



ONEIDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE

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July 30, 2020

Dear Families,

Today, the district submitted our reopening plan to the New York State Department of Education and the New York State Department of Health. Our reopening plan meets all of the mandatory requirements. The District's top priorities are the safety and well-being of our school community and to deliver high quality to instruction to all of our students. Our reopening plan and a presentation about our plan can be found at:

https://oneidacsd.org/c_o_v_i_d-19/reopening_plan-ocsd

Governor's decisions

During the first week of August Governor Cuomo will decide if school districts will open in the fall. After this announcement by Governor Cuomo, the District will begin providing more detailed and specific information to our parents, students, staff and community.

Communication and feedback

We know that our plan will be a living document and we expect that it will change with feedback and new guidance. We ask that our families and staff participate in a thought exchange about our plan to give us needed feedback to adjust and revise our plan. The thought exchange can be found at:

<https://my.thoughtexchange.com/758790723> Additionally, as the guidance changes, we will continue to survey parents about transportation, scheduling, and building specific needs.

Instructional Schedule Options

Using the current guidance on social distancing (6 feet apart), it is not possible to educate all of our students every day in our buildings. If social distancing guidance changes, the District would be able to bring all students back to the buildings every day. Until then, we have two instructional options for Fall 2020, hybrid and virtual (remote) instruction:

HYBRID schedule for students in grades PreK-12

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Last Name, A-K	In person at school	In person at school	Virtual/remote	Virtual/remote	Virtual/remote
Last Name, L-Z	Virtual/remote	Virtual/remote	Virtual/remote	In person at school	In person at school
Prioritized students (students with special needs, English as New Language Learners, etc.)	In person at school	In person at school	In person at school	In person at school	In person at school

The District will also survey parents whether they would like to keep their children home for virtual (remote) instruction rather than hybrid instruction.

ALL VIRTUAL schedule for students in grades PreK-12

All students will be home with Chromebooks learning from teachers through Google Classroom. More detailed plans about a virtual schedule will be released if the district is required to use this model.

Social Emotional and Academic Needs

We understand that students have been away from what they once knew as "school" for an extended amount of time. Our districtwide social emotional learning team has met all summer to develop plans to thoughtfully address the social emotional needs of our students during the coming school year.

Additional work

There is still more work that each of our buildings need to do this summer after Governor Cuomo makes a decision about school buildings opening. Each building will be creating building specific procedures that outlines how it will implement our plan specifications. As an example, if we return in-person or in a hybrid model each building will need to determine drop off and pick up procedures, student schedule specifics, and iLearning guidelines. Last but not least, our transportation and food service departments will be finalizing plans once we know if we are in-person and/or hybrid.

Oneida City School District remains committed to open and transparent communications to support our students during this time. Our priority is the safety and education of all of our students. As always, thank you for your patience, understanding and flexibility.

Sincerely,



Mary-Margaret Zehr
Superintendent