



Answers to FAQ's from MACS Family Reopening Survey

Link to NYSED guidance document: <http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf>

- Masks:** *Based on Department of Health and New York State Education guidance, MACS students will be required to wear masks when riding the bus, transitioning between classes or moving in the hallway, during arrival/dismissal in the buildings, and at any other time that 6 ft. of social distancing can't be maintained.*
 - Students are permitted to bring their own mask to school every day. If the student does not have a mask, a disposable mask will be provided by the district.
 - During classroom instruction, students will be permitted to remove their masks while seated or take regularly scheduled mask breaks.
 - Since the health and safety of our learning community is our most important focus during the time, the district is requiring a doctor's note indicating the medical necessity for an exemption from mask wearing (as per Department of Health regulations).
 - If a doctor's note is not provided, students **must** follow district mask wearing protocols.
 - Students who refuse to comply with district mask wearing requirements will be assigned to virtual learning from home.
- Social Distancing:** *The New York Education Department is requiring schools to adhere to 6 feet of social distance between students when they are not wearing a mask, and 12 feet of social distance for special areas such as Physical Education and Music.*
 - Every classroom in the district has been measured to assure 6 feet of social distance exists between all student desks and the teacher desk. Due to this requirement, classrooms are limited to an average of 12 students per room. This year, Mexico Academy and CSD class rosters average between 16-25 students in each class. These numbers, paired with the state guidance, led to our decision to implement a hybrid model of instruction at this time. The space limitations within the building made it impossible to offer a fully in-person option because the required social distancing could not be maintained.
 - Each building will provide families with specific information regarding designated areas for student drop-off and pick-up, as well as arrival dismissal procedures.
 - Visual aids will be used in our buildings to illustrate traffic flow with appropriate social distancing.

3. Temperature Screening:

- Transportation staff will take students' temperatures before they enter the bus, using an infrared forehead scanner. If the student has a temperature of 100.0 or higher, they will not be permitted on the bus.
- Students who are being dropped off at school will have their temperature taken outside, prior to entering the building.
- Staff will participate in daily temperature screenings as well as completing a district COVID-19 screening form prior to starting their workday.
- If a student arrives late to school, they will have their temperature taken upon arrival.

4. Transportation

- Students will have their temperature taken prior to boarding the bus (must be under 100.0.) We ask families to please wait for their child to be screened to assure that their temperature is 100.0 or under.
- Masks are always required while riding the bus.
- Household members may be seated together.
- With the seat as a barrier and separation of students, the bus has the capacity for 1 driver, 1 monitor, and 21 student riders at one time.

5. Cleaning Protocols:

- Student desks will be disinfected between all class transitions.
- Hand sanitizer will be utilized in teacher classrooms and designated areas in each building.
- Disinfecting wipes will be available in each classroom
- The district is implementing all ventilation/filtration requirements recommended in the NYSED guidance document.
- Daily cleaning/disinfecting protocols have been established for bathrooms, shared areas, and high touch areas within every building.
- Enhanced cleaning will take place every Wednesday, when all students will be participating in virtual learning.
- Bus seats and high touch surfaces will be cleaned/disinfected between bus runs.
- Bathroom hand dryers will be disabled, and paper towel will be provided.
- No touch bottle fillers will be enabled on drinking fountains- please send students with their own, labeled water bottle. Paper cups will also be provided to be used as needed.

6. Specials/Recess/Extracurricular Activities/Sports

- The New York State Public High School Athletic Associations (NYSPHSAA) has voted to pause the official start date of the Fall 2020 sports season until Monday, September 21st.
- Extracurricular activities are being evaluated for the potential to offer them virtually- no in person extracurricular activities will be offered at this time.
- Building principals and teachers are working together to create a schedule that incorporates physical education, music, band, and chorus opportunities for students. Instruction may be virtual or in person.

7. Students or Staff Becoming Ill at School

- Each building will establish a separate isolation room for students or staff showing symptoms of communicable or infectious disease. Rooms will be set up with 6 feet of separation between students.
- All areas used by the sick person confirmed or suspected of COVID infection will be cleaned and disinfected.
- Parents or guardians will be instructed to call their health care provider, or if they do not have a health care provider, to follow up with a local clinic or urgent care center.
- If a student or staff member is diagnosed with another condition (not COVID), a healthcare provider must provide a written note stating they are clear to return to school.
- Schools must collaborate with their local health department to determine the parameters, conditions or metrics (e.g., increased absenteeism or increased illness in school community) that will serve as early warning signs that positive COVID-19 cases may be increasing beyond an acceptable level.
- The district will partner with the Oswego County Department of Health for contact tracing, testing guidance, and potential quarantine due to exposure, based on each situation.