

Dear Fabius-Pompey Central School District:

We are excited to share with you our reopening plan for the 2021-2022 school year. Both the Elementary and MSHS will once again welcome students for five days a week of in person instruction.

We appreciate the support, trust, and cooperation of our students and families to operate schools safely during the pandemic. We look forward to continuing our partnership to ensure a safe and successful return to school.

There are several important safety precautions the District will be taking to maintain the health and safety of all members of the school community. The safety precautions outlined in this reopening plan were created by reviewing recommendations from the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u>, <u>American Academy of</u> <u>Pediatrics, guidance from the New York State Education Department</u> along with guidance from state and local health officials.

We will continue to work with our stakeholders as well as the CDC and local health department to make any necessary adjustments. We appreciate the support of our community leaders, board of education, administrators and supervisors, school staff, public health officials, and school community during this challenging time.

Please be sure to:

- 1. Review this updated safety plan
- 2. Complete a brief transportation survey
- 3. Contact us with any questions or concerns regarding your child's ability to return to in person learning this fall.

Thank you again for your continued trust and support!

Fabius-Pompey District Reopening Plan Information

Fabius-Pompey is committed to ensuring the safety and health of all of our students and faculty while providing the academic rigors and standards that our students and community have come to expect as part of a positive learning environment. This information is generated based upon the CDC, the NYSDOH as well as NYSED Guidelines.

There are areas that the CDC and Health Department have identified that will lead to the least likely transmission of cases. As a result of this guidance, the areas that NYSED has asked schools to focus upon are the following:

Promoting vaccination

- The CDC states that "vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic". Fabius-Pompey encourages all faculty, staff and students to get vaccinated who are eligible, though it is not mandated at this time. Fabius-Pompey did participate in clinics that were hosted at Lafayette for students that were eligible for vaccination.
- For information on how to obtain a COVID vaccine, you can visit -<u>https://covid19.ongov.net/vaccine/</u>

Consistent and correct use of masks

- The CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics_recommend universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status and community transmission levels.
- The Fabius-Pompey Central School District will require all students, staff, and visitors to wear a mask when inside of school buildings or school vehicles occupied by students, except when eating or drinking. Mask breaks will be scheduled at various intervals throughout the school day.
- When students are riding on school vehicles, all drivers and passengers are required to wear a mask at all times.
- Masks will be provided for those individuals who forget to bring a mask. Masks are available in the main office, nurses office, and on school vehicles.
- Students will have their masks off during lunch for the purposes of eating and drinking and will be expected to put the mask back on after they finish eating and drinking.

Physical distancing

- The CDC recommends that schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing, to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. Fabius-Pompey will maintain 3 feet of distancing, and where possible 6 feet of distancing will be continued.
- Given the number of students that will be returning to in-person instruction, one area where

distancing will not be able to be maintained is on the buses. All students will have to be masked at all times on all school buses.

Screening testing to quickly identify cases

- Screening can identify students and staff with or without symptoms.
- This testing is likely to be done in places where there is a significant or high transmission rate, or a low vaccination rate. If necessary, Fabius-Pompey will partner with Onondaga County to provide screening for students and staff.

Improved ventilation

• Ventilation inside of the school meets and exceeds all recommendations set forth by the CDC's recommendations. While the weather allows, windows will be open to increase "fresh air" in the classrooms, as well as on the buses.

Proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette

- Signage will be posted throughout the building and faculty and staff will encourage students to wash their hands and use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be throughout the building.

Staying home when sick and getting tested

- Students and school personnel should stay home if they are showing signs and symptoms of infectious illness, including COVID-19, and get tested. Individuals who are absent from school will need to provide either a medical note or proof of a negative COVID test
- Students or staff members who develop symptoms during the school day will be sent home immediately. Parents of students will be contacted immediately to come and pick up their child. Symptoms Include:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

- Contact tracing will be conducted when cases are reported regarding someone that was in school. The community, or classrooms will be notified when a case has been detected. A close contact does not need to quarantine if they are vaccinated, but they should quarantine if symptoms become present.
- The district will continue to work with the Onondaga County Health Department through the process of contact tracing as well as quarantining. All decisions related to quarantine and isolation are made by the Onondaga County Health Department. Initial contact may be made through the school in conjunction with the Onondaga County Health Department.
- Routine cleaning with disinfection
- The CDC encourages cleaning school buildings and school buses at least once a day to sufficiently remove any germs that may be on surfaces. Fabius-Pompey will clean classrooms, buses and high touch surfaces frequently. In areas where the most frequent cleaning must take place, a hands-free disinfecting machine will be used to clean surfaces.

Safety

- Signage will be posted throughout the building emphasizing hand hygiene, symptoms of Covid, masks, as well as social distancing.
- Lockers will be staggered in the high school. Lockers will no longer be grouped by grade level, and will instead be staggered with empty lockers utilized to space out lockers where possible.
- Students and staff must wear masks throughout the day. Scheduled mask breaks will be established throughout the day for students.
- High touch areas (door knobs, toilets, desks etc), and classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized throughout the day, and all areas will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each school day.
- A room will be established for students who are suspected of having Covid-19. Parents will be expected to pick up their child if they are suspected of having Covid-19 they then must get a COVID test prior to returning to school.

Arrival/Dismissal

Elementary School Arrival

Buses

- Students will enter the building specific to grade level: K-1 main entrance; 2-3 front entrance (Main Street); and 4-5 the gym foyer entrance. The 4th grade students will use the staircase nearest the cafeteria. The 5th grade students will use the staircase by the Kindergarten wing.
- Students will be released from the busses at 7:50 am.

Parent Drop Off

• Students will be dropped off one at a time. Staff will assist with monitoring the door at the back parking lot.

