

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



BUILDING AWARENESS

STAYING INFORMED

**6:30 PM ON
MARCH 23**

Full Reopening Update

- **Community infection rates:** continue to fall w/ new COVID-19 cases 7-day rolling average= 115 (3/18/2021)
- **Staff Vaccinations:** currently 60% of staff according to 3/17/2021 survey
- **NYSDOH Guidance:** (8/26/2020)

Social Distancing: Responsible Parties must maintain protocols and procedures for students, faculty, and staff to ensure appropriate social distancing to protect against the transmission of the COVID-19 virus when on school grounds and in school facilities. Specifically, appropriate social distancing means six feet of space in all directions between individuals or use of appropriate physical barriers between individuals that do not adversely affect air flow, heating, cooling, or ventilation, or otherwise present a health or safety risk. If used, physical barriers must be put in place in accordance with United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines, and may include strip curtains, cubicle walls, code compliant materials, or other impermeable divider or partition.



Full Reopening Cont.

- CDC Guidance: (2/12/2021)

Indicator	Lowest Transmission	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days**	Category no longer exists. It has been merged into one low transmission (blue) category.	0-9	10-49	50-99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs that are positive during the past 7 days***		<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	≥10.0%



CDC Guidance
Cont: (2/12/2021)



Recommended Implementation of Mitigation Strategies and K-12 School Learning Modes by Level of Community Transmission

Low Transmission ¹ Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
All schools: Universal and correct use of masks is required; implementing other key mitigation strategies: handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities; contact tracing and diagnostic testing ² in combination with quarantine and isolation.			
K-12 schools open for full in-person instruction Physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible ³		Elementary schools in hybrid mode ⁴ ; physical distancing of 6 feet or more required	Middle and high schools in virtual only instruction unless they can strictly implement all mitigation strategies, and have few cases; schools that are already open for in-person instruction can remain open, but only if they strictly implement mitigation strategies and have few cases ⁵
		Middle and high schools in hybrid learning mode or reduced attendance Physical distancing of 6 feet or more is required	
Sports and extracurricular activities with masks required; physical distancing of 6 feet or more to the greatest extent possible ⁶	Sports and extracurricular activities with masks and physical distancing of 6 feet or more required	Sports and extracurricular activities occur only if they can be held outdoors, with masks and physical distancing of 6 feet or more required	Sports and extracurricular activities virtual only

¹Levels of community transmission defined as total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (low, 0-9; moderate, 10-49; substantial, 50-99; high, ≥100) and percentage of positive tests in the past 7 days (low, <5%; moderate, 5-7.9%; substantial, 8-9.9%; high, ≥10%).²Levels of community transmission defined as total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days (low, 0-9; moderate, 10-49; substantial, 50-99; high, ≥100) and percentage of positive tests in the past 7 days (low, <5%; moderate, 5-7.9%; substantial, 8-9.9%; high, ≥10%).

²Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 is intended to identify occurrence of SARS-CoV-2 infection at the individual level and is performed when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure.

³If physical distancing of at least 6 feet among all students, teachers, and staff within a class, cohort, or pod is not possible at all times, schools should ensure physical distancing between classes, cohorts, and pods.

⁴Hybrid learning or reduced attendance is intended to maximize physical distance between students. Schools may consider hybrid learning models or instructional modes where substantial percentages of students are in virtual only instruction. At all levels of community transmission, schools should provide families the option to participate in virtual learning if a student or family member is at risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

⁵Strict implementation of mitigation strategies includes policies that require consistent and correct use of masks, physical distancing of at least 6 feet, all other key mitigation strategies.

⁶School officials should implement limits on spectators and attendees for sports, extracurricular activities, and school events as consistent with recommendations for masking and physical distancing for each phase.



3/18/21

CDC

Update

Elementary school: 3 feet between students in classroom regardless of transmission zone, cohorts recommended if in **orange** or **red** zone.

Middle and high school:

- If in **blue** or **yellow** zone, then 3 feet between students in classroom regardless of transmission zone.
- If in **orange** zone, 3 feet of distance between student in classroom with cohorts recommended.
- If in **red** zone, 6 feet, unless cohorts are used, in which case 3 feet.

Barriers: The guidance removes recommendations for the use of barriers. That could cause some challenges for schools that have less than 6 feet of distance because they have been utilizing barriers.

Testing: The guidance recommends testing students once a week if in any zone other than blue (random sampling of 10% of students/pool testing)

What is truly BEST for STUDENTS, non-negotiable

Reopening Task Force: Priorities

- Ensure Student & Staff Safety (Physically and Social-Emotionally)
- Foster trust among stakeholders through Transparency
- Prioritize Student learning (SEL and Academic)
- Create Flexibility
- Promote Equity





Surveys

- **Parent/Guardian:**
1,008 total responses received
- **Grades 7-12 Students:**
1,133 total responses received
- **Staff:**
263 total responses received

Reviewing Our Work Thus Far

Meeting 1: 3.3.21

- Reviewed Current Guidance
- Reflected on Barriers & Silver Linings
- Crafted Staff, Student and Parent Survey Questions
- Reviewed Reopening Priorities

Meeting 3: 3.23.21

- Review CDC Guidance (Revised)
- Grade Level Band Discussions anchored in Feedback & Survey Data
- Next Steps - refinement

Meeting 2: 3.17.21

- Reviewed Current Guidance
- Added and Revised Reopening Priorities
- Analyzed Survey Data

