



Onondaga

Central Schools

Reopening FAQ's

1. Will my children be required to wear a mask all day while in school?

Yes, all students will be wearing masks while in school, but we will be implementing mask breaks when possible.

2. Will specials (Art, Gym, Music) be held outside of the classroom?

Special area classes will be held in their classrooms, but all classes may utilize outdoor/large area spaces as appropriate.

3. How will the children eat lunches without an increased risk of exposure?

Students will be placed 6 ft apart at individual desks or tables. Students will wear a mask whenever they are in transition or not seated. Students will be required to wash their hands before and after lunch.

4. How will kids be separated on the bus?

Students will sit one per seat on the bus and will load back to the front in an assigned seat. Families will be able to sit together.

5. Will the children's temperatures be recorded daily?

Yes, families will be asked to check temperatures at home before the child boards the bus, and temperatures will be checked again by the staff before a student is permitted to enter the building. The information will be recorded as a pass/fail, not the actual temperature.

6. If a student or teacher is positive for COVID-19, will all students and their families have to quarantine at home for 14 days?

The district will work in conjunction with the Department of Health on how to notify families about exposure and possible quarantine requirements.

7. Will distance learning be set up for them during this time?

Yes, distance learning is a model that we have for those that choose to remain at home for their academic instruction.

8. Will distance learning this fall have lessons taught vs. review material?

This year's lessons will be taught and follow the New York State Standards and individual curriculums.

9. Is COVID-19 testing going to be done before returning to school?

The Onondaga CSD has no guidance that mandates COVID-19 testing before entering school.

10. Will family members be grouped by day A/B schedule so that family members are in attendance together.

Yes, family members will be grouped together to accommodate families.

11. What should a working parent do if Rockwell is on a hybrid schedule? Will allowances be made?

The Onondaga Central School District does its best to work with individual families to address this issue.

12. Will devices be available for distance learners?

We will do our best to provide devices to families in need.

13. Do high school students wear masks while in class?

Yes, students will wear masks in class. We will have built-in mask breaks throughout the day.

14. Will Bascol be running at Rockwell?

The plan is to have Bascol available to families. This may change depending on the guidance from New York State.

15. If a senior opts for distance learning will they still be able to participate in college-level classes?

Yes.

16. In distance-learning will extra help be available?

Plans will be developed at the individual building level to address student achievement gaps.

17. For 7-12 distance learning, will the students be in classes virtually, with the in-person students at the same time, so that the class would be live and interactive for the distance learner?

We are currently working on technology to allow students to receive instruction both virtually and in person at the same time.

18. What will happen with gym classes at the Jr/Sr high?

We are currently looking at programs to address this at the Jr/Sr High School. Wheeler and Rockwell will start the year with gym classes in the classroom. They may also utilize outdoor areas and large spaces as appropriate.

19. How will PROPER mask usage be enforced?

The proper use of face coverings will be strictly enforced at all three buildings and will follow the Code of Conduct.

20. What is planned for chorus and band classes in the HS?

The Jr/Sr High School has created a seating chart meeting social distancing guidelines to allow students to sit in the auditorium to participate in the chorus. We will also continue to visit the idea of a virtual chorus/choir as well.

21. If a child, teacher, or staff present with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, what is the response protocol (i.e. communication, isolation, etc.)?

Students and staff will go through health screenings daily. Any person demonstrating symptoms will be isolated and sent home. The Onondaga Central School District will work with the Onondaga Department of Health in regard to reporting and tracking.

22. For distance and hybrid models, what will be the home technical requirements?

Home technology needs: internet connectivity, chrome book, laptop, or phone would allow students to access lessons and instructional videos.

23. What attendance requirements will be in place for students?

Attendance will be taken daily regardless of the instructional model your child enrolls in. The Jr/Sr High School will also take attendance by period. Parents will be notified if their child is missing school.

24. Previously, if a student missed a certain number of days they sent a letter home. Does this requirement still apply?

Yes, we will continue to monitor and communicate with families about the number of days students are missing. New York State guidance suggests that students not be absent more than 10 percent of the school year.

25. What if my child seems sick and I want to keep them home, would they be able to learn virtually on the day they are sick?

Yes, teachers will be providing lessons that can be utilized both in the classroom and virtually. Absent student, parent/guardian, or student should notify school. Each building will work with families to ensure they have an academic plan.

26. For remote learning, it said lessons will be out by 8 am, does this mean no virtual lessons or real-time feedback?

The lesson will be available at the regularly scheduled time or by 8 am. Teachers will have virtual facetime with students as well.

27. How will distant learners participate in labs?

Students that participate in full distance learning will have alternative labs that allow them to meet the required number of labs for the school year.

28. How can K-2 students attend virtual instruction if their parents work?

Each building will work with individual families to work through these issues.

29. For younger grades will the students who are doing distance learning get an opportunity to meet, in person, their teacher for the year?

There will be more information coming from individual buildings regarding how and when students will meet their teachers, i.e. virtual meetings and small group in-person meetings.

30. For seniors who choose distance learning, will they be able to participate in any senior activities if they happen?

Yes.

31. So will the high school students have to carry around all their textbooks?

The Jr/Sr High School is still looking into the use of lockers. If lockers are utilized we will use PPE and social distancing guidelines. If lockers are not utilized students would need to utilize bookbags.

32. Can teachers at the Jr/Sr high school offer after school labs that at-home learners can attend? Or can at home learners attend just the labs?

The Jr/Sr High School teachers and administrators are still working out the details on Science labs for all students.

33. Will there be a full-time distance learning option for elementary students if there is a stay at home parent and adequate technology at home?

Yes, families may choose to keep their students home and participate in a virtual instructional model.

34. What about students that attend school but need to quarantine? Will they be able to attend virtually?

Students that need to quarantine should notify school ASAP. Each building will work with families to ensure they have an academic plan.

35. What will be the new student sign out protocols (for a doctor appointment, etc.)?

Students that need to be signed out from school will call and your child will be walked to you. Parents will not enter the building at this time.