Walkers

• Enter through the main entrance

Elementary School Dismissal

Buses

Grade levels will exit from the same door they entered the building in the AM (K-1 main entrance, 2-3 front entrance, 4-5 gym foyer entrance). Students will be dismissed by bus with the exception of 2nd graders. The 2nd grade special area teacher will walk the students out and then assist with other grade levels boarding the bus. 2nd grade students will walk to the gym to wait for their ride. 5th graders will use the Kindergarten wing staircase to exit. 4th grade students will use the cafeteria stairway to exit.

Parent Pick Up

• Once busses have left, students will be called to the gym by grade and non-classroom teachers will escort students. Students will remain socially distanced with non-classroom teachers and/or

teachers assisting for parent pick up. Children will be released through the back two gym doors to the parking lot.

Parents who are picking up their children will receive 2 parent tags to be placed on the car
rearview mirror. The car tag will have a parent name and number. The child will have a tag
associated with the parent car tag on their bag or backpack. A teacher will verify the car tag and
student upon dismissal from the school. The students will be released from the two back doors of
the gymnasium that release into the parking lot.

Walkers

• Exit through the front entrance

MSHS Arrival

- Students will enter the building in 3 different locations. Students that are entering off of the buses will enter based upon grade level:
 - HS students will enter near the nurses office entrance.
 - MS students will enter at the main office entrance.
- Students that are walking, driving, or are being dropped off will enter at the loading dock area.

MSHS Dismissal

- Drivers/walkers will be dismissed first and exit out the loading dock doors.
- High school students will exit out the doors nearest the health office.
- Middle school students will exit out the main doors.

Activity Period (Afterschool)

• There will be an activity period, following the first couple of weeks (beginning the week of September 20th). Students will be able to stay after on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. The purpose of staying after is for extra support from teachers. Clubs and groups are also in operation during this time. Activity period should not primarily be utilized as a social time.

Breakfast and Lunch

- Lunch will either be in the cafeteria, a classroom, or outside. Students will be assigned specific areas for their lunches each day. They will check in on the Google form indicating where they sat for quarantining purposes. This record is kept for the purposes of quarantining in the event of a positive COVID-19 case.
- Desks will continue to be utilized for the purpose of lunch instead of the traditional tables.

Classrooms

- Classrooms will be socially distanced with 3-6 feet between desks.
- Students and staff will be expected to wear their masks during instructional time.
- Guidelines recommend that staff remain 6 feet apart from students.

Instruction & Remote Instruction

- It is the district's belief that students learn best through the in-person method of instruction. If a student must be a remote student as a result of a medical condition etc. the district must be made aware and a doctor's note must be provided to the district. The doctor's note must indicate that a student cannot be instructed in-person as a result of a medical condition (immuno-compromised).
 - In the event that schools are closed by local, state or officials due to a spread of disease or lack of available staffing resources, schools may have to shift to remote learning. Classroom teachers should be prepared to switch to remote learning quickly. In the event that schools are closed for in person learning, students will be expected to login from home and follow their normal school schedule via video conferencing tools and online learning platforms provided by the district.
- If a student is quarantined as a result of COVID-19 (either contracting it, awaiting a test result, or as a result of being in close proximity), that student will receive information asynchronously through Google Classroom. Help will be provided through a "tutor", a teacher that will be available for support from 3:30-5:30 each day.
 - This support is available for students that are quarantined, or need extra support. It is not a substitute for daily instruction. Student's will not be permitted to abuse this with lengthy absences not tied to the pandemic.
- The typical means of instructional delivery will be Google classroom. This format will be utilized for consistency purposes. This single form allows for better communication between students and teachers.

Music

• All music ensembles will be required to practice 6 feet of social distancing for any band or chorus practices. We will adhere to these guidelines. PPE will be utilized throughout the practices - bell covers for instruments, masks for singing.

Physical Education

 Students will participate in physical education classes with 6 feet of social distancing during any sort of aerobic activity. Physical education classes will be conducted outside as often as possible. Students should dress appropriately for the conditions as they will likely go outside regardless of the weather, unless really inclement.

Field Trips

• To begin the school year there will be limited outside field trips. Instead they will primarily take place virtually.

Instructional Technology

- All students in grade 3-12 will be assigned a Chromebook.
- Any family with connectivity issues will be assigned a hotspot to ensure internet connectivity at home.

Physical Changes to the Building

- Drinking fountains will continue to be shut down with the exception of the newer drinking fountains/bottle filling stations throughout the building to limit these high touch items.
- Hand dryers will continue to be removed from bathrooms and replaced with touchless paper towel dispensers per CDC guidelines.
- Multiple entry points to and exits from the school will be utilized at the beginning and end of the school day.
- There will be hand sanitizer dispensers throughout the building near entryways and in high touch areas.
- Signage will be posted throughout the building emphasizing hand hygiene, symptoms of Covid, masks, as well as social distancing.

Lockers (Primarily MS/HS)

- Lockers will not be cohorted as they have traditionally been, with the exception of 6th grade. Students will be assigned lockers that are distanced as far as possible in conjunction with staggered dismissal times into the hallways in an effort to socially distance students while at their lockers.
- Students must wear their masks at all times while they are at their lockers and in the hallways.

Visitors, Parent Teacher Conferences, Etc.

- Only essential visitors will be allowed in the building, and they must follow the protocol of a temperature check prior to entering the building. A parent dropping something off to the building should label the items and they will be placed in the foyer area. Staff will ensure that it is given to the student.
- Parent conferences, CSE meetings, etc. will be conducted virtually to limit traffic in the building. At this time, most events that would be held inside, open house, curriculum nights, etc will be done virtually.