



Onteora Central School District

# COVID-19 FORUM

August 24, 2021



# Summary of Onteora School Districts 2021-2022 Opening Plan



## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Layered Mitigation Strategies

- **Masks are required on school property by all staff and students (including school buses) except for outdoor activities and events**
- **Mask breaks will be provided for students as needed**
- **Social distancing of three feet when indoors to the extent possible**
- **Daily health attestation for all students and staff (available on our website) - stay home if experiencing any symptoms of COVID - 19**
- **Temperature checks upon building entry**
- **Visual reminders for social distancing**
- **Upgrades to our ventilation systems including portable air cleaners with HEPA filters which have been purchased for every classroom with installation priority being given to the elementary classrooms**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Layered Mitigation Strategies

- Tents increasing student opportunity to eat outdoors
- Optimize ventilation by opening doors and windows as permitted by weather conditions
- Daily cleaning and disinfection of high touch surfaces
- Collaborate with the Ulster County Department of Health to contact trace and to make quarantine and isolation decisions.
- If your child was a direct contact and it is determined that they need to quarantine, you will be notified by the District.

**(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)**



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

- **First day of school – September 8, 2021.**
- **Students are expected to attend five (5) days/ week.**
- **Goal/ first priority is the safety of our students and staff.**
- **Goal is to return to 100% in-person instruction.**
- **In case of school closures due to a declared public health emergency, our schools will pivot to 100% remote instruction.**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

- We will not be able to provide the same remote Onteora (specific hybrid/ remote-only option) as last year.
- For students with unique medical circumstances that prevent a child from being able to return to school under the full in-person learning model we have identified options through BOCES that will allow students to enroll in a fully remote option.
- Parents should complete the Remote Learning Request Form found at [Remote Learning Request Form](#) (Link embedded in both the Community letter and in the plan.)

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)





# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- For students with unique medical circumstances that prevent a child from being able to return to school in-person, the remote learning options are:
  - **Grades K-6 - Cooperative Virtual Learning Academy (through Capital Region BOCES)**
    - Follows Capital Region BOCES calendar
    - Classes made up of students & taught by teachers throughout the region
    - Does not involve Onteora teachers
    - Program requests a year long commitment



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

#### ➤ **Grades K-6 - Cooperative Virtual Learning Academy (through Capital Region BOCES)**

##### Sample Daily Schedule (Grades 1-6)

(8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m) *through live Google meets and independent work time.*

- 8:45-9:15 a.m. – Morning meeting (*attendance, homework review, enrichment, social emotional learning etc.*)
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. – Math
- 10:15-10:30 a.m. – Break/snack
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. – English Language Arts (ELA)
- 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. – Lunch/recess
- 12:15-12:45 p.m. – English Language Arts (ELA)
- 1-2 p.m. – Science/Social Studies
- 2-2:15 p.m. – Afternoon meeting (*wrap-up of the day, answer questions, review the next day's schedule*)
- 2:30-3:15 p.m. – Office hours (*extra help, small group or one-on-one instruction or review*)





# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- For students with unique medical circumstances that prevent a child from being able to return to school in-person, the remote learning options are:
  - Grades 7-12 - Distance learning via Edgenuity (through Ulster BOCES)
    - Self- paced individualized on-line learning
    - Support provided by Ulster BOCES teachers through office hours & individual communication
    - Coordinated with MS/HS staff to support student engagement and learning needs.
    - Minimum commitment one marking period



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- For any student who is required to quarantine, both classroom teachers and support staff will be working with the student and family to ensure that students receive continuous instruction and are able to rejoin the classroom without a loss of learning opportunities. This includes the individualized use of:
  - Google classroom
  - Google meet
  - Additional communications

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- **All students & staff in all locations will be required to always wear a mask while indoors regardless of vaccination status.** (This represents no change from our present procedures.)
- **We will maintain 3 feet of social distancing. Classrooms are currently configured with these guidelines** ( same as was in place per NYSED at conclusion of last school year.)
- **We will continue to ask all students and staff to answer our pre-screening app and to show evidence of such completion as they enter our buildings.**
- **We will continue temperature checks.**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- **Students/ staff who are experiencing any symptoms of illness should not come to school or work. If symptoms develop during the school or workday the individual will be sent home.**
- **We are providing transportation to and from school . This includes:**
  - **transported to after-school childcare**
  - **two late bus runs at the high school**

**We may adjust as conditions change and as necessary based on any received guidance from NYSDOH, UCDOH or NYSED.**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools

2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

- We are partnering with UC Mental Health to support parents in their concerns surrounding students adjusting to in-person instruction.
- Our clinicians are designing sessions to support parents with the opening of school.
- We are providing staff with specific tools to assist students in transitioning back to in-person learning through a range of pre-determined tactics (i.e., Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT.)) These tools will address students' trauma and coping needs through the lens of mindfulness.
- Our commitment is to create emotionally & physically safe, supportive, and engaging learning environments promoting all students' social & emotional well-being and development.



