

Jasper-Troupsburg Central School District 2021-2022 Opening of School Protocols

The Jasper-Troupsburg Central School is committed to opening the 2021-2022 school year with the safety of all students and staff foremost in all decision making. As such, the following protocols will be implemented and enforced following initial Board approval. Should local Steuben County or NYS DOH guidance or mandates change, this document will be updated accordingly without subsequent Board approval needed to implement that change. For any item not directly addressed in this document, Steuben County Department of Health recommendations will be followed.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Protocol</i>	<i>Considerations</i>
Vaccinations	<p>Vaccinations are highly encouraged but not required at this time. As such, the health and safety measures in this plan will apply to everyone regardless of their vaccination status.</p> <p>Currently, no one under age 12 is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.</p>	<p>The District Health Office will continue to provide information about vaccine clinics to those families who request such information and we will help to facilitate access to vaccinations for families or staff in the District.</p>
Consistent and Correct Mask Use	<p>Effective immediately, in accordance with the Commissioner's Determination issued pursuant to 10 NYCRR 2.60, any person over the age of 2 (including all students, personnel, teachers, administrators, contractors, and visitors) must wear masks at all times indoors in P-12 school buildings, regardless of vaccination status. People with medical or developmental conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask may be exempted from mask requirements, as documented by a medical provider. People do not need to wear masks when eating, drinking, singing, or playing a wind instrument;</p>	<p>A mask break, or snack or water break will be provided once every hour for PK-6 grades and once every period for 7-12 students. Mask breaks may be provided outside when weather permits. Any request for medical exemption of the masking requirement will be reviewed by our district Medical Director. The district Medical Director will determine if an exemption and appropriate accommodations are allowable.</p>

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	<p>when masks are removed for these purposes, individuals must be spaced six feet apart. All mask requirements must be applied consistently with any state and federal law (e.g., Americans with Disabilities Act)</p>	
Physical Distancing	<p>MINIMUM 3 ft social distancing in all classroom setups Pre K-12.</p> <p>While in general music, chorus and instrumental band students will be spaced 6 feet apart to the greatest extent possible.</p>	<p>Seating charts will be maintained. Includes general music, lunch, chorus, and instrumental band classes.</p> <p>General music, chorus and instrumental band classes will be held in the largest spaces available in order to maximize physical distancing.</p>
Transportation	<p>Masks are required for everyone on school transportation at all times. Roof hatches and windows will be open if outside temp is greater than 40 degrees. Assigned seats and seating charts will be utilized. Per the CDC, physical distancing is NOT required on school buses.</p>	<p>Continue with daily cleaning protocols from last year- disinfection following each run. Sit with family/household members when possible.</p>
Cafe'	<p>Breakfast: Will be provided and will be eaten in the classrooms.</p> <p>Lunch: Students will be seated with other students within their class/cohort. Physical distancing of at least 3 ft will be used <u>when able</u> to allow all students to eat together. Students moving through the line will be staggered and classes will be spaced as best as possible.</p>	<p>Each table or radius (6 ft around) will become a 'pod' and would be subject to quarantine if there was a positive student exposure.</p>

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<p>Health Screenings</p>	<p>There will be no daily or weekly on campus health screenings required.</p>	<p>Parents should screen students at home and students exhibiting any symptoms should be kept home. Staff should self-screen before entering the building and should stay home when not feeling well.</p>
<p>Guests/Visitors to Campus</p>	<p>All guests/visitors must sign in at the single point entry at the main door and complete a COVID Health Screening. Guests/visitors will follow all indoor safety protocols in place at that time.</p>	<p>Anyone refusing to complete screening or follow current protocols will be denied entry.</p>
<p>Cleaning/Sanitation Protocols</p>	<p>Faculty will be provided cleaning supplies and will be encouraged to clean periodically throughout the day. Custodial staff will clean high touch surfaces throughout the day and will conduct a more thorough cleaning each night. Cleaning staff will continue maintaining cleaning logs for all spaces.</p>	
<p>Contact Tracing</p>	<p>Building principals will continue to lead the contact tracing efforts for any positive cases. The school nurse will be the primary contact with parents. The Superintendent or her designee will be the primary contact with Steuben County Public Health.</p>	<p>Accurate attendance records, seating charts and sign-in/sign-out lists will assist with contact tracing efforts.</p>

