

Frequently Asked Questions about the Cheektowaga-Sloan's Reopening Plan

Learning Models

Q: What models of instruction has the District considered?

A: The District considered three instructional models:

- The 100% In-person Model
 - The traditional model that Cheektowaga-Sloan has used in the past. Students attend school Monday through Friday, and teachers instruct students face-to-face.
- The 100% Remote Model
 - No students physically present in school buildings. All instruction takes place virtually through computers.
 - Teachers and students are in their own homes.
- The Hybrid Model
 - Students attend school in-person on some days and learn from home on other days.

Q: What model of instruction has the District decided to follow for the beginning of the 2020-21 school year?

A: The District has decided to begin the school year under a Hybrid Model of instruction with the ability for parents to choose a 100% Remote model for their child.

Q: What will Hybrid learning look like?

A: Students will be separated into two groups. The A Group will attend school on Mondays and Tuesdays and learn remotely on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The B Group will attend school on Thursdays and Fridays and learn remotely on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. The school buildings will be closed on Wednesdays to allow deep cleaning to be performed throughout each building.

Q: How will A/B groups be determined?

A: The division of students will be done based on the first letter of the student's last name. Students with last names beginning with the letters A-L will be assigned to the A Group and students with last names beginning with the letters M-Z will be assigned to the B Group. Letters have been mailed home to parents stating which group your child is in and what instructional setting your child selected (Hybrid or 100% remote). If you have any questions or concerns about the information in the letter, please email or call your child's principal.

Please note that kindergarten and Pre-K students have not been assigned a letter group because registration is still being finalized. If you have not already registered your child for prekindergarten or kindergarten, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mochrie, Principal of Theodore Roosevelt.

Q: What will learning from home look like?

A: The Google Classroom website will be the centerpiece of all student remote learning. Teachers will post learning objectives, videos, and/or assignments on their Google Classroom. A student will be able to log into a teacher's Google Classroom and find out what they should do at home for each day of the week. Teachers and students will be able to communicate through Google Classroom and the Zoom video conferencing platform. There will be synchronous learning activities on Wednesdays available where students will be provided a schedule and be expected to log in at certain times for lessons. This may be a combination of lessons and office hours. More details will be provided on who will attend these synchronous learning sessions once students' schedules have been finalized. For more details on how the District will support social emotional needs, please see the full reopening plan. Links to Zoom or Google Meet will be provided in Google Classroom for all synchronous teaching.

Q: Will students be held accountable for the days of remote instruction, i.e., attendance and work?

A: Yes. Students who are learning from home on any given day will have videos to watch and/or assignments to do. There will be times when students are expected to join a Zoom meeting with their class. Attendance will be taken Monday through Friday for all in-person and remote students. Attendance for asynchronous instruction remote learning days will be determined by work completion, participation, and student/family contact.

Q: Will students be sitting in front of the computer all day when they are learning from home?

A: Remote learning will be different from a traditional school day. Generally, a class or subject area will be designed by using a video either teacher created, or commercially produced to begin the lesson followed by teacher created learning materials which could be an activity that will help the student practice the objective of the lesson. This could also include a student then having to take an assessment to determine how well they grasped the learning objective for the day. The teacher will analyze the student's assessment and determine the need for remediation or additional practice. Depending on the age of the student, a full day of subject lessons may range from approximately two to six hours.

Q: How will my child be able to complete remote assignments if she cannot read?

A: The age and ability of students will be considered during the creation of online activities and Google Classrooms. If a child cannot read, an alternative method of communication will be utilized, for example, a video may be created with instructions for the child. One goal of the Remote Model is to allow the student to be able to participate with as little reliance on parents as possible. Please be aware that there will be times when a child's parent may need to assist them with basic navigation at home. The District has invested time and effort in creating a page on the District website to assist families in navigating Google Classroom.

Q: If my child will not be able to join a Zoom class will they be marked absent for the day?