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- **Fall sports season started today - August 24th**
  - **Appropriate social distancing with limited locker room use**
  - **PPE usage & cleaning and disinfection of equipment (per Section IX)**
  - **All Student athletes will prior to each scheduled practice, game, or session:**
    - **complete health attestation**
    - **temperature screened by trained staff**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

## What We Know

- **Fall sports season (cont'd)**
  - **If a student shows symptoms during practice or games, the student will be separated and parents notified. Staff supervising or coaching must notify the school nurse and athletic director of a student's separation due to symptoms**
  - **Students can not return to school unless cleared by health services**

(NOTE: All school openings must follow the latest NYSDOH/ UCDOH, NYSED, CDC, AAP guidance.)



## Onteora Central School District

# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

#### Cafeteria

**When eating lunch- students will maintain six feet of social distancing in the cafeterias to the extent possible. Principals are finalizing their schedules & space usage. Since the configuration of each cafeteria is different depending upon the building, parents are encouraged to reach out to their building principal for information about the specific setup.**





# Onteora Central School District

## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

### Cafeteria - Elementary





# Onteora Central School District

## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22 (Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

#### Cafeteria - MS/ HS

Created additional spaces for students to eat lunch. The following areas will be used:

- Cafeteria – Restructured layout of the cafeteria
  - Includes replacing of the current cafeteria style table with other tables that will create more flexibility in seating
- Bookstore – Removed some existing furniture from the bookstore to accommodate more seating space.
- Middle School Gym – Utilizing one-half of the gym.
- Outdoor Space – Purchased several tents to expand outdoor seating capacity
- Classroom – Identified classrooms that can be used as an additional space, if needed



# Onteora Central School District

## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22 (Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

### Transportation

We are following both NYSED and UCDOH guidance at this time.

- The district will create distance between students on school buses when possible.
- If distancing is not possible windows will remain open at all times.
- Assigned student seating will be maintained.
- All students and staff must wear masks while on buses.
- Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to partner with us and drop off or walk students to school to reduce density on buses
  - If you are choosing to do this, please email both the building principal as well as the transportation department at [transportation@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:transportation@onteora.k12.ny.us). Although you may change this request at any time, we will use your choice in the planning of our bus routes.
- We are providing transportation to and from school . This includes:
  - transported to after-school childcare
  - two late bus runs at the high school



# Onteora Central School District

**Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22  
(Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)**

## **What We Know**

### **Ventilation**

**Our school buildings are ventilated with outdoor air supplied through our ventilation units, roof fans and vents. Upgrades to the system have been made as follows:**

- **Increased the ventilation capacity of our HVAC systems to the maximum level possible while being cognizant of weather conditions**
- **Increased the amount of time the ventilation system circulates fresh air through the classrooms**
- **Installed and maintained the highest rated filters available to fit the functional parameters of our HVAC system**



# Onteora Central School District

## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22 (Supported by Layered Safety Mitigations)

### What We Know

#### Ventilation

##### Upgrades to the system (cont'd)

- More frequent replacement of filters
- Increased frequency of inspection of our systems to insure optimal functionality
- HEPA filters are currently present in isolation rooms and in various other rooms throughout the buildings
- Portable air cleaners with HEPA filters have been purchased for every classroom with installation priority being given to the elementary classrooms.
- Windows and doors will be open as permitted by weather conditions



# Important Dates

<b>August 3, 2021</b>	<b>Elementary Schedules on the portal</b>
<b>August 27, 2021</b>	<b>High school schedules available on the portal</b>
<b>August 27, 2021</b>	<b>Transportation schedules available on the portal</b>
<b>September 1, 2021</b>	<b>Middle school schedules available on the portal</b>
<b>September 8, 2021</b>	<b>In-person learning begins for all students five (5) days a week</b>



# Questions? Feedback?

Please utilize the Q & A function



# Quarantine Details





Onteora Central School District

# Updated Health Service Guidelines

COVID Forum - August 24, 2021



# Onteora Central School District

## Should I Go to Work/School Today

Do you currently have (or have had in the last 10 days) one or more of these **new or worsening symptoms?**

- A temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 F
- Feel feverish or have chills
- Cough
- Loss of taste or smell
- Fatigue/feeling of tiredness
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Muscle pain or body aches
- Headaches
- Nasal congestion/runny nose

YES

You **CANNOT** go to work or school today.

