

**OPEN SCHOOLS PLAN
FOR 2021-22
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools
August 23, 2021

Guidance and Resources

- The Miller Place UFSD developed a COVID-19 Opening Schools Plan based on guidance provided by the following:
 - The Center for Disease Control (CDC)
 - The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
 - The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH)
 - The Suffolk County Department of Health (SCDOH)
 - New York State Department of Education (NYSED)
 - District Legal Counsel
 - District Liability Insurance Carriers
 - District Emergency Health Care Provider, Medical Director and Chief Medical Inspector
 - Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul

Introduction – Goals

- ✓ Overarching goal for the 2021-22 school year, shared with the New York State Education Department, regarding maximizing full-time, in-person, learning for all students, while keeping students and staff healthy and safe.
- ✓ Have all students return to in-person classes. We know learning is most effective and best for children when they are in a classroom with direct teacher instruction.
- ✓ Students benefit from routines and a consistent learning environment.
- ✓ The plan is flexible, subject to change and/or shift base upon a multitude of factors including, but not limited to, guidance from various health agencies, NYSED, NYS, and District advisors.

Introduction – Board of Education Authority Communicable or Infectious Disease

- **NYSDOH – Dr. Howard Zucker, August 5, 2021**
“With the end of the state disaster emergency on June 25, 2021, school districts are reestablished as the controlling entity for schools. Schools and school districts should develop plans to open in-person in the fall as safely as possible, and I recommend following guidance from the CDC and local health departments.”
- **Board of Education Trustees:**
 - Oath of Office
 - Sets policy via board resolution

Introduction – Board of Education Authority Communicable or Infectious Disease

- **SCDOH** via Education Law Section 906 (1)

Whenever, upon investigation and evaluation by the director of school health services or other health professionals acting upon direction or referral of such director for care and treatment, a student in the public schools shows symptoms of **any communicable or infectious disease reportable under the public health law that imposes a significant risk of infection of others in the school, he or she shall be excluded from the school and sent home immediately**, in a safe and proper conveyance. The director of school health services shall immediately notify a local public health agency of any disease reportable under the public health law.

- **Requires** school districts to:
 - ✓ Contact tracing process
 - ✓ Reporting process
 - ✓ Quarantine process

Plan Highlights – Communication

- ✓ Continued discussion at monthly Board of Education business meetings.
- ✓ Responding to community messages via email and/or telephone.
- Please note questions can be emailed to:
 - openingschools@millerplace.k12.ny.us

Plan Highlights – Health and Safety

- Polycarbonate dividers/shields have been removed all classroom and cafeteria.
- Health attestations will be required to begin the school year:
 - Staff - Start of the school year by September 3, 2021, and then periodically as needed
 - Students - Start of the school year, by September 10, 2021, and then periodically as needed
- Essential visitors (example – contract service providers) will be required to complete a COVID-19 screening questionnaire prior to entering a District building.
- Temperature checks of students, staff and visitors will occur upon entry to any school building.

Plan Highlights – Health and Safety

- Students will be a minimum of 3-feet physically distanced in classrooms, whenever possible.
- Staff will be a minimum of 6-feet physically distanced in classrooms, whenever possible.
- Student seating charts will be maintained in all indoor classrooms and cafeterias.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available in all schools.
- Hand washing stations will be available in elementary and secondary schools.

Plan Highlights – Health and Safety

- Contact tracing will be conducted as outlined by SCDOH, as required, including notification to parents, and inputting student information into the SCDOH database.
- Quarantine of confirmed cases of COVID-19 is defined as a close contact:
 - Who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
 - The exception is the K-12 indoor classroom, if students within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student, and both students correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.
 - Vaccinated individuals are not considered close contacts.

Plan Highlights – Facilities

- Visitors - Only essential personnel, contractors for building maintenance, and those directly associated with instructional or academic purposes will be allowed to enter school buildings. They must submit a health attestation and follow all COVID-19 protocols.
- Use of Facilities – after school hours only use is approved by community groups as per Board of Education policy – for indoor and outdoor use.
- SCOPE – Pre-K and Before and After School Programs
- Interior classroom doors at North Country Road Middle School and Miller Place High School will be **closed** for security purposes.
- Interior classroom doors at Andrew Muller Primary Schools and Laddie A. Decker Sound Beach School will remain **open** when possible.
- Exterior windows will remain open, when possible, to improve air circulation.
- Note: ventilation system upgrades are being presented for approval to the District residents via a bond issue in the fall 2021.

Plan Highlights – Child Nutrition

- Breakfast – “Grab and Go”
- Lunch – In Cafeterias

The District will participate in the National Free Meal Breakfast and Lunch Program for all students at no charge to parents and guardians.

