



REOPENING SCHOOLS

FOR THE
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Guiding Principles for Reopening Schools

- The health, safety, and well-being of our students, teachers and staff are our number one priority.
- All instructional activities for the 2021-2022 school year will be held in our schools, in person. Protocols will be established to provide the best chance of avoiding any interruption to educational programs.
- The physical and mental health needs of our students will be addressed to help ensure learning occurs in an optimal way.
- Access and educational equity across our entire and diverse student population is the foundation for all our decision-making.
- Keeping schools open will be an ongoing effort that will require the cooperation of District personnel, students, parents and guardians, and all other community stakeholders. Circumstances will be continuously monitored, assessed and revised, when necessary, based on current data, policies and regulatory guidance.



Reopening Plan

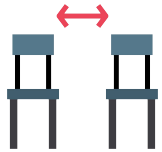
- Conduct a Superintendent’s Conference Day for all staff on Tuesday, August 31 and Wednesday, September 1.
- Welcome students back to school – PreK through grade 12 – on September 2 for full-time, in-person instruction and learning.
- Use recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Nassau County Department of Health (NCDOH), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to establish protocols and procedures.
 - “Children should return to full-time in-person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.” (CDC 8/5/21)
 - “CDC guidance identifies multiple prevention strategies that schools can implement in a layered approach to promote safer in-person learning and care.” (CDC 7/9/21)
- Reassess the plan on a regular basis and revise as necessary.



Health Experts Recommended Prevention Strategies



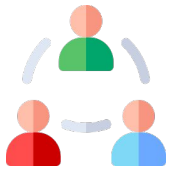
- Universal and correct use of masks in the school environment



- Physical distancing



- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette



- Contact tracing



- Comprehensive, repetitive cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities

District Strategies to Optimize Uninterrupted In-Person Learning Throughout the School Year

Mandatory mask wearing by all individuals while in our school buildings -

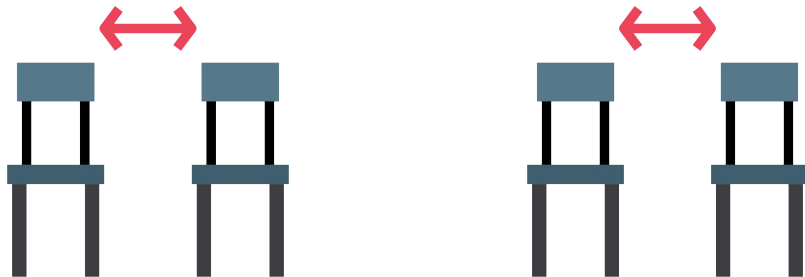
- Students, all District personnel, visitors and vendors, regardless of vaccination status, will be required to wear a mask in any of our school facilities.
- Masks are required on school transportation at all times.
- Mask wearing is not required outdoors.
- Regular mask breaks will be scheduled into the school day.



District Strategies to Optimize Uninterrupted In-Person Learning Throughout the School Year

Physical-social distancing will be observed throughout the school day.

- A minimum of three feet of distancing between students will be provided in the classroom setting.
- Recess and classes will be held outdoors when feasible and appropriate to the activity or class curriculum.
- Physical distance will be maximized as much as possible when students are moving through the food service line and while eating.
- Physical distancing is not required on school buses.



District Strategies to Optimize Uninterrupted In-Person Learning Throughout the School Year

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be practiced.

The COVID-19 virus, and the emerging variants, all spread from person to person in droplets produced by coughs and sneezes. To minimize the chance of spread, the District will enforce:



- Mask wearing at all times by students, District personnel, visitors and any vendors on-site performing work. Protocols for regular and frequent mask breaks for students and District personnel will be established.



- Even with masks on, students and District personnel will be asked to cover their mouths and/or noses with a tissue or use the inside of the elbow when coughing or sneezing.



- Hand washing, or the use of hand sanitizer when hand washing is not possible, should be performed after sneezing, coughing or handling dirty tissues or other soiled material.