Follow up with your healthcare practitioner (HCP)

And notify

[healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us)

NO

You **CAN** go to work or school today. Make sure to wear a face covering and practice good hand hygiene and social distancing.



# Onteora Central School District

## What to Do Before Entering an Onteora Building

1. Complete the daily health attestation
  - a. <https://entry.neric.org/onteora>
  - b. If not approved you may not enter the building
2. Take temperature at building entrance



### COVID-19 Screening Attestation

The safety of the employees, students, families, clients, partners and visitors remains our top priority. As the COVID-19 outbreak continues, we will closely monitor the situation and will periodically update our guidance based on current recommendations from New York State.

Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions (e.g. serious heart disease, chronic lung disease or asthma, immunocompromised, severe liver disease, etc.) might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. If you are concerned about underlying medical conditions, please consult with your personal medical health care provider.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our workforce, we are conducting a simple screening. Your participation is important to help us take precautionary measures to protect you and everyone in this facility. We request you complete this screening everyday prior to entering a facility. Based on your response, you will be informed if you should report to work or if you can enter our facilities.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our Medical Director at [healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us) or our COVID19 Safety Coordinator, Amanda Allison at [aallison@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:aallison@onteora.k12.ny.us).

### Screening Questions

Location

Role



## Onteora Central School District

# Health Attestation Questions for Students

1. **Location**
  - a. *Choose the location your child attends*
2. **In the last 24 hours or since your last visit here, have you had any of these symptoms?**
  - a. *Answer yes if these are new or worsening*
3. **In the past 10 days have you/your child tested positive for COVID-19 or are you waiting for a COVID-19 test result, due to experiencing symptoms?**
  - a. *In this instance only answer for your child*
4. **Have you or child been designated a contact person who tested positive for COVID-19 by a local health dept?**
  - a. *In this instance only answer for your child*
5. **In the last 14 days have you traveled internationally?**
  - a. *At this time there are no NYS travel advisories*