A: The District is aware that families are facing a variety of situations during this challenging time. While attendance at scheduled Zoom meetings is expected, special circumstances will be taken into consideration. The District recognizes that certain circumstances may require attendance to be measured by the videos viewed and assignments completed by a student before the end of the day and not only by being at a computer at a specific time.

Q: What platforms will be used for online instruction, and will there be training for teachers and families?

A: The Google Classroom will be the centerpiece of instruction. Teachers have been provided with training resources that will allow them to format their Google Classrooms in a uniform way to make navigation easier for families. The layout of the Google Classroom will be as clear and user-friendly as possible. A page on our website will give families an introduction to the Google Classroom platform. This website includes videos, a Frequently Asked Questions section, and a link for asking additional questions.

Can I choose the 100% Remote Model for my child?

A: Yes. Every family will be able to decide if they would like to utilize the District's Hybrid Model or if they would like to have their child learn 100% remotely. Children within the same family may participate in separate instructional models.

Q: If my child starts the year in the Hybrid Model, can I change my decision to allow my child to learn 100% remotely?

A: Yes. If at any point you do not feel comfortable sending your child to school in person, you may notify the building principal and switch to the 100% remote model.

Q: If I choose the 100% Remote Model for my child and decide that she would do better in the Hybrid Model, may I change my choice from Remote to Hybrid?

A: For continuity purposes, we are asking parents who choose the Remote Model for their child to commit to 20 weeks of remote instruction. The District will work with families who change their mind and want to participate in the Hybrid Model. However, students cannot readily fluctuate back-and-forth between the two models.

Q: How do I let the District know that I choose for my child to have 100% remote instruction?

A: There was a survey on the District's website that allowed families to select the 100% Remote Model of instruction.

Q: What will be the educational effect of students learning 100% remotely?

A: While it is the District's firm belief that a student's social, emotional, and intellectual learning is affected favorably by in-person instruction, we also recognize that not everyone will be comfortable sending their child to school. To create the most effective online program possible, we have determined that the learning objectives for all

students, whether in-person or remote, will be the same. This common curriculum will allow students who are learning at home the best opportunity to learn at the same academic level as their peers in the Hybrid Model.

Q: Will students in the Hybrid Model be watching the same videos as the students in the Remote Model?

A: Maybe. Teachers will be teaching the same learning objective to in-person and remote students; therefore, a teacher may choose to use the video as a starting point for the in-person students. Teachers do have the ability to teach the learning objective in a different way to the students who are in-person on any given day.

Q: Will students be changing classes (academic and/or specials)?

A: Every effort is being made to reduce movement of students within the schools. For the elementary buildings, every class possible will be held in the student's base classroom. For middle school, an effort has been made to keep students with the same group throughout the day. There is a need for some classroom changes in middle school as students do not all take the same classes. The high school cannot operate in the same way. Students will need to move between classes. Procedures will be in place to have students move from class to class with less potential exposure to other students.

Q: Will my child be able to attend the Potter Road or Harkness Center?

A: Yes. Students will still be able to take classes at Potter Road or the Harkness Center. Some logistical issues will need to be worked out for students based on whether they are participating in the District's Remote or Hybrid Model.

Q: Will students in accelerated or AP class be limited to two days of in-person instruction per week?

A: Under the Hybrid Model, students in these classes will attend school in person two days per week along with three days of remote instruction.

Q: Will 100% remote students be able to take AP courses?

A: Yes.

Q: How will IEP evaluations happen?

A: IEP evaluations will continue to be performed while maintaining social distancing. There are a number of assessments that can be performed virtually and other assessments that can be performed utilizing masks, social distance, and polycarbonate barriers.

Q: How will services be provided for students with IEP/504 Plans?

A: The District will continue to provide services in-person and virtually to meet all Special Education requirements as well as possible given the restriction of the COVID-19 pandemic. If you have questions specific to your child, please contact the Director of

Special Education and Pupil Services, Jessica Emmerling, at jemmerling@cheektowagasloan.org.