Plan Highlights – Transportation

- Masks/face covering are required on school buses - all routes and trips for District transportation.
- The District contract transportation service providers will take similar actions as the District to ensure the ongoing cleanliness of high contact areas on school buses.
- Buses will not be equipped with hand sanitizer.

Plan Highlights – Social and Emotional Well-Being

- Additional mental health staff have been provided at each school.
- Building based Mental Health Team meetings will begin in September to review student and staff needs.
- Mental health “check-in” protocols for students, faculty, and staff will be continued at each school by age appropriateness.
- The 2021-22 Comprehensive School Counseling Plan is posted on the District website.
- The District will continue to provide resources to address mental health and behavioral/emotional support services and programs.

Plan Highlights – School Schedules

- Student orientations will take place, in-person, as scheduled on the school calendar.
- School will open for students on Wednesday, September 1, 2021.
- Students will follow traditional in-person schedules, 5 days per week.
- There is no remote, virtual, hybrid, distance, or live stream learning.
- School buildings will schedule opportunities for outdoor instruction when possible and as appropriate.

Plan Highlights – School Schedules

- SCDOH quarantined students and those contact traced by the District will receive instructional assignments in their Google classrooms posted by their classroom teachers.
- Only students with 504 plans or those that are medically fragile, will follow the District's established process, including submitting the required medical documentation, in order to coordinate home tutoring for the student.
 - Grades K-6: Five tutoring hours per week
 - Grades 7-12: Ten tutoring hours per week
- Student schedules are subject to change and/or shift between various learning methods based upon a multitude of factors including, but not limited to, guidance from various health agencies including NYSDOH and CDC. Additionally, a return to virtual learning/stay at home order from the State of New York may modify student schedules.

Plan Highlights – Teaching and Learning

- Attendance and absenteeism expectations are students will adhere school district policies and procedures
- Music – Individuals participating in activities that require projecting the voice, such as chorus, or playing a wind instrument, such as band, will maintain 6 feet social distance. The only exception is if the individuals are outdoors.
- Physical Education – Individuals participating in aerobic activities resulting in heavy breathing (including PE class activities) must be 6-feet apart in all directions. Outdoor physical education classes will be highly encouraged (weather permitting).
- Library Media Resource Centers will be open for instruction and accessible for book circulation.
- Career and technical education will be based on individual student schedules and existing District policy.

Plan Highlights – Teaching and Learning

- All educational programs will continue to be aligned with NYS learning standards.
- Lockers in hallways and locker rooms will be available for student use.
- Playgrounds will be open for student use during recess and after school for residents.
- Field trips will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Assemblies may be permitted where social distancing is achievable.
- Only essential visitors such as contractors for building maintenance, and those directly associated with instructional or academic purposes will be allowed to enter school buildings during the academic day. They must submit a health attestation and follow all COVID-19 protocols.
- Parents will be permitted to drop off student forgotten items in the school security vestibule only.
- Parent open houses and meetings will take place after school.

Plan Highlights – Instructional Technology and Connectivity

- Student laptops will continue to support in-classroom instruction and afterschool assignments
- To the extent practicable, hot spots will be provided for families in need for learning purposes only.
- Grades K-5 student laptops will remain at home, unless the classroom teacher requests the device be brought into school.
- Grades 6-12 student laptops will go class-to-class and home with the student each day.

Plan Highlights – Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

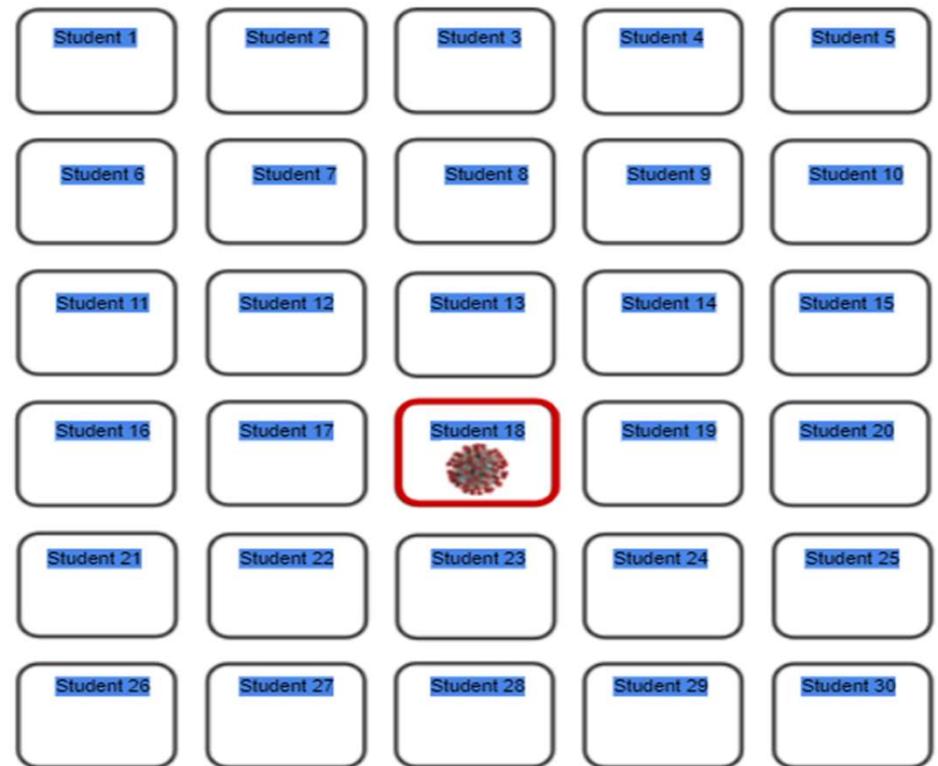
- All interscholastic athletic teams will be conducted following all safety protocols established by the state, various health departments, NYSPHSAA, and Suffolk County Section XI.
- There are no COVID-19 testing requirements to participate in athletics.
- Extracurricular activities are expected to be in-person to begin the school year.
- The District is planning a full schedule of athletic and extracurricular activities.
- Spectators will be allowed after school.