District Strategies to Optimize Uninterrupted In-Person Learning Throughout the School Year

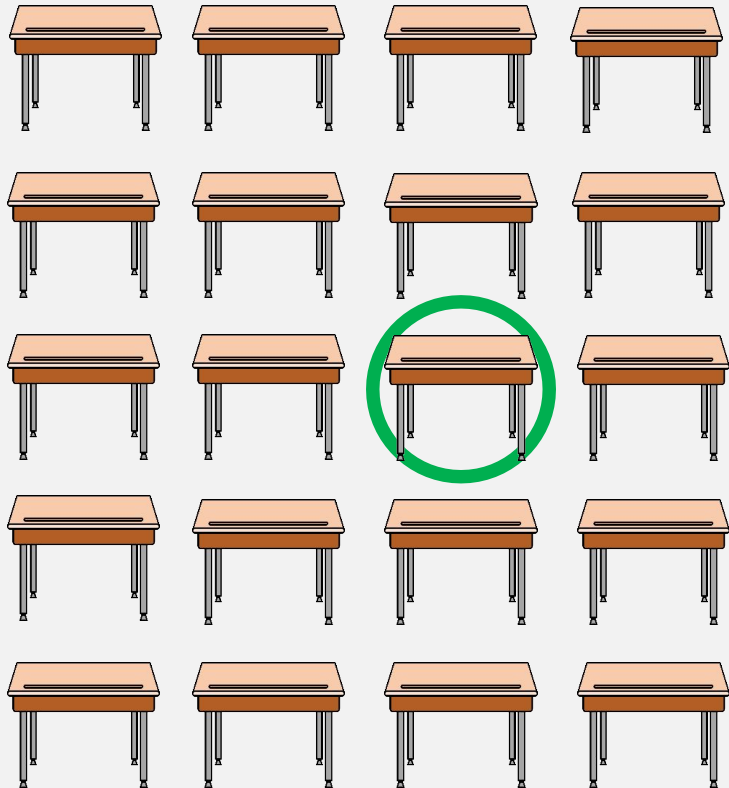
Contact tracing will continue when COVID-19 cases are identified.

- Students in an indoor classroom who are within three feet of an infected student who is using a well-fitted mask are excluded from the definition of close contact and are not required to quarantine.



Quarantine protocol when all students are masked and spaced three feet apart

CLASS 1: Masked student tests positive

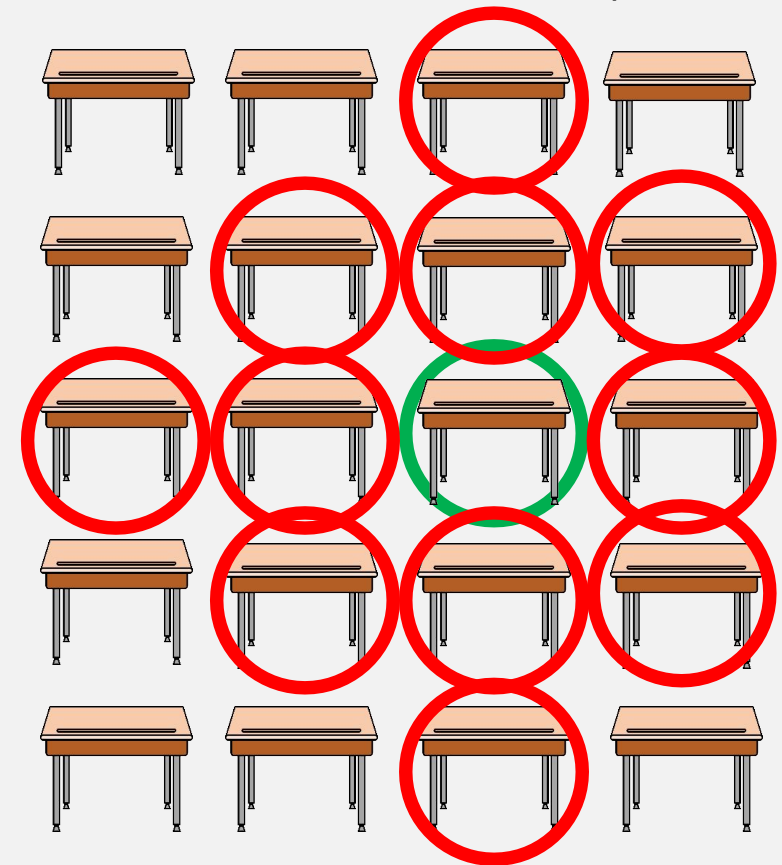


A mask will have a direct impact on quarantine protocols.

No close contacts

Eight (8) to 11 close contacts

CLASS 2: Unmasked student tests positive



District Strategies to Optimize Uninterrupted In-Person Learning Throughout the School Year

Comprehensive and repetitive cleaning of District facilities will support our efforts to keep students in the school setting uninterrupted throughout the school year.

- District custodial personnel receive training on cleaning and disinfecting best practices.
- General cleaning and disinfection will take place at the end of each school day.
- Windows will be open whenever possible to improve ventilation.



