



# West Irondequoit Central School District

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## 2021-22 Reopening Plan

The health and safety of students, staff and their families are always our top priority. This Reopening Plan for the 2021-22 school year takes into consideration guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control, New York State Education Department](#), the [Monroe County Department of Public Health](#) and the West Irondequoit CSD leadership team and staff. We plan to welcome back students for in-person instruction, five days a week on Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021. The guidance below will be used in all [school buildings](#). Questions specific to your child's school should be directed to the principal. You can find all of this information and more on our website: [www.westirondequoit.org](http://www.westirondequoit.org)

COVID MITIGATION STRATEGIES	RECOMMENDED PROTOCOL
<p><b>Face coverings &amp; masks</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Per <a href="#">Aug. 5, 2021 CDC guidance</a>, universal indoor masking for all students, staff, teachers &amp; visitors to all school buildings except when eating meals.</li> <li>• Students and staff may remove masks when seated and physically distanced by at least 6 feet.</li> <li>• Masks will be optional during outdoor recess, physical education classes and athletic events, including masking for spectators.</li> <li>• Staff will provide regular mask breaks throughout the school day and upon request by students. Staff and students may also remove masks when seated and physically distanced by at least 6 feet.</li> <li>• Mask breaks are defined as no longer than 15 minutes and distanced by 6 feet.</li> <li>• Students and staff must be masked on buses or in school vehicles.</li> </ul> <p><i>Mask protocols are subject to change based on current CDC guidance.</i></p>
<p><b>Vaccination</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 vaccination records are not currently accessible to schools and are not required to be reported to NYSED. Therefore, the measures below do not discern between vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals and <b>apply to all people regardless of vaccination status.</b></li> <li>• At this time, the district and state or federal law does not require employees to be vaccinated. Our Board of Education is currently investigating whether a district policy requiring staff to be vaccinated is prudent, given the circumstances.</li> <li>• Attaining high levels of COVID-19 vaccination among eligible students, staff and household members is defined as among the most crucial strategies to promote uninterrupted full, in-person learning. Vaccinations are strongly encouraged but not required.</li> </ul>

<b>Physical distancing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDC guidance aligns with transmission zone level designation. If low/moderate, no distancing requirements. If substantial/high, 3 feet distancing requirements where practical.</li> <li>• Monroe County’s designation will determine the minimum expectation for physical distancing in school. As of Aug. 19, 2021, we are designated as in a “high” transmission zone, so 3 feet is expected. Current County levels can be monitored via its COVID-19 <a href="#">dashboard</a>.</li> <li>• We expect distancing in cafeterias and eating spaces to be 6 feet. Student seating should be consistent, to the extent possible.</li> <li>• Music students will be distanced by 3 feet and masked when singing. Bell covers will be mandatory.</li> </ul>
<b>Surveillance testing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>At this time, we will not be conducting school-based surveillance (screen) testing.</b> However, surveillance testing is recommended for unvaccinated students and staff when community transmission rates are moderate, substantial or high. Our ability to support a COVID-19 testing program is limited by available test supplies. We will monitor local test supplies through Monroe County and adjust as possible.</li> <li>• Families will be notified, and parental/guardian consent will be needed, prior to any testing.</li> </ul>
<b>Handwashing &amp; respiratory etiquette</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All students and staff will be trained to follow COVID-19 protocols safely and correctly, included but not limited to hand hygiene, proper face-cover wearing, physical distancing, and respiratory hygiene.</li> <li>• Hand hygiene stations will be maintained with soap, running water and disposable towels where available. Where not feasible, alcohol-based sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol will be available.</li> <li>• Isolation rooms are no longer required. Should a person become ill or exhibit symptoms during school, they will be required to remain masked and separated by at least 6 feet until picked up. Individuals will be encouraged to contact their physician for further evaluation.</li> </ul>
<b>Ventilation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved ventilation and filtration are recommended as a critical mitigation factor to prevent airborne particles and transmission in addition to wearing a well-fitting, multi-layered mask and increased fresh air flow.</li> <li>• District buildings will continue to be outfitted with elevated MERV rated air filters.</li> <li>• Outside air will be cycled at an elevated rate.</li> <li>• During transportation, bus or vehicle windows should be open or cracked if doing so does not pose a safety risk.</li> </ul>
<b>Cleaning &amp; sanitizing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Custodians will clean high-touch surfaces throughout the day and complete a deep clean nightly. Cleaners will adhere to CDC cleaning, disinfecting and sanitization recommendations, employing many practices that were successful throughout the 2020-21 school year.</li> <li>• Cleaners will continue to maintain daily cleaning logs for all spaces.</li> </ul>
<b>Staying home when sick &amp; getting tested, isolation, quarantine</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness or COVID-19 should remain home and refer to their healthcare provider for care and/or testing <u>regardless of vaccination status</u>.</li> <li>• Individuals should remain home until symptoms subside or they obtain a negative COVID-19 test.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools will provide consistent reminders to students/staff to remain home if they have COVID-like symptoms and to contact their physician.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Click here</a> for flowcharts/guidance from the MCDPH about remaining or returning to school.</li> </ul>
<b>Contact tracing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The district will continue to collaborate with state and local health officials, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information, such as contact tracing, about people diagnosed with or exposure to COVID-19.</li> </ul>
<b>Interscholastic Athletics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NYSPHSAA, the governing body of NYS athletics, has directed schools to follow safety protocols aligned with the latest guidance from the NYSED, their local health department and own district.</li> <li>• Student-athletes will be universally masked when practicing or competing indoors; masking is optional outdoors.</li> <li>• There are no spectator limitations for indoor/outdoor sports.</li> <li>• Coaches and athletes will be allowed minimal locker room use (and be masked). Parents/guardians should make sure children go to practices and games dressed in proper attire and bring their own water bottles.</li> <li>• Daily health screenings are not required; in terms of sickness or symptoms, athletes/coaches should follow district guidelines. If out due to illness, students should communicate information with their coach before returning to participation. Coaches should do the same with the athletic director.</li> <li>• All of these protocols should be followed regardless of vaccination status.</li> </ul>

**The WICSD is still developing more recommendations based on CDC guidance and expects to share more information, as well as an FAQ, soon on:**

- Occupancy limits and open houses/curriculum nights
- Visitors to school buildings
- Extra-curricular activities & field trips