



Onteora Central School District

2020-2021 Reopening Plan

August, 2020





Presenters:

Victoria McLaren, Superintendent

Monica LaClair, Assistant Superintendent for
Business

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Curriculum and Instruction



School Year 2020-2021

» Timelines:

- > Guidance dictating required components of District plans released on July 17th.
- > District plan to be created and posted by Friday, July 31st.
- > District held two community forums following the posting of the plan on July 30th and July 31st.
- > Governor Cuomo determined that infection rates are low enough currently to reopen in September as of August 7th.
- > Governor Cuomo will continue to monitor the rate of COVID-19 infections and regional closures will be determined based on infection rates.
- > Governor Cuomo announced that Districts needed to post Testing and Contact Tracing Plans and Remote Instruction Plan and hold three additional parent forums and one staff forum.



School Year 2020-2021

» Timelines:

- > District received the following resolution from the OTA on August 7th:
- > "WHEREAS, the health and safety of our students and their educators are paramount to us during the current COVID-19 pandemic, literally a matter of life and death, and
- > WHEREAS, parents and educators have serious and legitimate concerns about reopening for in-school instruction this September, and
- > WHEREAS, we cannot allow our schools to become centers for spreading COVID-19 infection to our families and communities, and
- > WHEREAS, a second outbreak of COVID-19 is widely expected this Fall, complicated by the flu season, and
- > WHEREAS, our school district's plans for reopening with in-school instruction, without the needed additional resources, cannot possibly ensure safety for our students and their educators, be it therefore



School Year 2020-2021

» Timelines:

- > "RESOLVED, that we call on our school district to continue remote teaching and learning and postpone at school and in-person instruction, initially until the end of the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year (November 16, 2020) and then to be reviewed moving forward, and be it further
- > RESOLVED, that remote instruction be fortified with improved access to technology, virtual office hours, project-based learning, guided independent study and other research-based and proven strategies, and be it finally
- > RESOLVED, that at school and in-person learning resume only when, according to medical science, it is safe to do so without jeopardizing the safety, health and lives of our students, their families and their educators."



School Year 2020-2021

» Timelines:

- > Ulster County School Districts received Testing and Contact Tracing plans from Ulster County on Thursday, August 13th
- > The Testing and Contact Tracing Plans state:
 - + “while testing capacity in Ulster County is adequate to support current levels of social and economic activity, it is likely that the reintroduction of in-person learning at all ages and in all locations may cause testing demand to exceed capacity, severely reducing our ability to contain community spread through traditional contact tracing methods. Ulster County is working with all testing partners to monitor and improve turnaround time, with a goal of reducing it to 48 hours or less in order to facilitate a testing-based protocol for case identification in the County’s school districts”



School Year 2020-2021

Timelines:

- » Several Ulster County School Districts have decided to delay in-person learning until October.
- » Many Districts plan to bring instructional staff into their buildings to begin the transition back to in-person instruction.
- » Having staff return to the buildings provides Districts and staff members the opportunity to become familiar with safety protocols and help to streamline processes prior to students returning.
- » By being in the building staff will have complete access to their instructional materials and district resources.
- » Staff teaching from their classrooms provides the district with the opportunity to ensure that the District infrastructure will support the additional internet access requirements.



School Year 2020-2021

- » This is uncharted territory.
- » Our priority is serving our students.
- » We need to be prepared for fluid transitions between models of instruction.
- » This has never been done before! We have an incredible staff at every level of the District. We will move forward together. We will modify our plan as needed to improve.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Temperature and Symptom Screening

- > Guidance recommends that screening by parents and guardians prior to arrival at school is preferred in lieu of temperature checks and symptom screening at school.
- > Onteora has purchased a web based program that can be utilized by families and staff in order to document screening at home. This program can be accessed with a home computer or a mobile device.
- > Screening stations are also set up at each building entrance for those unable to perform home screenings.
- > Touch free temperature screening devices that monitor temperature through a scan of a hand have been ordered, but have not yet been received. These will be placed at various entrances at each building for rapid temperature screening at arrival. Once received, the units need to be installed and staff need to be trained on the use of these devices.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Social Distancing

- > Classrooms have been reconfigured to ensure appropriate social distancing between desks. This allows for approximately ten students per classroom.
- > Markers will be placed in hallways to indicate six feet of distance for students and staff when traveling from one location to another.
- > Some hallways will also have directional markers to maintain lanes for each side of the hallway and or stairs.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Ventilation and Air Flow

- > When possible, modifications to the Building Management Systems will be made to allow more outside air to be introduced into the buildings for a longer duration of time.
- > Air handling systems have been inspected for function. We have increased our contract with the vendor for more frequent cleaning and maintenance of units.
- > Spaces where fresh air is limited due to original building systems, fresh air will be introduced through open windows and doors.
- > All staff will be required to remove any items located on or in front of the uni-vents that may be blocking air flow through air handling systems.
- > Filter replacement schedules will be more frequent.
- > Fan motor speeds will be increased where applicable.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Hygiene