Q: Will outside agencies still be able to provide services to students at Cheektowaga-Sloan?

A: Yes, as long as the service provider follows all safety precautions required of all District faculty and staff.

Q: Will students with special needs be able to attend school more than two times a week?

A: Students who receive education in a self-contained classroom will attend school on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. They will receive remote instruction on Wednesdays.

Q: Will students still receive extra help for math and reading?

A: Students who require additional assistance in math or reading will continue to receive services. The model of those services will be adjusted based on the District's COVID-19 reopening protocols.

Q: Will free daycare be available to children of essential workers or children who have parents working during the day?

A: The District will continue to follow applicable State directives on this issue. Governor Cuomo's most recent Executive Order on this topic allowed the District to provide childcare through the end of August. We will continue to monitor any further developments and disseminate additional information as available.

Q: Will it be possible for students to take assessments at home?

A: Students will be able to take assessments at home. Certain assessments may need to be completed while the student is logged into the Zoom platform.

Q: How will grading be handled this year?

A: Grading for middle and high school students will continue to be numerical as it has in previous years. Each teacher will communicate how a final average will be determined for their class. At the elementary level, the report card will be adjusted to meet the needs of appropriately communicating with families the progress of their children. A revised report card will be presented to the public soon.

Q: Will there be any adjustments in State standards and/or the Common Core due to the unusual circumstances?

A: At the current time, there has been no announcement of a change in the Common Core State Standards. If there is an announcement in the future, we will communicate that information with families as soon as possible.

Q: Is there any option for parents who want their child to receive 100% in person instruction?

A: No. For the first 20 weeks of school, the only models we can offer our students are the 100% Remote Model and the Hybrid Model.

Q: Will the Instructional Model be reevaluated after 20 weeks?

A: Yes.

Exposure and Testing

Q: Who will be tested for COVID-19 and what will the procedures be for testing?

A: The District cannot require anyone to take a COVID-19 or antibody test. We will be providing information to families, faculty, and staff on local testing sites, but the power to determine if a person is to be tested is ultimately reserved for the individual and his/her family.

Q: Are we able to meet the new testing requirements from the Governor?

A: The Governor has not put any COVID-19 testing requirements on faculty, staff, or students. Instead, the District was required to work with the Erie County Health Department to know what testing sites are available and have these resources ready for families. Please see our COVID-19 webpage which is located on our District Webpage for specific information related to COVID-19 testing and tracing plans for more details.

Q: How will exposures and notification be handled?

A: The District must observe privacy laws such as FERPA and the ADA. We will inform families immediately if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the school and work with the Erie County Health Department in its contact tracing and containment efforts.

Q: Who needs to be quarantined for 10-14 days and what triggers the need to quarantine?

A: Anyone who exhibits one or more of the CDC's list of COVID-19 symptoms may not enter the school building and should quarantine at home for 10 days after the onset of symptoms or until they have a negative COVID-19 testing result. Anyone who has traveled to any of the restricted states on the New York State COVID-19 Travel Advisory website must also quarantine for 14 days after their reentry to New York State. These requirements are subject to change. The District will continue to monitor and follow CDC and NYSDOH guidelines. The District has provided two flow charts on our COVID-19 webpage with details on isolation requirements. Please see these for more details.

Q: How will contact tracing and reporting to the health department be conducted?

A: The District does not perform any contact tracing. We do keep records of who is in our building and where in our building they have been. In the event of a positive COVID-19 test, the District is required to contact the Erie County Health Department, which will coordinate contact tracing. The District will provide all legally required information to authorized government officials. Please see our Contact Tracing plan on our COVID-19 Webpage which is located on our District webpage.

How will the District know if someone in a family who doesn't attend school is diagnosed with COVID-19?

A: The District must utilize an honor system with the families in our community. It is only through following safety guidelines and continuing to communicate with families that we can prevent the spread of COVID-19. If your child has had direct exposure to someone who has had a positive COVID-19 test, please quarantine them in your home and contact your child's school.

Attendance

Q: What date will be the first day of school for students?

A: Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

Q: Will school hours be the same this year as in previous years?

A: Yes.

Q: Will there be staggered drop-off times for students who are not taking District transportation?

A: The time for students to be dropped off has not changed this year. There will be new procedures for student arrival that are unique to each school. This information will be provided to families as soon as it is finalized.

Q: How will students enter and exit the schools while maintaining socially distant?

A: We are developing plans for the flow of students into, out of, and through the hallways of our schools. We are taking precautions to ensure social distancing to the best of our ability. More detailed information will be provided as it becomes available.

Q: Will children need to be tested for COVID-19 to attend school?

A: No. The District cannot require anyone to take a COVID-19 test. However, not testing may affect the amount of time before a student can return to school after showing symptoms or having potential exposure.

Q: Should students be kept home with a runny nose or a headache?

A: Yes, unless there is a clear alternative medical explanation documented by a medical provider. We need to take special precautions to ensure that we do not spread COVID-19; therefore, if a child has any symptom on the CDC's list of symptoms, they should be kept home and not sent to school until they have received a negative COVID-19 test or have been at home for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. However, exceptions may be made for students whose medical providers document that their symptoms are caused by an alternative condition (e.g., allergies) rather than COVID-19. Please see the specific flow charts located on our COVID-19 webpage for more details.

Q: If a child or employee is sick with any COVID-19 symptoms, what will be required for them to return to school?

A: To return to school, anyone who has demonstrated one or more symptoms of COVID-19 will need to supply a negative COVID-19 test result or a doctor's note confirming alternative cause of the symptoms, or stay home for at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms.

Q: What is the absentee policy (# of days a student can miss, completing work from home, etc.)?

A: There are no changes in the attendance policy that was approved by the Board of Education in 2016. Attendance is required and will continue to be reported to the New York State Education Department as it has been done in the past. We recognize that families are managing a variety of circumstances and have therefore adjusted our practice as to what is considered being present for the day. If a student is in attendance at school, they will be considered present. If a student participates in remote instruction and completes their assignments before midnight on the day the assignments are given, they will receive credit for being present that day. Concerns regarding specific circumstances should first be addressed with your child's teacher and, if necessary, the building principal.

Q: How will you prevent parents from giving their children medicine and sending them to school with symptoms?

A: This is another area where the District will rely on families to do everything in their power to help eliminate the spread of COVID-19. Parents will also have to periodically respond whether their child has had symptoms within the past 14 days. The District must rely on parents to provide accurate responses and keep children home from school when necessary. Given the health and safety implications, it is possible there could be potential legal consequences for parents who falsify their responses.

Q: How will students make up large amounts of work when they are required to be out or are sick for a long period of time?

A: Students will be able to take advantage of our Remote Model if they are required to be home and are still healthy enough to participate in instruction. If a student is sick for an extended period of time and falls behind his/her peers, please work with your child's teachers and principal to make a plan to help your child complete what is necessary to continue to participate successfully in school.

Q: If school closes for inclement weather, will that be a day off or will students be expected to learn remotely for the day?

A: At the present time, if there is a school closing due to inclement weather, we will proceed as we have in the past with a non-instruction day. Please be aware that this can change at any time given the uncertain nature of this pandemic.

Q: Is the District still accepting student registrations?

A: Yes.

Masks

Q: What are the requirements for masks?

A: Students, faculty, and staff are required to wear masks while in the school building. This rule has two general exceptions: when eating and participating in a mask break. Additional exceptions may be made for physical education and music lessons where sufficient socially distancing can be maintained. Masks can be made of a variety of materials and can be commercially purchased or homemade. The masks must cover the mouth and nose and comply with the student code of conduct.

Q: Will face shields be sufficient?

A: No. A face shield is an additional layer of protection but does not meet the New York State Health Department recommendation without a mask worn under it. We will have shields available if you would like your child to wear one, but it will not be suitable as a substitute for a mask.

