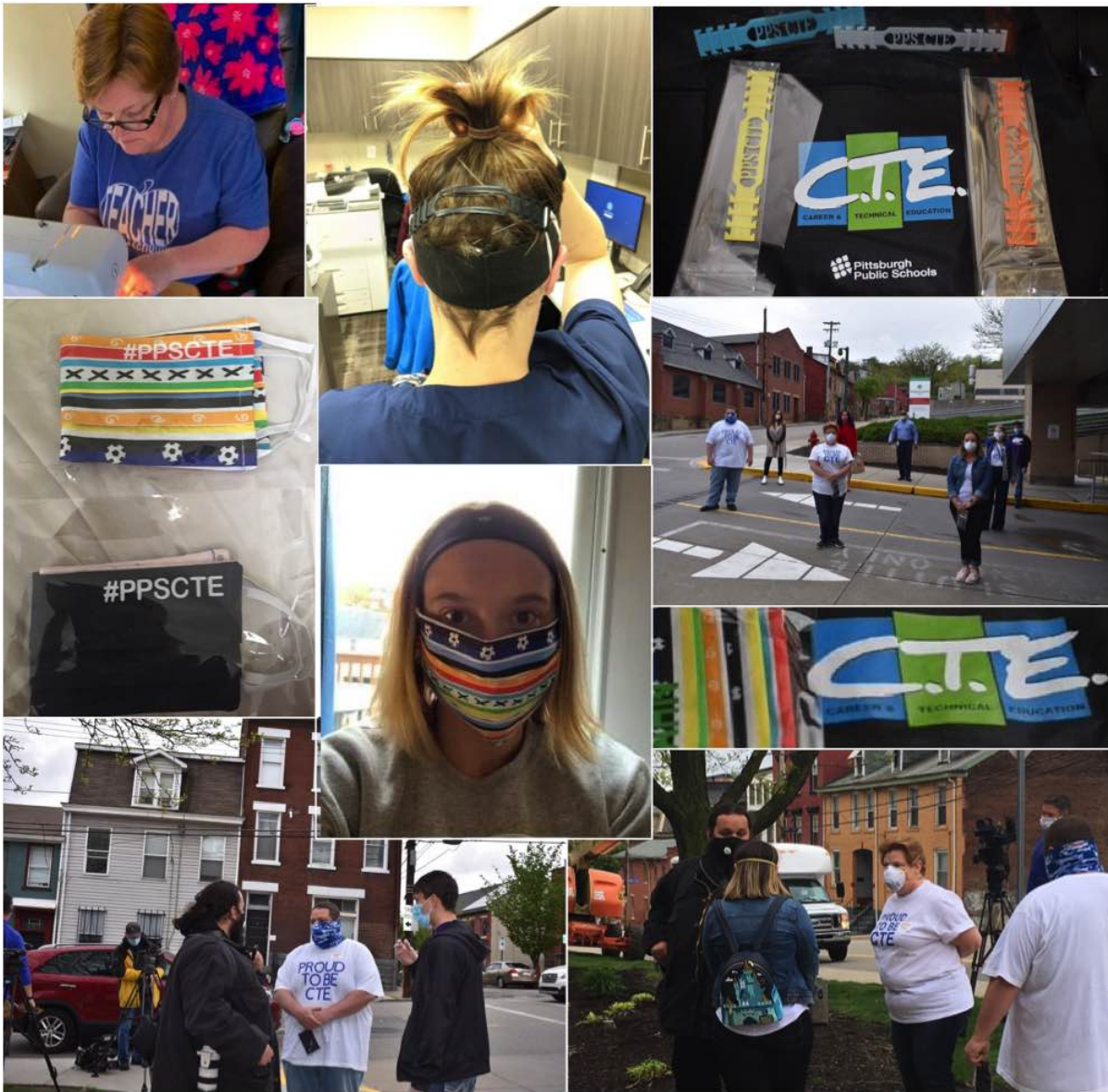
A Story To Replace This Week's Video: Mask-making From CTE!

Take a Look at What Our Tremendous CTE Teachers are Working on Now—Helping Frontline Healthcare Workers in the Fight Against Covid-19!

CTE teachers are still working hard on their service project donation of masks and mask extenders to essential workers—a number have already been delivered to AGH! Additional donations will be provided to Presbyterian Senior Care, Encompass Health, and Kane Hospital.

The adjustable mask extender straps were made on 3D printers by Engineering Teachers **Matt Brinkman, Matt Battaglia, Devin Pindroh and Nathaniel Wolfe (all from the Allderdice Team)** and **Patrick Williams (Obama.)**

The cloth face masks with filter pockets were created by Family Consumer Science Teachers **Carmon Pomaibo (Carrick/Langley), Mallory Pomaibo (Allderdice), Heather Kusick (Allderdice)** and **Health Careers Teacher, Linda Scalamogna (Perry).**



How wonderful that our members are helping so many front line workers have an extra measure of comfort and protection as they fight to save lives in this Covid-19 pandemic! Thank you to the Heinz Endowment for funding this important initiative.

Continue to share inspiring school messages and stories with us, and we'll do our level best to share with PFT members! **Send youtube links to dan_evans@pft400.org.**

**** PFT Coronavirus Updates Now Every Wednesday. ****

Missed an update or message? [View our archive of COVID-19 Updates here.](#)

Information Links That Bear Repeating:

Below please find additional links providing helpful information you can bookmark and count on as the COVID-19 situation changes and evolves.

[AFT/AFTPA Coronavirus Resources & Updates for Members](#)

[AFT/PFT Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#) A Negotiated, Free Benefit to Members

[Click for EAP Information Flyer](#)

- [Click for Life Skills Solutions Website \(login upper right\)](#)
- [National Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Coronavirus Resources](#)
- [PPS Coronavirus Resources and Links](#)
- [PA Department of Health Coronavirus Resources](#)
- [PA-Specific Resources from Senator Casey](#)
- [Student Debt Relief Resources](#)



Coronavirus Self-Checker

A guide to help you make decisions and seek appropriate medical care

- [Federal Emergency Management Agency \(FEMA\) Rumor Control](#)
- [Allegheny County Health Department Rumor Control](#)

Please keep in touch—keep sharing your ideas, your questions and your concerns.

In solidarity—

Nina Esposito-Visgitis

Sent via [ActionNetwork.org](https://www.actionnetwork.org). To update your email address, change your name or address, or to stop receiving emails from Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers, please [click here](#).