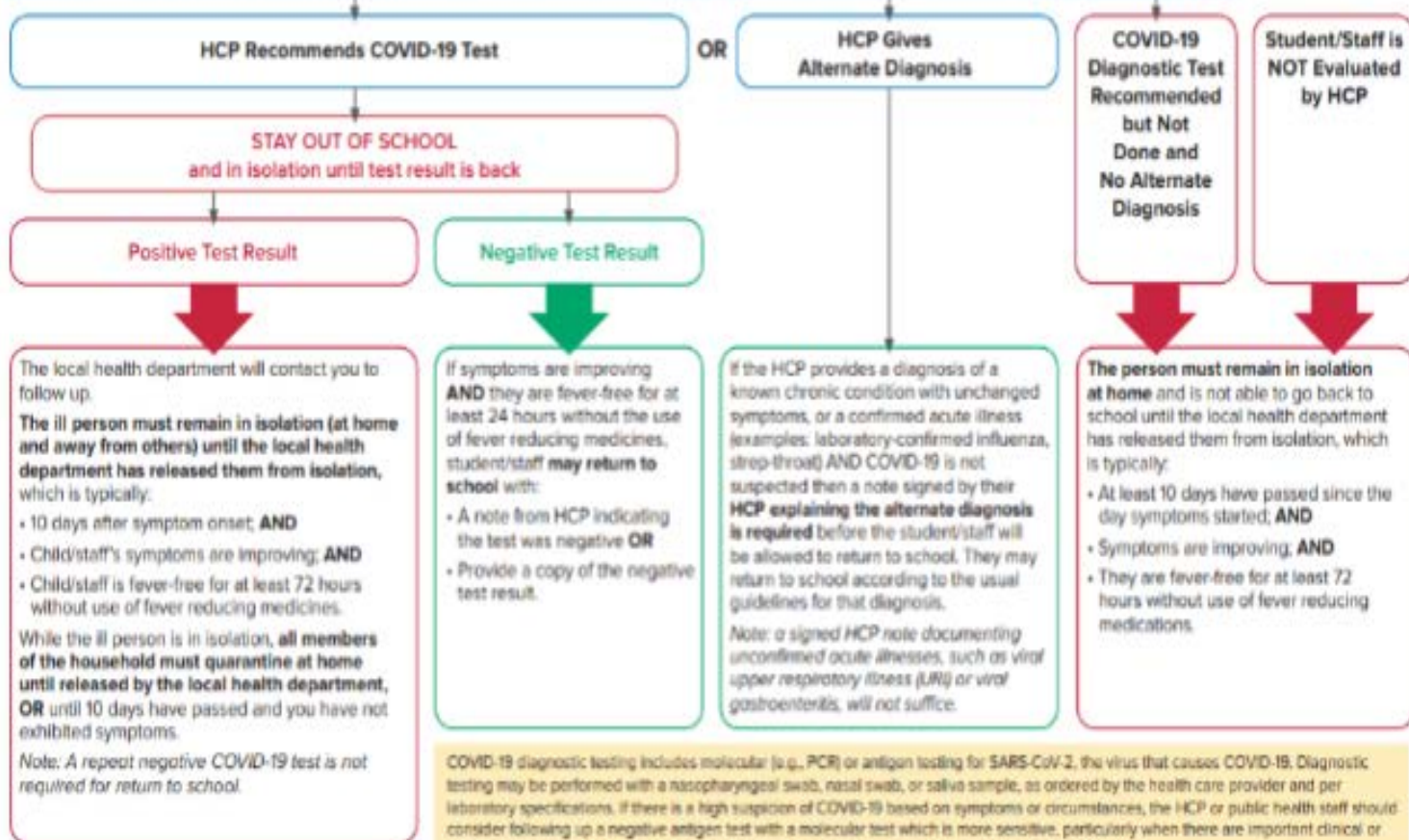
# Onteora Central School District

## COVID-19 Flowsheet for Student or Staff with COVID-19 Symptoms

### Student/staff has symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- Student/staff member should keep face mask on.
- Staff members should be sent home immediately.
- Students awaiting transport home by the parent/guardian must be isolated in a room or area separate from others, with a supervising adult present using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).
- School administration and the parent/guardian should be notified.
- Provide instructions that the individual must be seen by an HCP for evaluation and have COVID-19 testing (unless determined not necessary by HCP). If they do not have an HCP they should call their local health department.
- Schools should provide a list of local COVID-19 testing locations.
- Clean and disinfect area where the student/staff member was located.

### HEALTHCARE PROVIDER (HCP) EVALUATION FOR COVID-19 (can be in-person or by video/telephone as determined by HCP)



COVID-19 diagnostic testing includes molecular (e.g., PCR) or antigen testing for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Diagnostic testing may be performed with a nasopharyngeal swab, nasal swab, or saliva sample, as ordered by the health care provider and per laboratory specifications. If there is a high suspicion of COVID-19 based on symptoms or circumstances, the HCP or public health staff should consider following up a negative antigen test with a molecular test which is more sensitive, particularly when there are important clinical or public health implications. Serology (antibody testing) cannot be used to rule in or out acute COVID-19.



# Onteora Central School District

## Quarantining Guidelines: Student/Staff Tests Positive for Covid-19

### Positive Covid Test

1. If you have a positive covid test you must quarantine/isolate for 10 days or as recommended by the health dept.
2. You must email [healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us) to report and send a copy of the positive test results so that if necessary contact tracing can begin.
3. In order to return to school you must be cleared by Department of Health and must send clearance paperwork to [healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:healthservices@onteora.k12.ny.us)
4. You cannot return to school until you have been notified by health services that it is okay to do so.



# Onteora Central School District

## Quarantining Guidelines: Exposure and Direct Contact of Covid-19 for Students and Staff

### Vaccinated

Quarantining is not necessary unless:

1. Indicated by Ulster County Dept of Health
2. The individual is presenting with symptoms.
3. It is recommended that 3-5 days after exposure the individual should get a COVID-19 test.
4. \*\*\* Note\*\*\* Proof of vaccination is needed by health services in order to avoid quarantine until the health department can verify your vaccine.

### Unvaccinated

1. If a staff or student is deemed a close contact (***within 6 ft masked or unmasked for 15 minutes consecutively over a 24 hour period***) They must quarantine themselves for 10 days from the last date of contact or as directed by the health department.
1. Students/Staff are not cleared to return to school until official clearance documentation from the health dept is provided to [heathservices@k12.ny.us](mailto:heathservices@k12.ny.us) and health services has notified staff/parent(if student) that they can return to the building.



## Onteora Central School District

# Exceptions Related to Direct Contact and Exposure

**\*\*\*The exception is K-12 indoor classroom settings only.**

**The close contact definition excludes students who are within 3 to 6 ft of infected student.**

**If both the infected student and the exposed student correctly and consistently wore well fitting masks the entire time.**





# Questions? Feedback?

Please utilize the Q & A function



## Resources

### Key References

- [Ulster County Department of Health Guidance on Reopening Schools](#)
- [American Academy of Pediatrics COVID - 19 Guidance for Safe Schools](#)
- [NYSED Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year](#)
- [CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
  - [Capital Region BOCES Cooperative Virtual Learning Academy \(K-6\)](#)
  - [Edgenuity Family link](#)