Q: How will you keep students from removing their masks? What if students refuse to wear them?

A: The beginning of the school year will include mandatory training on proper hygiene and mask wearing. If a student refuses to wear a mask or purposefully participates in unsafe activities that violate the Code of Conduct, disciplinary action will be required.

Q: How will students be given mask breaks (frequency, duration, and what will it look like)?

A: The District recognizes that wearing a mask without frequent breaks is uncomfortable. When the weather permits, students will be able to be taken outside for mask breaks. When mask breaks are required to be inside the building, students will be socially distant from other people. We will communicate specifications as to frequency and duration as they are determined.

Q: What will the District do if my child's mask is damaged or he doesn't have a mask?

A: The District will have masks available for faculty, staff, and student use. If a student's mask is damaged during the school day, a new mask will be provided.

Q: With masks being worn and drinking fountains being discouraged, how will we keep students from becoming dehydrated?

A: To encourage student hydration, we are allowing all students to bring water bottles to school. The public drinking fountains will not be permitted for any purpose other than filling water bottles.

Q: Are there clear panel-masks for teachers?

A: Masks with clear panels have been purchased for teachers of younger elementary students, speech therapists, and other faculty or staff members that may benefit from their use.

Supplies and Materials

Q: If we are moving to an electronic system (Chromebooks), why do we need to purchase the traditional list of supplies?

A: The use of Chromebooks is necessary to facilitate remote instruction. This does not mean that students will not be utilizing other forms of learning. Students will still be drawing, coloring, practicing handwriting, and making paper-based math calculations, among other tasks, depending on grade level and course selection. To facilitate these activities physical supplies will still be necessary.

Q: Will the supply lists change before the start of school?

A: There have not been any formal changes to the supply lists, but we understand that it is difficult to predict what supplies will be needed based on the Hybrid Model and other potential modifications to coursework this year. We understand if families want to begin school with basic supplies, such as paper, pens/pencils, and notebooks/binders and await possible clarification from their teachers. However, the District wanted to have the full supply list available in advance for families who prefer to do advance “back-to-school” shopping for the year. Supply lists are located on our District Webpage.

Q: Will supplies be sent home for specials, i.e., art supplies?

A: The special area subject teachers have begun to create lists of supplies that will be necessary for their subjects to be taught to students regardless of the instructional method chosen. The supplies required for their subjects that are not included in the student supply list will be provided when available. Additional information will be provided as teachers determine what is necessary to teach in this new format.

Q: How will students get supplies to school and where will they be stored?

A: Students will be able to bring their supplies in over the course of several days. This will allow students to bring supplies in their backpacks without creating backpacks that are too heavy for students to carry. Teachers who are storing materials in the classroom will provide labeled bags for students to keep their supplies. There will not be sharing of any materials unless they can be sufficiently cleaned and disinfected between uses.

Q: Due to limited use of student lockers, how will students carry their things (books, notebooks, chromebook, lunch, other supplies) from class to class?

A: Students will be allowed to carry backpacks this year and store their backpacks on the back of their chairs.

Q: Can my students carry their own tissues that are not to be shared?

A: Yes.

Q: Will students be able to take books out of the library?

A: The library is working on an electronic checkout system that will allow students to request books from the library to take home. When the books are returned, they will be isolated for 14 days, allowing any possible viral contaminate to die, before they are allowed to be checked out by another student. The District will also have a variety of digital books available to students.

Q: Will students need to take books home from the library?

A: No. There will be digital books that students may utilize if the family is not comfortable with physical books coming home.

Procedures to Prevent Spread of Infection

Q: What will the procedures be for handwashing?

A: At the beginning of the school year, mandatory training on proper handwashing will be provided to all faculty, staff, and students. There will be additional handwashing stations in areas that do not have access to built-in sinks. There will also be sanitation stations throughout each school building to encourage hand sanitation.

Q: Can students have their own sanitizer and/or sanitizing wipes?

