



PAGE 2021 Conference COVID-19 Health and Safety Update

Dear PAGE Supporter,

Thank you for supporting the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education. We are excited about coming together as a community for the 2021 Annual Conference at the Pittsburgh Marriott North in Cranberry Township, PA on November 4-5. As we continue to navigate the ongoing pandemic, providing a safe environment for all of our participants remains our top priority. With this in mind, we are writing to provide you with an update on the planning and safeguards that are being put into place for our conference.

As a board, PAGE is thinking about everyone's health and safety for our upcoming conference. We will be requiring all in-person participants at the 2021 conference to wear a mask while in public spaces as a part of the PAGE conference, including, but not limited to, sessions, keynote addresses, mingle events, and exhibitor spaces. Masks may be removed while eating and while in private rooms. This includes all attendees, presenters, exhibitors, staff, volunteers, and vendors. We will also be encouraging social distancing within our session rooms, exhibitor space, and other conference areas. Therefore, if a session room hits its social distancing capacity, you may need to select a different session. This will help us keep our event as safe as possible this November. Further information with specifics pertaining to protocols, mask wearing, and social distancing will be released in an email and our conference website as the event gets closer. Our hope is that putting these requirements in place will aid in creating a comfortable and safe environment for everyone.

Over the last year as we began to prepare for this year's conference, we have and continue to monitor all recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as state and local health officials in Pennsylvania. We have also met with our host conference center to discuss their protocols to help mitigate any risks and concerns surrounding attending the PAGE 2021 conference.

We are happy to announce that the PAGE 2021 conference will have two options. For anyone who is not in a position to travel to Pittsburgh for the conference, a virtual option will be available. Further information on the virtual option for this year's conference and how to register will be announced towards the end of October, once we have everything finalized.

We understand that no in-person event during the ongoing pandemic is without risk. We know some events include a vaccine requirement to participate, but even this may not guarantee your safety. We are working tirelessly to do our part within the best practices available for protecting our community. We respect that everyone who chooses to participate will make the best decision for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Again, PAGE is continuing to monitor COVID related information to ensure proper protocols are in place during the conference. Should anything need to be changed or updated, we will alert you via email and our conference website. Please feel free to contact Kacey Shoupe, Administrative Assistant, at kshoupe@giftedpage.org should you have additional questions.

Whether you choose to participate in-person or virtually, we look forward to seeing you at the PAGE 69th Annual Conference in November!

Stay Well!

Dr. Kali Fedor
PAGE President

Ciminy St. Clair
PAGE Vice-President
2021 Conference Co-Chair

Ron Schmiedel
PAGE Board Member
2021 Conference Co-Chair