Effects of Contact Tracing, Masks and Quarantine - A

If **ALL** students are wearing masks

Number of students quarantined = **1**

Blue = Mask
Yellow = No Mask
Red = Quarantine



Effects of Contact Tracing, Masks and Quarantine - B

If **ALL** students are wearing masks **EXCEPT** infected student

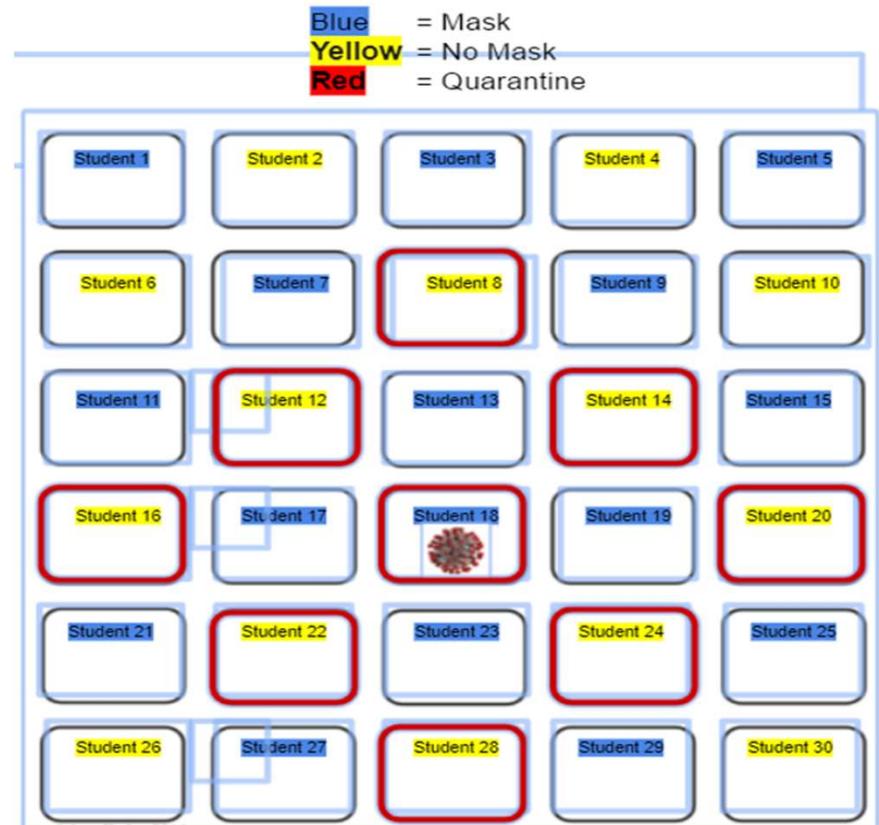
Number of students quarantined = **13**
“within 3-6 feet”



Effects of Contact Tracing, Masks and Quarantine - C

If there is a **MIX** of students wearing masks and the infected student **IS MASKED**

Number of students quarantined = **9**
“within 3-6 feet”



Effects of Contact Tracing, Masks and Quarantine - D

If there is a **MIX** of students wearing masks and the infected student **IS NOT MASKED**

Number of students quarantined = **13**
“within 3-6 feet”