A: Yes. If you would like to send your child with personal hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes, they may keep them in their backpack and use them to wipe their desks, chairs, tables, etc. This is not a requirement, but it will be allowed for any parent who would like to provide these materials for their child's use.

Q: May my child bring a Norwex cloth to clean her area?

A: Yes.

Q: How many students may be in one classroom?

A: The maximum number of students will be dependent upon the size of the classroom and the ability to keep students socially distant from each other and their teacher. The District has removed excess furniture from the classroom and arranged desks so that students will be seated at least 6 feet apart. On average, our classrooms can hold between 8-12 students.

Q: How will the classrooms be cleaned during the day, especially if students change classrooms? And what about the bathrooms?

A: A regular schedule of cleaning and sanitizing will be established. Records of the cleaning will be kept by the Buildings and Grounds department. Cleaning during the day will be done with spray bottles and sanitizing wipes. A more thorough cleaning will be done at the end of every school day. A deep cleaning, that utilizes a sanitizing fog machine, will be done every Wednesday and Saturday.

Q: Socialization between students is very important, what will socialization between students look like?

A: The District recognizes the importance of socialization among peers as an aspect of a student's social and emotional growth. Students will be able to socialize with one another while maintaining social distance. We will continue to utilize students' Advisement period at the middle and high school level and daily circles at the elementary level. The District acknowledges that school is going to look and feel differently, and we are planning on utilizing the knowledge of our social workers, school psychologists, and counselors to help address the needs of our students.

Q: Has the Building and Grounds team been given special training in how to clean the building of the COVID-19 virus?

A: Yes.

Technology

A: Will all students receive a Chromebook?

Q: Yes. The District ordered 900 Chromebooks in June to ensure that there is a Chromebook available in the fall for every student in the District. These Chromebooks have arrived and are prepared for student use.

The demand around the country has created a shortage of Chromebooks and Chromebook accessories. The District has ordered protective cases/sleeves for all Chromebooks to help protect them in transport. These may not be in by the time the Chromebooks are distributed, but will be made available as soon as possible. A grant has also been secured to obtain an additional 350 Chromebooks to begin replacing the ones that are at the end of their lifecycle. These Chromebooks are estimated to arrive in November.

Q: Will WiFi be available for students who are at daycare or don't have adequate access at their home?

A: If any student does not have access to WiFi where they are cared for during the day or does not have adequate Internet service in their home, they should contact their building's principal. The principals will refer the families to the school's social worker or counselor, who will work with them to find any programs that provide free internet service. If free service cannot be obtained, the District will provide a mobile hotspot that will allow the District-owned Chromebooks to connect to a wireless Internet connection. This will allow all students to access the virtual curriculum.

Q: When will students receive Chromebooks from the District?

A: Chromebooks will be available for pickup in a similar manner to how learning materials were distributed in the spring. An all-call will be sent with specific information as to what date and time your child will be assigned to pick up her Chromebook. Once the all-call has been made, the information will also be posted on the District's website.

Q: Will the Chromebooks need to be transported back to school and home with my child?

A: Yes. Chromebooks will be brought to school and return with the students every day to ensure the ability of the student to learn from home. Every Chromebook will either have a form-fitting, jelly case, or a neoprene bag to protect it while in transit.

Q: Will we be able to wipe down/sanitize Chromebooks if they are traveling from school to home and back again?

A: Yes. Be sure to power off the Chromebook before attempting to sanitize it. Chromebooks can be sanitized with bleach-free disinfectant wipes or 70 percent rubbing alcohol and 30 percent distilled water. Using full-strength rubbing alcohol can damage the coating that helps to keep smudges off the screen. Apply the solution to a microfiber cloth before wiping the Chromebook. Never spray a Chromebook with any liquid.

Nurses Office

Q: Will the same nurse assess students for COVID-19 symptoms who dispenses medication and how will you limit exposure between students?

