

Community Forum: August 17, 2020

1. **It is estimated that 20% of the population has covid antibodies, but only 12% of the health care workers do. This provides evidence that masks are effective. We have to operate on that premise**
 2. **I have adjusted some questions to remove specific names.**
 3. **I arranged the questions by topic and have selected just one question to add to this presentation.**
 4. **Some questions are very specific and if I have not answered them, please contact your child's principal.**
 5. **Use the chat feature at the bottom of your screen if you would like to ask a follow up question and I will get to them if there is time.**
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- What are the community resources for student mental health?
 - *Contact School counselors, social workers, FHN Counseling services, other county services as required, see additional information from Patty Schaap, included on our website.*

 - What are the community resources for adult mental health?
 - *FHN, county resources (211.org)*
 - *EAP for school employees and their families*

 - How can mental health resources be accessed?
 - *All students have access to a school counselor who can connect them with school social workers and/or community providers*
 - *Families can also contact our school counselors directly for connecting their child to mental health resources*

 - How is dropping off and picking up going to work?
 - *Parents are encouraged to use the Cincinnati Fire Department to drop off their children if they are independent enough to walk from there. Those students will be able to enter into the small gym. For younger children, parents can drop them off in front of school and children can get out of the car on the curb side and walk to the small gym. We are working on dismissal plans that don't involve adults leaving their vehicle. We will get the message out regarding these two areas prior to school opening.*

- Will students be evaluated fairly and honestly with testing and assignments?
 - *One of the goals of synchronous learning is to have students that are choosing remote learning be "in attendance" at least through his/her chromebook or Ipad. Those students will also complete the same assignments as the students that are engaged with in-person learning. We are working toward a "typical" marking period with the normal grading procedures.*

- Can you disclose the "terms of acceptance" for our own individual opening plan in regard to NYS. i.e.- What conditions of the guidelines are "mandatory" in the eyes of NYS and the Federal Gov't? What consequences are indicated if the recommendations are either deliberately or inadvertently not addressed? Are the BOE and School administration willing to provide their answers to these survey questions along with their justifications for those answers, in a well organized document , to the residents of the School district? What is the timeline for posting the comprehensive list of questions and answers on the website?
 - *We have not received any information regarding our specific plan. There are districts in our area that are reopening with a similar plan including McGraw, Fabius-Pompey, LaFayette, and Cortland. The Question and Answer documents will be posted tomorrow after tonight's forum. There have been other districts that had to include greater detail in their plan.*

- What is the official stance on Tracing/Testing/Vaccination?
 - *The Contact Tracing and Testing Protocols are listed on our website and are accessible to all. At this time, there is not a vaccination for COVID-19.*

- How will you social distance on buses?
 - *Our buses have a capacity of 22 per New York State DOH unless there are family groups that can get on the bus and sit together. In that case, we can have up to 30 students on a bus. All riders must wear masks for the duration of the trip both coming to school and leaving for home.*

- Will students in grades 9 -12 be able to eat in the cafeteria, use their lockers, change for PE and change class periods?
 - *Outdoors as long as the weather permits, no changing of clothes because we cannot use the locker rooms at this time, fitness skills, backyard games, life-long sporting activities, less emphasis right now on team sports, physical distance between students during aerobic activities (try to maintain 12 feet of distance). We will maximize our capacity to eat in the*

cafeteria but that space is limited. We will not use student lockers at the beginning of the school year.

- What is the difference between home schooling or remote instruction?
 - *If a family selects remote instruction for their child, the school will assign the school work, collect that school work for evaluation and grading, and will assign a grade each 10 weeks. The assignments will align to the standards that are being instructed in class and the child will receive a report each 10 weeks. If a family chooses homebound programming, they are responsible for the instruction, the assessment of instruction, and will work with a BOCES employee to monitor the work. Students will not receive a report card from CCSD.*

- I am eager to see a schedule for my child so we can start to prepare for what a school day will entail.
 - *The bell schedule will remain the same. The counselors are working this week and next on getting student schedules out, per normal operations.*

- Will masks be supplied by the school?
 - *Students may wear their personal cloth mask if they choose. Any student that comes to school without a mask will be provided with a disposable mask. I suspect students will want to have their own mask that they can reuse each day, but we have a supply of adult and child masks ready to go.*

- How long will students have to wear masks?
 - *With the fact that the health care professionals working directly with patients with COVID-19 contracted the virus less than the general population, this proves that masks and other PPE have been effective in protecting us all. When it is safe during instruction, the teacher may allow students to complete their work with masks removed.*

Medical Issues

- If my child has a sore throat, headache, or runny nose , how will he be treated during this time?
 - *If a student is sent home for any illness related reason including a fever it will be recommended they follow up with their PCP or convenient care, however, we can not make them do so. If they are NOT seen, they can not return until symptom-free for 24 hours. If they are seen, the provider will*

determine if testing is necessary or not. If it is NOT recommended, the provider determines when they may return to school. This may be immediate if they are diagnosed with say allergies or it may be days depending on symptoms. In this case, a note will be provided by the provider. The school policy still stands in regards to fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

- What will happen if a child's temperature is slightly above normal? Will the child be sent home?
 - *A child with a temperature above 100 will have to go to the Health Office and will have to remain in the Isolation Room until a ride is available. When their parent or proxy arrives, the child will be escorted to the Visitor Center.*
- Is COVID testing going to be required?
 - *At this time, covid testing will not be required to attend school. Onondaga County is working directly with schools to test staff and some students, but Cortland County has not discussed anything with the local schools at this time.*
- I would like to know how it is going to work if a child comes to school showing signs of sickness. Does that mean every child that was on the bus now have to be quarantined? Are you going to do temp checks before students get on the bus?

Quarantine

- If a child is diagnosed with COVID after being allowed in the classroom, will the whole class be required to quarantine?
 - Parents will be notified that there is a positive case in the classroom, school will be closed for at least 24 hours, the Teachers and students will have to follow instructions from the County Health Department, and rooms will be disinfected by the District Custodial Staff.
- What is the plan if/when there is a positive case in the school?
 - Parents will be notified that there is a positive case in the classroom, school will be closed for at least 24 hours, the Teachers and students will have to follow instructions from the County Health Department, and rooms will be disinfected by the District Custodial Staff.