

Miller Place Union Free School District

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August 10, 2020

Re: Updates on Reopening Schools 2020-2021

Dear Miller Place School District Community,

As you may be aware, Governor Cuomo has given the go-ahead to allow schools across New York State to open in the fall, and we cannot wait to see our students once again. That being said, we understand and appreciate the concerns and anxieties among the some community members regarding in-person instruction. Our reopening task force has worked tirelessly to develop a plan that allows us to re-enter the classroom with enhanced safety measures to protect the safety and wellbeing of students, faculty and staff in our District. On that note, the following is a review our reopening plans and updated guidance from the state.

On July 31, we shared with the community the District's [Reopening Schools 2020-2021 Planning](#) document, located on the District's website, as well as several [key highlights](#) as we prepare for the school year under new circumstances. Additionally, a Power Point presentation, with the key highlights, has been posted to the [District's website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for your convenience.

The Governor has also asked school districts to make the following information available on their websites:

- District procedures for testing of COVID-19
- District procedures for contact tracing
- District remote learning plans and how equity/equal access will be ensured

For your convenience, specific links to this information **will be posted** under the [Reopen Schools Information](#) tab on our district website as soon as the information is received from the Suffolk County Department of Health (DOH) for testing and tracing and by this Friday for the remote learning plan.

For your information, school districts are enhancing our plans for contact tracing, which is implemented through the Suffolk County DOH and New York State DOH. All protocols will follow the directives of the county's health department. Additionally, we are awaiting definitive guidance from New York State regarding protocols for COVID-19 testing when a student or staff member either presents with COVID-19 symptoms or has a temperature above 100 degrees.

As requested by Governor Cuomo, three virtual parent meetings will be set up to review our plans in further detail and address parent questions or concerns. We will also be holding one virtual meeting with our teaching staff. These meeting dates will be communicated to parents and faculty, via a Connect Ed message, by the end of the week.

The week of August 24, 2020 please look for email messages and direction from your child's principals regarding bus transportation, at school pick-up and drop-off locations, classroom setup and schedules, policies, procedures, food service program and how our reopening plans will unfold in their buildings. The District recognizes and appreciates parents who are emailing, texting and calling us with questions regarding reopening schools. We have taken those questions and have cataloged them according to subject matter and will answer them in unified manner during the virtual parent meetings. If you have a question, please feel free to email it to: reopenschool@millerplace.k12.ny.us

We recognize this school year is going to look different. Students and staff will be wearing masks, we may not be able to participate in traditional events and or gather for customary celebrations. But we, the Miller Place School District Community, have already weathered an unimaginable storm with unparalleled resiliency and we will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools