

July 22, 2020

Dear Hope Hall Parents/Guardians,

Last week the New York State Health Department and the New York State Education Department released their reopening guidelines for the 2020 – 2021 school year. They are requiring all schools to develop a reopening plan that addresses all of their guidelines and submit the plan for their school by July 31, 2020. Our school's reopening plan will also be posted on our website for you to be able to read through. The parent survey was sent out last week was to gather input on different pieces of the issued guidelines. We are very grateful to everyone who was able to respond to the survey.

We wanted to share with you a few pieces of information that we know we will be implementing for certain based on the guidelines that were given to us:

1. Social distancing of 6ft is going to be a priority for everyone in the building. This means classroom desks will be spread out 6ft. apart, and there will be floor markers in appropriate spaces to help with the distancing reminders.
2. Face coverings will be required daily, but we will be working with teachers to build in breaks when students can safely stay socially distant in the classrooms and remove their masks.
3. Students will stay in 1 classroom. The teachers will travel to each class, for most of their classes. Students will travel to Art, Music, Physical Education and Woodworking (if applicable).
4. NYS has asked every school to develop 3 different models for school reopening. The basics are outlined as follows:
 - a. *100% in-person instruction*: This plan would have all students in the building Monday – Friday. This would require many modifications to our typical school day.
 - b. *100% virtual instruction*: This plan would have all students participating in online instruction daily. Some classes would be required to “meet” virtually. Attendance will be taken daily and assignments will be graded. We are looking into using Google Classroom for this option. This option would be available for any student who is medically compromised, and may not be able to be in the building for any in person instruction.
 - c. *Hybrid instruction*:
 - i. Grades 2-5: would be in the building daily (depending on transportation from districts). If there is a day when bussing is an issue, the teachers would have at-home options available for the students.

- ii. Grades 6-8: would be in the building on Monday and Tuesday. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday would allow for virtual instruction. Guidelines would follow the same as a virtual instruction plan for those days.
 - iii. Grades 9-12: would be in the building on Thursday and Friday. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday would allow for virtual instruction. Guidelines would follow the same as a virtual instruction plan for those days.
5. With options b and c, teacher attendance in the building Monday through Friday would be mandatory unless the Monroe County Health Department advises us otherwise due to confirmed COVID cases.

Our number one priority is the health and safety of the students, faculty, staff, and families of Hope Hall. We will be continuing to work closely with the guidelines as well as the scientific expertise of the medical professionals in our community and country. All of the decisions we are making are made with the best interest of all in mind. While there are many pros/cons for each schedule for our reopening, the committee is working closely with the guidelines to determine what will be best for the Hope Hall community, and what is allowed by New York State.

As we know more information, we will continue to share it with all of you. Please stay safe and do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns and we will address them as we have answers.

Thank you,



Emily McLean
Assistant Principal



Diana Dolce SSJ
Executive Director