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<p>Quarantine</p>	<p>Steuben County Public Health is the only organization that can mandate quarantine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If quarantined, official documentation must be provided to the School Nurse. - Students are encouraged to rest and recuperate if they are COVID positive, following all medical directives from health care providers as health and safety are the priority - Teachers will post material to SeeSaw or Teams; students will access platforms asynchronously to make up for missed work. If possible, synchronous learning may be a short term option. - Official release from Quarantine must be provided to the appropriate health office official for students to return to school. - If the absence is extended, a parent may request home-bound instruction via established school protocols. The District will work to provide a tutor for any student requiring homebound instruction. 	<p>The CDC guidance document defines a close contact as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).</p> <p>Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. ** This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.</p> <p>People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after a close contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have symptoms.</p>
<p>Cohorting</p>	<p>While there will certainly be more flexibility in student movement this year, to minimize the impact of a positive case and any exposure, a cohorting strategy will be used within grade levels as much as possible to minimize student interactions.</p>	<p>Students may cross grade levels for 7-12 electives, resource room, and academic intervention services. Seating charts will be maintained in all areas.</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">Seating Charts/Movement throughout the building</p>	<p>Seating charts will be maintained for all student areas including classrooms, cafeteria, and buses. Any movement of students in grades Pre K-6 through 7-12 areas will be minimized.</p> <p>Sign in/sign out sheets will be used when any student leaves a space including trips to the restroom.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Testing</p>	<p>As of 9/3/21, the District will not be testing on-site. Rather, the school nurses will offer information about the locations of available testing sites. This is in accordance with the COVID-19 Testing language on page 6 of the Interim NYSDOH Guidance for Classroom Instruction in P-12 Schools During the 2021-2022 Academic Year.</p>	<p>For COVID-19 Testing in schools the CDC recommends screening testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In areas with substantial or high community transmission levels; • In areas with low vaccination coverage; • For certain higher risk activities; and • For participants who are not fully vaccinated and seek to participate in sports, extracurricular activities, or other activities with elevated risk (such as activities that involve singing, shouting, band, and exercise that could lead to increased exhalation)
<p style="text-align: center;">Athletics</p>	<p>Athletes, coaches, and spectators participating indoors are required to wear face coverings.</p> <p>The District will follow the recommendations of NYS DOH, Steuben County Public Health and the Steuben County League Superintendents for both high and low risk sports.</p>	<p>No sign in or screening requirements are currently in place.</p>

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<p>Remote Learning</p>	<p>There will be no voluntary remote learning option available for families in the 21-22 school year.</p>	<p>Per NYSED: The overall goals for the 2021-2022 school year are to keep students and staff healthy and safe, be responsive to student needs, and maximize in-person teaching and learning.</p>
<p>Air Quality/Ventilation</p>	<p>Outside air will be cycled at the highest possible level of the equipment and for an extended period of time each day. The highest rated recommended MERV filters for our systems will be used. Fans will be provided for all indoor learning spaces that do not have central air conditioning. Windows and doors will remain open in student spaces, without central air conditioning, when occupied to increase air flow.</p>	<p>Outdoor instructional spaces will be provided from the start of school until mid-October. That timeline will be extended if needed depending on current restrictions at that time and weather.</p>
<p>Legal Issues/Liability</p>	<p>The State and County DOHs have authority to issue legally binding orders as they deem necessary upon school districts for the preservation of life and health. Violations of such order, which generally have the force and effect of law, may subject a school district to penalty and/or liability.</p>	
<p>COVID Leave/Remote Work</p>	<p>The District will follow the current NYS COVID leave procedures that have been in place since 1/1/21. Only teachers who are required to quarantine along with their class or classes will be allowed to teach remotely.</p>	

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	Non-instructional office staff that are able to complete their daily work remotely <u>MAY</u> be allowed to work remotely with the approval of the Superintendent.	
Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette	Staff will teach and reinforce frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Students and staff will be encouraged to utilize hand sanitizing stations that will be located throughout the building.	