District Protocols During the School Day

- Orientation for Pre-K, Kindergarten, grade 6 and grade 9 students will be held as scheduled by each school building.
- Daily health questionnaires and temperature checks will be required of students and staff.
- Plexiglass barriers (sneeze guards) will continue to be utilized as they were last year.
- Hallway lockers will be utilized at the middle and high schools.
- Field trips and assembly programs will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- Visitors to schools during the school day will be limited and by appointment only.

** Subject to change based on regional and local transmission rates and state and local guidance.*



District Protocols Outside the School Day



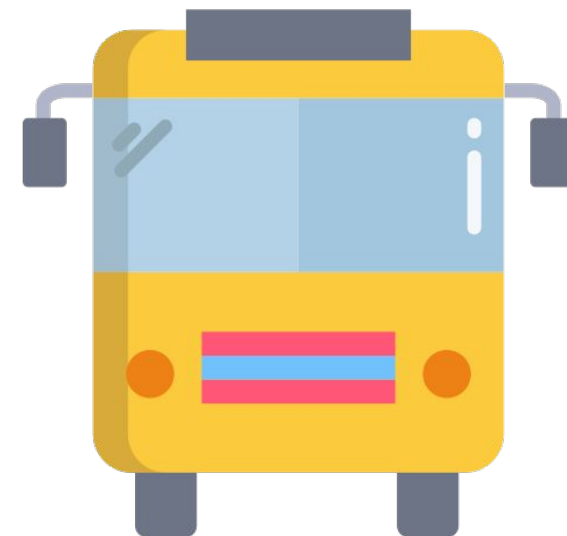
- Co-curricular and extracurricular programs will proceed in person when possible with appropriate social distancing protocols in place.
 - Masks are optional at outdoor activities.
 - Masks are required at indoor activities.
- Fall athletic events will proceed as scheduled by Section XIII with spectators welcome to events.
- Permits will be issued to community groups with the expectation that the district's protocols will be followed faithfully.

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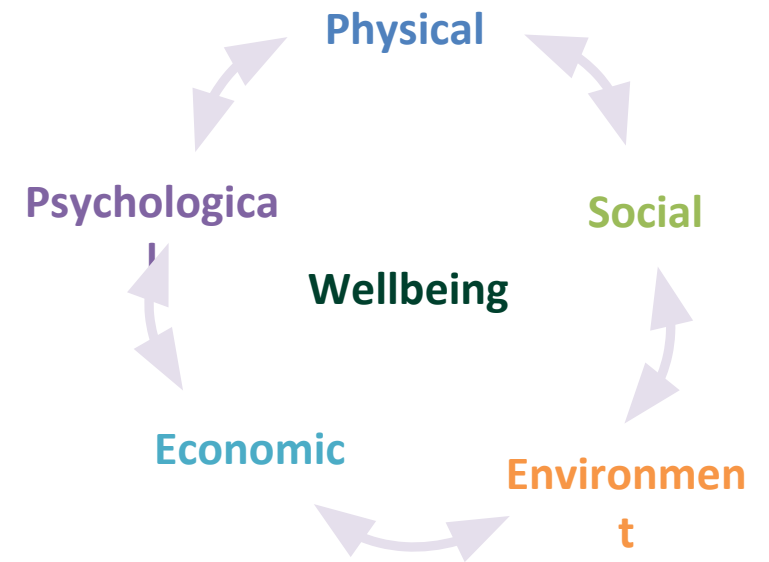
District Transportation

- District bus transportation will run at capacity limits.
- School buses will transport students with windows/hatches slightly opened to provide air flow, whenever possible.
- Students are required to wear a mask on buses.
- Except in the case of kindergartners, students shall take seats in the bus from the rear to the front and will be dismissed from front to rear.
- Siblings or children who live in the same household are encouraged to sit together.
- Students are not permitted to eat or drink on buses.



Social and Emotional Well-Being

- The district follows a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS) framework, which considers how curriculum, instruction, assessment and professional development support the well-being of students.
- Multi-disciplinary teams will consider student issues and address learning loss.
- The Continuum of Mental Health outlines pathways of support at various levels of risk.



General Information

- There will be limited in-person meetings in schools.
- Parent meetings may be held via phone conference, Zoom or Google Meet.
- Materials will be dropped off in vestibules only.
- Building events (Open House, conferences, PTA meetings, etc.) will be held virtually until regional rates decline from *Substantial* or *High* transmission.
- Afterschool use of facilities by the community is available and subject to district COVID protocols.

