

2021-2022 SCHOOL REOPENING GUIDELINES

Disclaimer: The district's reopening plan is a fluid document that is subject to change based on the recommendations from the CDC, AAP, NYSED, NYSDOH, WCDOH, Needham Risk Management Resource Group LLC, and the district's medical director. The district will also be monitoring Washington County's COVID-19 community transmission rate and how the transmission rate may impact the daily operational procedures. Transmission rates are measured by the CDC's four-category system of low, moderate, substantial, and high. Visit covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view for the CDC COVID-19 data tracker.

Goals: The priorities for the 2021-2022 school year will be to:

- Safely return to too 100% in-person instruction
- Safely maintain an in-person learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff
- Preserve co-curricular activities, extracurricular activities, and interscholastic athletics for students by following the recommendations set forth by the medical professionals
- Our plan will be "fluid" with modifications throughout the year as additional guidance is obtained from our medical professionals

Guidance: The district's reopening plan is based on the guidance from:

- The Center for Disease Control
- The American Academy of Pediatrics
- The New York State Department of Health
- The Washington County Department of Health
- Needham Risk Management Resource Group, LLC
- The district's Medical Director



Remote Learning:



- No voluntary remote learning option - 100% in-person instruction
- Remote learning will be offered if there is a class/grade/school wide mandatory quarantine or closure issued by Washington County Public Health Services or other governing body

Daily Health Screenings:



- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to completed the daily "Raptor" screening tool
- Students and visitors will complete a temperature check when entering the building

Masking: We will be working continuously with the local DOH in regard to masking recommendations and will seek to modify our procedures as appropriate

- **Indoors:** Masks are required for all individuals in a school building, regardless of vaccination status
- **Outdoors:** Masks are not required
 - Unvaccinated guests at outdoor events (*i.e. spectators*) are encouraged to wear masks
 - Outdoor learning and recess is encouraged to be used as much as possible



Visitors:

- The number of visitors will be limited
- Masks and temperature checks are required



Testing:

- Washington County is developing a possible screening plan - not anticipated to be completed until mid-to-late September
- Voluntary participation

Social Distancing / Classroom Arrangement:

- Student desks will be distanced by 3 feet or greater if possible
- Classroom windows and doors will be open to increase ventilation, to the extent possible
- Seating charts are required for possible quarantine purposes



Attendance:

- All students are expected to attend school in-person every day
- Remote learning will only be provided if there is a grade/class-wide quarantine
- Individual students who are quarantined will be provided tutoring opportunities

Transportation:

- Busses can be filled to capacity
- Siblings will be seated together
- Seating charts will be maintained on busses for quarantine purposes
- All passengers and drivers must wear a mask while on the bus, regardless of vaccination status
- Windows will be open to the greatest extent possible
- Parents/Guardians who are able to provide transportation to and from school are encouraged to do so to reduce the population on busses
- Parents/Guardians able to drop students off early this year to support work schedules:
 - Jr/Sr High - 7:00 a.m.
 - Elementary - 8:10 a.m.



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Daily Cleaning/Disinfecting Procedures and Protocols

- The district will continue regular cleaning and disinfection daily or more frequently, as needed, along with frequent cleaning and disinfection of shared objects and surfaces as well as high transit areas, such as rest rooms and common areas
- Filtration/Ventilation: ensure maximum outside air is utilized in all HVAC equipment
- Classrooms will be disinfected as necessary
- High volume touch points will be disinfected frequently throughout the day as well as each night
- Primary products used: EPA approved disinfectants, disinfecting mist/fogger, disinfecting sprays and surface wipes
- Use of hand sanitizer and the practice of good hygiene will be taught/encouraged
- All staff will have access to PPE



Meals / Cafeteria:

- The primary eating location will be in the cafeterias & classrooms, overflow areas will be maintained as necessary
- Social distancing will be maintained

Interscholastic Athletics:

- **Indoor Sports:** Masks are required
- **Outdoor Sports:** Masks are not required
- **Spectators:**
 - Indoor Sports - Limited spectators, masks are required
 - Outdoor Sports - Spectators encouraged, masks are recommended for unvaccinated individuals



Extra/Co-curricular Activities:

- Extra-curricular clubs will be active
- Field trips will be considered on a case-by-case basis



Quarantines: Each case will be investigated by the WCDOH, however, as a general rule, Washington County's plan will be:

If there is an exposure:

- **Fully vaccinated** individuals are not required to quarantine if asymptomatic (not showing any symptoms)
- **Unvaccinated individuals:**
 - Separated by at least 6 feet: No quarantine required
 - Separated by less than 6 feet:
 - If properly masked: No quarantine required
 - If not masked (*i.e. during meal time*): County quarantine

Miscellaneous:

- **Vaccinations**
 - No current mandate/requirement for employees to be vaccinated
 - The district will work with WCDOH on encouraging vaccinations and holding clinics for eligible students and staff
 - Students under 18 would require a parent to be present to obtain a vaccine, and clinic dates and times will be shared as they are coordinated.
- **Use of School Facilities**
 - Limited indoor use of school facilities by outside groups
 - Outdoor use of facilities will be permitted
- **Safety Drills**
 - Modified to maintain social distancing
- **Substitute Teachers**
 - The district will attempt to secure substitutes for necessary positions