

## Vulnerable Students

For those families and students who may be considered a vulnerable student or have family members who are in high risk groups as defined by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) and Department of Health, we encourage you to examine the following guidance by NYSED and provide information to us regarding any needs your child may have.

- Individuals age 65 or older;
- Pregnant individuals;
- Individuals with underlying health conditions including, but not limited to:
  - chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
  - serious heart conditions
  - immunocompromised
  - severe obesity (body mass index of 30 or higher)
  - diabetes
  - chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
  - liver disease
  - sickle cell anemia
  - children who are medically complex, who have neurologic, genetic, metabolic conditions, or who have congenital heart disease are at high risk for severe illness from COVID-19 than other children.

NYSED's definition and guidance can be found at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf>

Students with special needs or students who are medically fragile may not be able to maintain social distancing, hand or respiratory hygiene, or wear a face covering or mask. It is important for parents/guardians to work with their child's healthcare providers so that an informed decision can be made on how best to meet the child's needs at school while protecting their health and safety. Transitioning these students back to school requires planning and coordination.

Students who do not fall into the definition of the vulnerable population but have an illness or condition (including but not limited to panic disorder or social anxiety disorder) may also need accommodations.

It is important for the District to understand your child's needs and develop appropriate accommodations for their return to school, if a return is possible. Please contact Amy McCloskey, Director of Pupil Services [amccloskey@swcsk12.org](mailto:amccloskey@swcsk12.org) or 664-4675 or your child's building principal.