Seaford Opening of Schools Plan 2021 – 2022 School Year

Presented by Seaford Opening of Schools Task Force Members

The purpose of the Task Force is to collaborate with multiple stakeholders to create a comprehensive plan that is flexible so that the District is able to respond to the changing conditions presented by COVID-19.

While keeping an ever-present eye on health and safety, a diligent effort was made to have students and staff return to school as normal as possible.

The Task Force met several times during the months of June, July and August to review and revise our Opening of Schools Plan.

The following routines and procedures are being recommended for this school year and will be assessed periodically by the Task Force.

2021 – 2022 Task Force Members

Instructional Technology and Operations

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- Tania Cintorino
- Debra Emmerich
- Kerry Hansen
- Tom Lynch
- Andrea Parisi
- Natalie Pedisich
- Mike Spinella
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Physical and Mental Health

- Lorraine Burke
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- Alissa Gonzalez
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Facilities

- Don Barto
- Russ Costa
- Hank Saulpaugh
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Before and After School Protocols

- Danielle Bevilacqua
- Margaret Cervini
- Kathleen Dyckman
- Rhonda Meserole
- Shari Raduazzo
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School Operations

- Danielle Alveari
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- Angela O'Hagan
- Amanda Sagnelli
- Nicole Schnabel
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The goal continues to be keeping schools open for in-person instruction in a safe and meaningful learning environment.

Components of the Seaford Reopening Plan

Communication/Family and Community Engagement

- The District is committed to providing open and transparent communication.
- The Opening Plan will be posted on District website and updated as needed.
- Any closing of classes or schools due to COVID-19 will be done after consulting with the Department of Health and communicated appropriately.

Delivery of Educational Services

- All students will return to school for full, in-person instruction.
- Secondary students will follow a normal 9 period day, moving to each of their classes throughout the day.
- Elementary students will travel for special area classes and AIS services.
- There will be no virtual or hybrid instruction.

Athletics, Clubs and Extracurricular Activities

• There will be a full complement of athletics and extracurricular activities for students to pursue.

Transportation

 Regardless of the positivity or transmission rate in the community, all bus occupants must wear a face covering before entering the bus and during the entirety of their time in transit.

Lockers and Bathrooms

- Hallway, physical education and athletic lockers will be available for student use during the day and after school.
- The number of students in the bathroom at the same time will continue to be monitored and limited.

Lunch

- Cafeterias will be used whenever possible for students to eat their lunch.
- Procedures and routines for lunch will be determined by each building.

Social Distancing

- Student distancing will be at least three feet apart in all classrooms.
- Adults will maintain a social distance of six feet apart in all classrooms.

Arrival and Dismissal

- Our goal is to ensure that students enter and exit the building safely.
- Each school will identify their own procedures and locations for entrances and exits.

Health Checks and Screening

- Daily Health Checks/Screening are no longer required for students and staff.
- Health Checks/Screening will still be required for visitors to the District.

Contact Tracing

- The District will follow all procedures as outlined by NCDOH and NYSDOH.
- All infections will be reported to the NCDOH and parents/guardians will also be notified.
- Quarantining is not required if:
 - Students are all wearing a mask and are 3 feet apart
 - Individuals are vaccinated
 - Individuals who had COVID within the last 90 days

Cleaning Procedures

- All current deep cleaning protocols will remain in place.
- High touch areas will be cleaned multiple times per day.
- Sanitizing supplies will be provided for each classroom.
- All areas of the school will be cleaned and disinfected each night.
- Cleaning supplies used will comply with all OSHA standards.

Visitors to School and Drop-off Procedures

- Only essential visitors, parents and guardians will be permitted to enter the schools.
- All visitors will undergo a health screening and temperature check.
- Each building will have a designated drop-off area for items.

Safety Drills

All State required safety drills will be conducted appropriately.

