



Onteora Central School District

# COVID-19 FORUM

August 31, 2021



# Summary of Onteora School Districts 2021-2022 Opening Plan



Onteora Central School District

# Thank you!





Onteora Central School District

# Transportation Details



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

## Overview

- **Transportation activities are consistent with state-issued public transit guidance and NYSED Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 school year.**
- **Following UCDOH guidance, the district will create distance between students to the greatest extent 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 drop off or walk students to school to reduce density on buses.**

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



## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Overview

- All buses that are used every day by districts and contract carriers will be cleaned/disinfected once a day.
  - All trash removed
  - Floors swept and dust mopped
  - Walls and windows cleaned
- High contact areas will be wiped down after the morning (AM) and afternoon (PM) run depending upon the disinfection schedule
  - Bus seats and seat backs
  - Door handles, handrails
  - Driver operator area

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



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

## Cleaning & Disinfecting

- **Cleaning and disinfecting products approved by the EPA will be used according to instructions.**
- **Eating and drinking will be prohibited on the bus.**
- **Buses will be inspected to ensure cleaning/disinfecting protocols are followed on district owned and contracted buses.**
- **All cleanings/inspections will be documented via a trackable log**

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



## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Students on Transportation

- **Parents/guardians - ensure their child(ren) are not experiencing any signs and symptoms of COVID-19 & do not have a fever of 100 degrees or more prior to them boarding their bus.**
- **Students must wear a mask on a school bus at all times  
( unless medical or developmental conditions prohibit use.)**
- **Students should maintain social distancing.**
- **Students should remain in their assigned seats.**
- **If a student does not have a mask, the District will provide one.  
(No one will not be denied transportation.)**

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





## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Training

(Office Personnel, Drivers, Mechanics, Aides)

- **Hazard Communication/Right-To-Know (annual)**
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**
- **Exposure Control/Bloodborne Pathogen (BBP)**
- **COVID Awareness**
  - **New cleaning Protocols (buses, transportation center)**
  - **Handwashing**
  - **Face Covering (sizing, use, wear & care)**
  - **Personal Health and Hygiene**
  - **Special working conditions with face coverings (strenuous activity)**

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



# Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

## Required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- Disposable gloves (for those transportation employees with direct physical contact with students)
- Face Covering/Mask
- Face Shield (if applicable)

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



## Operational Strategy for Opening of Schools 2021-22

### Transportation Communication

- If parents are choosing not to use school-provided transportation, email building principal & [transportation@onteora.k12.ny.us](mailto:transportation@onteora.k12.ny.us).
- Partnering with parents to reinforce COVID safety protocols with their children.
- Reminder students/parents/guardians - social distancing requirements extend to the bus stop.
- The District will advise parents not to send their children to school or board the bus if the child is sick or has an elevated temperature.

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



# Questions? Feedback?

Please utilize the Q & A function



## 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.)



# 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 under the full in-person learning model we are working with parents on a remote learning options.

(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



## 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 middle/ 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.)



## 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
- Please complete our Social Emotion Parent Questionnaire.  
(found in the pop-up on the District web page)
- 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 - 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.)
- Space design/ usage is building specific

(Please reach out to your building principal for additional 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

### 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 26, 2021</b>	<b>Transportation schedules available on the portal</b>
<b>August 27, 2021</b>	<b>High school 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



## 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](#)