- > We must act as a community for the best interests of the entire community: if your child is sick, please keep them home.
- > Students will be instructed on hand washing and proper hygiene.
- > Students will be provided with the opportunity to wash hands several times each day.
- > Information on hand washing and proper hygiene will be posted throughout the buildings and provided to families.
- > Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the buildings.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Masks

- > Masks will be worn by staff and students.
 - + Staff in the K-3 buildings, and selected staff in other departments will be provided with masks with clear panels.
 - + Students will be provided with mask breaks.
 - + Staff or students that are not compliant with wearing masks will be subject to disciplinary measures.
- > Guidance dictates that there are exceptions to the mandate related to masks that must be honored for “students where such covering would impair their health or mental health,”
 - + To establish that a mask would impair the health or mental health of a student, the parent/guardian must obtain a note from the student’s physician that is to be submitted to the Onteora Medical Director.
 - + If the physical or emotional reason is related to a disability specified on their 504 plan or the IEP, this would need to be addressed through the Section 504 or IEP process.



School Year 2020-2021

Safety Measures:

» Transportation

- > Vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected daily, and between runs if used on multiple runs.
- > Students will be seated one per seat.
 - + Members of the same household can be seated together on a single seat.
- > Students will sit in the order they board the bus, starting at the back to minimize passing in close proximity.
- > Due to limited seating, students will have one set drop off location. Bus passes for alternate drop off points cannot be accommodated.
- > Students must wear a mask on the bus. If they do not have one, they will be provided with one prior to boarding the bus.
 - + Note: School district vehicles will not be equipped with hand sanitizer due to the flammable nature of alcohol based hand sanitizer.



School Year 2020-2021

Food Service:

» Hybrid Instruction

- > K-6 will eat lunch in classrooms.
- > 7-12 will be socially distanced in cafeteria.
- > 7-12 will be able to bring home meals for those days they are remote.
- > Grab & Go Breakfast will be available for all students.
- > All change will be credited to students account.

» Remote Instruction

- > Breakfast/lunch service will be offered during any period that the District is fully remote and for any student that is fully remote.
- > Combination of pick up service and delivery may be offered.
- > Free/Reduced Lunch applications being accepted.
- > Seeking additional guidance regarding whether the District can offer Free/Reduced Lunch to those that do not qualify.



School Year 2020-2021

Plan Requirements:

- » Remote Instruction for All
- » Hybrid Instructional Model
- » Fully In-person Instruction



School Year 2020-2021

Onteora Plans:

- » Remote Instruction for All (September and as needed moving forward):
 - > Fully scheduled online instructional model in the event of school closure.
- » Hybrid Instructional Model (beginning October)
 - > Elementary: Choice – 100% Remote OR 100% In-Person
 - > Secondary: Choice – 100% Remote OR Hybrid Model 25% Cohorts 1x/week.
- » Fully In-person Instruction
 - > To resume upon a vaccine and the elimination of social distancing requirements.



School Year 2020-2021

Remote Instruction (All students for September:

» *Hours of instructional time are not defined as a student's time spent in front of a teacher or in front of a screen, but time engaged in standards-based learning under the guidance and direction of a teacher.*



School Year 2020-2021

Remote Learning will include meaningful instructional experiences in a scheduled format. These experiences will include:

- » live instruction,
- » independent work,
- » group work,
- » research and inquiry based activities,
- » online modules/assignments,
- » instructional videos,
- » and projects.



School Year 2020-2021

Attendance:

- » Daily attendance will be taken whether school is functioning in-person, hybrid, or remote. Attendance policies and procedures will be communicated with families and students prior to the start of the school year or if the instructional model changes during the year.
- » Teachers will record daily attendance in Infinite Campus, our student management system, based on the required daily scheduled student contact and engagement.



School Year 2020-2021

Grading:

- » Teachers will provide ongoing feedback to students on a regular basis. Students will receive numerical grades or Standards Based Grades depending on their grade level. Report Cards and Progress Reports will be sent in accordance with our regular distribution schedule.
- » Grading practices will follow a standards-based framework designed to provide direct feedback regarding students' mastery of course content.



School Year 2020-2021

Instructional Requirements:

- » Equity is at the heart of instructional decisions,
- » Substantive interaction between teachers and students,
- » Daily attendance is required,
- » Grades are required,
- » Instruction will be aligned to New York State Learning Standards.



School Year 2020-2021

Elementary in September:

- » Students will engage in a daily instructional schedule beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m.
- » Student schedules will include all core subjects and all specials.
- » Parents will be provided with a schedule for students to sign on live. Every day will begin with a morning meeting. The daily activities will be reviewed with students to clarify expectations.
- » Students will log in live to their classes as assigned and remain live until such time as the teacher provides guidance to sign off and complete other assigned tasks.