Our Approach to Reviewing the Face Mask Policy

- The Task Force examined past and present data collected from Newsday, the CDC, and NYS Forward Data Dashboard.
- Our basic premise was that students and school employees should not always have to universally mask.
- As the environment changes so should our mitigating strategies, which would include mask wearing. This approach was consistent with letters that were sent from the BOE to the Governor's Office in June and July.
- When transmission rates are Low, Moderate or Substantial, our recommendation would be for mask wearing to be optional. Masks are universally worn indoors only when transmission rates were High.
- When transmission rates are High, and masks are being worn, frequent mask breaks will be mandatory.
- Regardless of transmission rates, masks are not required outdoors.

Our Approach to Reviewing the Face Mask Policy

	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (per CDC)	0 – 9.99	10 – 49.99	50 – 99.99	>= 100
Number of Days in Each Band for Nassau County (Starting 8-30-2020)*	0	110	47	199
Number of Cases in Seaford UFSD in Each Band (Total Cases = 337)	0	7	18	312

To determine which transmission band a region is in, the following formula is utilized:

Sum of the past 7 days # of cases divided by the population of the region multiplied by 100,000

Example for Nassau County from 8/18 to 8/24 ((379 + 347 + 378 + 385 + 402 + 398 + 400)/1,356,924)x100,000 = 198.17 (High Transmission)

^{*}These are calendar days, not school days.

Impact of Data on Seaford

- The entire month of June resided in the Moderate Transmission band.
- For the month of July:
 - Moderate Transmission: 19 Days
 - Substantial Transmission: 9 Days
 - High Transmission: 3 Days
- The entire month of August has resided in the High Transmission band.

This data will continue to be monitored by the Task Force and we will reevaluate the use of these parameters in October.

A Detour to Our Mask Protocol

- On August 24, 2021, Governor Kathy Hochul announced that her 'priority number one' is making sure children are safe in school, including:
 - Immediately directing the Department of Health to institute universal masking for anyone entering our schools.
 - She also will announce a 'series of school-related policies' later this week.

 We hope that the guidance will incorporate allowances for masks to be optional when transmission rates are not high.

A Glimpse of what has Changed: Striving for Normalcy

2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022
In-person/Remote/Hybrid Instruction	All students will have in-person instruction
offered	
Middle Schoolers stayed in cohorts in one	Middle Schoolers will move from class to
classroom	class
Elementary students had their special area	Elementary students will travel to their
classes (Art, Music, Library, PE) in their	special area classrooms
classroom	
High school students attended in-person	High school students will be in-person all-
for ½ of the school day	day
All students utilized desk barriers in the	Students will not use barriers
classroom	
Students at the secondary level had no	Students at the secondary level will have
access to hallway, PE or athletic lockers	full use of all locker facilities

A Glimpse of what has Changed: Striving for Normalcy

2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022
Elementary students ate in their classroom	Elementary students will have access to the cafeteria
Middle Schoolers ate in their classroom	Middle Schoolers will utilize the cafeteria
High school students had no scheduled lunch period	High school students have schedule lunch periods in the cafeteria
Shortened sport seasons starting mid-year	Normal complement of Fall, Winter and Spring sports
Spectator limitations were in place	Spectators are able to attend all sporting events
Staggered start for extracurricular clubs and activities	All clubs and activities will resume their normal schedule
All employees, students and visitors completed a daily Health Screening	Only visitors must complete the Health Screening

A Glimpse of what has Changed: Striving for Normalcy

2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022
Social distancing for students was 6 feet	Social distancing for students is now 3 feet
Contact tracing was required for all confirmed cases	Contact tracing is not required if certain conditions are met
Music students are separated by 12 feet	Social distancing for music students is lowered
Masks were worn outside until the Spring	Masks are not required outdoors
Arrival and dismissal involved multiple entry points and exits	There will be less access points into and out of the buildings

Some Practices will Continue: Striving for Normalcy

2020 – 2021	2021 – 2022			
Visitor protocols will remain in place				
Item drop off procedures will remain in place				
All required safety drills will be conducted				
Bathroom use at all levels will be monitored and regulated				
COVID-19 bus riding protocols will remain in place				
General cleaning and hygiene protocols will remain in place				

As always, we will come together as a community and district to educate the children of Seaford in a safe and meaningful way.

We remain Seaford Strong!