Blue = Mask
Yellow = No Mask
Red = Quarantine



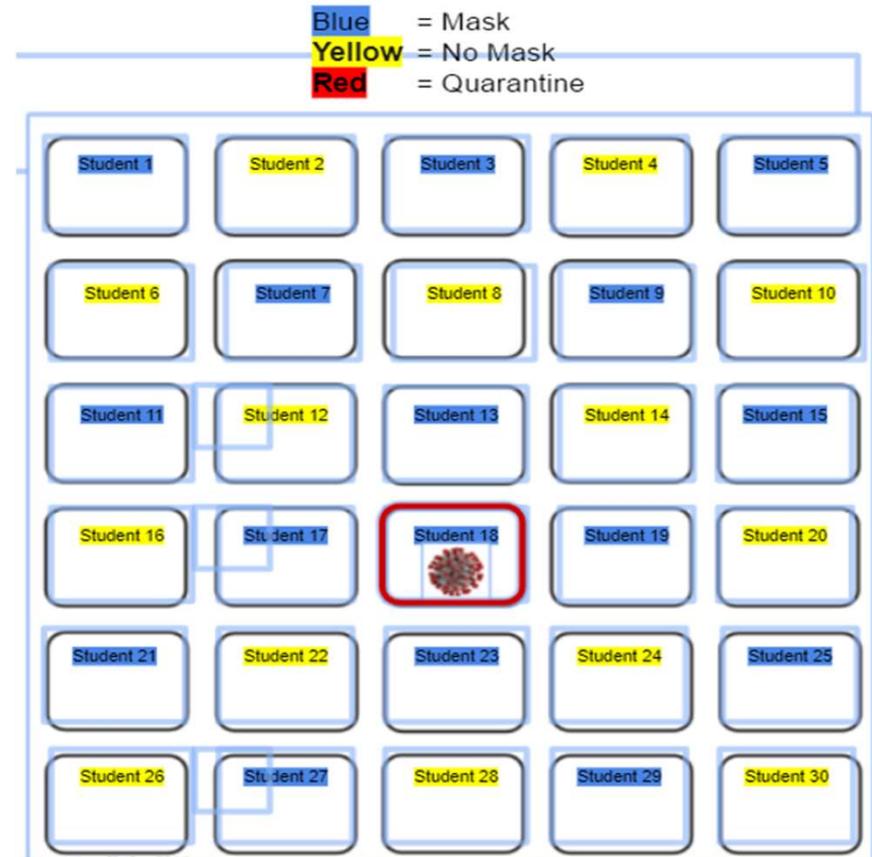
Effects of Contact Tracing, Masks and Quarantine - E

If there is a **MIX** of students wearing masks

infected student **IS MASKED**

All students **ARE VACCINATED**

Number of students quarantined = **1**



Plan – Unknown Face Coverings/Masks

- **Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul** – Assumes Governorship on Tuesday, August 24, 2021.
 - “I believe that we’ll need mask mandates for children to go back to school. And that will have to be universal. It will be statewide.”
 - “In a matter of days I’ll be able to say, ‘We will have mask mandates.’ I just don’t have that authority at this time.”
 - “We thought we were there a few months ago, the Delta Variant has changed the dynamic considerably, so we have to continue being vigilant. But, number one, our children need to be back in schools.”

August 18, 2021

Plan – Unknown Face Coverings/Masks

➤ Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul –

- “I have to wait to be sworn in as governor at midnight Tuesday morning before making any orders.”
- “I want to telegraph my intentions, but cannot make anything happen until Tuesday.”
- “I have done the due diligence to determine the authority in the department of health and I expect to make an announcement very shortly on Tuesday.”
- “People should be ready.”

August 20, 2021

Plan – Unknown – Local Control

Long Island School Districts

Indoor Masks

Massapequa	strongly recommended
Eastport South Manor	optional
Plainedge	optional
William Floyd	hybrid

Indoor Masks Recommendations Pending This Week

Patchogue – Medford	Rocky Point
Port Jefferson	Miller Place
Three Village	
Mount Sinai	
Shoreham-Wading River	

Please note:
There are 127
school districts on
Long Island.

Plan – Unknown – Local Control Long Island School Districts

Indoor Masks Required:

Bay Shore	Bayport Blue Point	Central Islip
Comsewogue	Freeport	Greenport
Herricks	Jericho	Lawrence
Longwood	Lynbrook	Manhasset
Oyster Bay	Port Washington	Riverhead
Rockville Centre	Roosevelt	Roslyn
Syosset	South Country	Uniondale
Valley Stream 13	Valley Stream 24	Westhampton Beach

*New York City Department of Education – all five boroughs

**Open Schools Plan
2021-22
COVID-19 Protocols**

*Need Board of Education Plan
approval via resolution*

Presentation and Written Plan will be
posted on the District Website.

Thank You for your continued support of
our school community

- **Questions – Board of Education Members**

- **Public Be Heard – Residents**

- **Public Be Heard – Non-Residents**