A: The nurse in each building will be provided with a large variety and quantity of Personal Protective Equipment. When the nurse is evaluating a student with symptoms associated with COVID-19, she will use this PPE and a separate room for this purpose. When the nurse has finished assessing this student, she will change her PPE, wash and sanitize, and return to the nurse's office to dispense medication and attend to other student needs.

Will there be COVID-19 rooms in each building?

A: Yes, each building will have a COVID-19 symptom room(s) near or adjacent to the nurse's office.

Q: Will my child still be able to receive his medication from the school nurse?

A: Yes. The practice of dispensing medication by the nurse will not change this year. Please contact your school nurse to inquire about the necessary documentation that the nurse must be provided before she can dispense the medication.

Busing

Q: How will busing be managed?

A: The District will continue to provide bussing to and from school for all students who need it. When students enter the bus, they will proceed to the back of the bus and sit in a separate seat with any other students who live in the same household. The bus will continue to load with students filling the bus from the back to the front. Students will only occupy seats that are appropriately distanced from one another. Masks will need to be worn at all times. When the bus gets to school, it will unload from the front of the bus to

the back of the bus. This loading and unloading procedure will reduce the occasions of students passing each other while on the bus.

Q: Will the buses be cleaned between every run?

A: The high traffic areas of the bus will be cleaned between bus runs and a deep cleaning will be done at the end of the day.

Food Service

Q: Where will students eat lunch?

A: Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria or in the school gym. The booths have been removed from the high school and polycarbonate barriers have been purchased for all cafeteria tables and desks in the gym to help provide an additional barrier of protection.

Q: Will lunches still be free?

A: Yes.

Q: Will my child be able to choose what she wants for lunch? How will that work?

A: Students will still be able to make lunch choices, but they will not be able to fill their own trays. All trays will be prepared by the cafeteria workers wearing masks and gloves. Students will enter the line wearing their masks, following floor markings, and maintaining social distance from their peers. There will be a predetermined traffic pattern to prevent students from passing one another as much as possible.

Q: How will the District protect students with food allergies?

A: The precautions that have taken place in prior years will still be observed this year. Please contact your child's building principal or the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services if your child needs an allergen-free classroom.

Q: Will the District still provide a free lunch to my child on days when he is learning from home?

A: Yes. There will be a link on the District website that allows families to request lunch for their children that are learning from home. These lunches will be able to be picked up from JFK Senior High School.

Safety Drills

Q: Will students take part in safety drills?

A: The requirement for regular safety drills has not been eliminated due to COVID-19, so the District must continue to comply with them. Students, faculty, and staff will take part in drills while wearing their masks and attempting to social distance themselves to the greatest extent possible. If these requirements change, we will inform the public as soon as possible.

Specials/Sports

Q: What restrictions will be put in place for special area classes, i.e., sports, cooking, art, music?

A: Special area classes will look different with the current guidance by the NYS Department of Health. In any subject area that requires heavy breathing or utilizing the breath for musical production such as singing or playing an instrument, students will need to be spaced 12 feet apart. In some cases, this may reduce the size of classes or require students to perform outside. Specific changes will be communicated by the teachers of each subject area.

Q: Will there be after school activities available this year?

A: There will not be any before or after-school activities on school grounds at the beginning of the year. Some extracurricular activities might be able to proceed remotely after the year begins, but the District's initial focus for September is on the primary instructional program. We will communicate additional information about extracurricular activities with families as any developments occur.

Q: Will there be interscholastic sports this year?

A: School sports are not currently permitted by New York State. The District will continue to monitor that situation and keep families of middle and school students apprised of the availability of sports for this school year.

Visitors

Q: Will we be able to walk our children to their classroom on the first day of school?

A: Unfortunately, no. To keep our faculty, staff, students, families, and the community safe, we are not allowing visitors to enter the building while operating under the COVID-19 Reopening Plan.

Q: Will there be orientations for students who are new to a school building this year, for example 6th Grade Orientation?

A: Due to the additional precautionary measures necessary, any orientations will be done virtually.