School Year 2020-2021

Elementary in September:

- » All assigned work will be submitted electronically.
- » Teachers will provide breaks as necessary throughout the school day.
- » Students will be assigned small group meeting times for collaborative assignments and for engaging in literacy support.
- » Students are expected to attend, participate, and engage in live instruction.



School Year 2020-2021

Elementary in September:

- » Special education services may be integrated or provided directly.
- » K-3 Students will be utilizing SeeSaw which will be new for them this year. This is an easily accessible application that will engage our primary students and provide an ease and independence for them.
- » SeeSaw integrates with Google Classroom and will create a more meaningful experience for our students for independent and collaborative learning.



School Year 2020-2021

REMEMBER:

Hours of instructional time are not defined as a student's time spent in front of a teacher or in front of a screen, but time engaged in standards-based learning under the guidance and direction of a teacher.



School Year 2020-2021

Secondary in September:

- » Students will engage in a full daily schedule beginning at 7:40 A.M. and ending at 2:35 P.M.
- » Student schedules will be made available in the student/parent portal prior to the beginning of the school year.
- » Students will log in live to their classes as assigned and remain live until such time as the teacher provides guidance to sign off and complete other assigned tasks.
- » All assigned work will be submitted electronically.



School Year 2020-2021

Secondary in September:

- » Wednesdays will be held for teacher “office hours” for small group and one-to-one support as necessary.
- » Students will engage in independent remote assignments for all classes on Wednesdays. Students enrolled in BOCES Career and Technical Education programs may be given the opportunity for in-person learning at BOCES on Wednesdays.
- » Special education services may be integrated into classrooms or provided directly.



School Year 2020-2021

REMEMBER:

Hours of instructional time are not defined as a student's time spent in front of a teacher or in front of a screen, but time engaged in standards-based learning under the guidance and direction of a teacher.



School Year 2020-2021

Elementary in October:

- » Parent Choice
- » Commitment to model
- » K-6 students in-person daily OR following a daily remote schedule
- » Google Classroom as primary instructional delivery tool
- » Daily substantive access to classroom teacher(s)
- » Attendance required
- » Special Education Programs and Services provided to the greatest extent possible.



School Year 2020-2021

Secondary in October:

- » Parent Choice
- » Commitment to model
- » 7-12 Students assigned to Cohort with in-person instruction 1x/week OR following a daily remote schedule
- » Google Classroom as primary instructional delivery tool
- » Daily substantive access to classroom teacher(s)
- » Attendance required
- » Special Education Programs and Services will be provided to the greatest extent possible.



School Year 2020-2021

School Schedule Beginning October 2020

Parent Choice/Commitment: Hybrid Model				
Option A: K-12 Remote				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning	Remote Learning
Option B: K-6 In-Person				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In-Person*	In-Person*	In-Person*	In-Person*	In-Person*
<i>*Remote Learning in the event of a closure due to Covid</i>				
Option B: 7-12 Hybrid				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cohort 1 In-Person*	Cohort 1 Remote Learning	**All Students Remote Learning	Cohort 1 Remote Learning	Cohort 1 Remote Learning
Cohort 2 Remote Learning	Cohort 2 In-Person*	**All Students Remote Learning	Cohort 2 Remote Learning	Cohort 2 Remote Learning
Cohort 3 Remote Learning	Cohort 3 Remote Learning	**All Students Remote Learning	Cohort 3 In-Person*	Cohort 3 Remote Learning
Cohort 4 Remote Learning	Cohort 4 Remote Learning	**All Students Remote Learning	Cohort 4 Remote Learning	Cohort 4 In-Person*
<i>*Remote Learning in the event of a closure due to Covid</i>				
<i>**BOCES CTE Students to attend CTE Every Wednesday</i>				



School Year 2020-2021

Instructional Materials

» Elementary (K-6):

- > Students will be provided with necessary instructional materials and curriculum resources. Each building Principal will communicate pick-up dates directly with families prior to the start of school.

» Secondary (7-12):

- > Designated dates will be established for instructional materials to be picked up at the building after school begins.



School Year 2020-2021

Device Pick-Up Schedule

» Elementary (K-6):

- > A procedure for requesting devices and for distribution will be shared with families by Friday, August 21, 2020.

» Secondary (7-12):

- > Monday, August 24: Seniors
- > Tuesday, August 25: Juniors
- > Wednesday, August 26: Sophomores
- > Thursday, August 27: Freshmen
- > Friday, August 28: 8th Graders
- > Monday, August 31: 7th Graders



School Year 2020-2021

Thank you!

- » This is uncharted territory.
- » Our priority is serving our students safely and within the guidelines of the state and DOH.
- » We will get through this as a community.

GO EAGLES!