# Sullivan West Central School District Home of the Bulldogs



# **Amended Re-Opening Plan**

**Bulldogs United: Moving Forward, Together** 

**2021-2022 School Year** 

Sullivan West Elementary School 33 Schoolhouse Road Jeffersonville, NY 12748

Sullivan West High School 6604 Route 52 Lake Huntington, NY 12752

# Plan Overview and Required Assurances

This portion of the Re-Opening Plan is designed to provide information on a variety of areas which are important for the successful re-opening of our school buildings and keeping them open going forward.

# **Community/Family Engagement:**

The District highly values the partnerships and collaboration that have been formed with our parent community, our faculty and staff, and community organizations, as well the importance of "student voice" in our planning. The following information provides details regarding the District's focus on Community and Family Engagement during the Re-Opening Process.

- The District created three teams to provide for the creation and updates of this Re-Opening Plan. The District Re-Opening Steering Team has met on multiple occasions to review and analyze the guidance documents provided by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) and the Department of Health (DOH), with the objective of providing the school-level re-opening teams with support and guidance. The District Re-Opening Steering Team is also tasked with reviewing and providing direction in the following areas: Health and Safety; Transportation; Professional Development; Human Resources, and others.
  - The Elementary School and High School Re-Opening Teams have met on multiple occasions to review and make plans in the following areas: Curriculum and Instruction; Scheduling; Student Grouping; Assessment; Staff Assignments, and others.
- The District is using multiple mechanisms to communicate information to our School District community. These include the creation of a dedicated COVID-19 Resources webpage which can be found here: www.swcsd.org.
  - The District is also utilizing our website, Facebook page, K12 Alert automated messaging system, other social media (Instagram and Twitter), email and phone calls to provide information regarding Re-Opening Plans to our community.
- All faculty, staff and students will be provided with teaching and/or training regarding how to follow the COVID-19 protocols safely, and signage will be placed throughout both Schools to serve as reminders. Training videos and in-person demonstrations will be provided to faculty and staff, and in-person teaching/demonstrations will be provided to students. The COVID-19 protocols to be covered through training/teaching include, but are not limited to: hand hygiene, wearing of proper face coverings and social distancing, when required.

- The District will encourage all students, faculty, staff and visitors to adhere to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Department of Health (DOH) guidance regarding the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), specifically acceptable face coverings, when a social distance cannot be maintained. The District will do this through visual communications (i.e. signs) in our schools, written communications to our School District community, and verbal communications with staff, students and visitors.
- School District communications will be provided to families in their language(s) spoken at home, and written plans will be accessible by visual and hearing impaired users.
- If any member of our School District community is unable to access any of the information or communications regarding Re-Opening, please email Interim Superintendent Dr. Kathleen Bressler at bresslerkat@swcsd.org or call (845) 482-4610, extension 3000.

#### **Health and Safety:**

The health and safety of our students, staff and visitors will always be the top priority for our School District. The District has reviewed guidance from a number of organizations, including the Centers for Disease Control, the New York State Department of Health, and the New York State Education Department. The following items provide an overview of how the District plans to address the health and safety concerns of all Bulldogs, both in school and on the bus.

- In creating our Re-Opening Plan, the School District considered the number of students and staff who could occupy our schools, and the spaces in each school, while observing social distancing. The District consults with representatives from First Student Transportation, Inc. to review current guidance regarding social distancing on the school bus and to determine the number of students who may ride a bus at the same time. The District also consulted with the Department of Health regarding access to hospital capacity in our region.
- The District created 3 teams to generate the Re-Opening Plan. Each team has met on multiple occasions, and has received input from School District organizations and medical professionals.
- Information regarding instructions, recommendations and other important COVID-19 information will be provided using multiple mechanisms. The automated K12 Alert system will be used to send telephone calls, emails and text messages, and the School District's website and social media will also be used. Signage will be placed throughout both schools to provide visual and written depictions of the expectations regarding social distancing and appropriate use of PPE. Any visitors to the schools will also be provided with verbal information regarding the expectations to maintain social distancing and wear

an appropriate face covering when required. School wide announcements will be provided, when appropriate.

- The School District will utilize instructional videos to provide training to faculty and staff on identifying potential symptoms of COVID-19. Staff training will include visual handouts describing COVID-19 symptoms, how to take appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and health and wellness protocols. Signage will be placed throughout both schools to remind all faculty and staff of the information provided in the trainings.
- Any individual who feels sick or exhibits COVID-19 symptoms will be required to report immediately to the School Nurse for evaluation. Spaces to be used to isolate potentially-ill staff members or students have been identified in both schools. Following evaluation by the School Nurse, anyone exhibiting potential COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated and will be required to return home. Parents will be required to arrange for pick-up of their ill child within a reasonable amount of time. If the school nurse is not available, the ill student or staff member will be sent home with a plan for follow up with his/her healthcare provider.
- Both schools have developed a protocol for students or staff members who exhibit signs of illness, including a temperature above 100 degrees, and/or a positive response to one or more of the screening questionnaire items, to be immediately sent to the room designated for isolation. These individuals will remain in the isolation room until they are picked up or otherwise sent home from school.
- The District has developed a protocol to ensure that visitors and other guests at either school are included in the health screening process as required. Upon entering the school, any visitor or guest will report to the greeter's desk, upon which time he/she will be required to complete the screening questionnaire. Contact information for all visitors and guests will be recorded upon entry to the school. Visitors to either school will be significantly limited, with the exception of essential functions when above moderate transmission level for Sullivan County.
- The School District will be providing parents with information using a number of methods in order to assist them in identifying potential COVID-19 illness in their child(ren). These methods will include sharing information through social media, the District's website, information provided to parents while in the school building, and through K12 Alert automated communications.
- The District has written protocols and appropriate signage to provide instruction to staff and students regarding proper hand and respiratory hygiene and other practices to help prevent the spread of germs and illness. All staff members and students will take part in

educational activities through video or other mechanisms in order to provide information on this topic.

- 2021-2022 Update: Social distancing (at least 3 feet), will take place when possible
  - O It is important to note that, in a change from prior Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance, students will not have to quarantine if exposed to a COVID-positive student within 3 6 feet, as long as the students involved were correctly wearing masks. This is a potentially significant change which should result in fewer students being required to quarantine if exposed to a COVID-positive student in school.
- When necessary, as determined by the CDC and DOH, in order to ensure that all students, staff members and visitors to our schools observe social distancing of at least 6 feet whenever possible, the School District will limit the capacity of each classroom and our schools. Classrooms will be rearranged to ensure that student desks are not within 6 feet of each other, and the daily schedules will be modified to ensure that students are not forced to gather together in order to move between classes in the school building. Locker access will be limited in order to avoid gatherings of students in the hallways. Cafeteria seating will be modified to allow for social distancing during lunch, and classroom instructional practices will consider how to maintain social distancing for students and staff members in the learning environment.
  - Students will be required to maintain social distancing on the school bus, in addition to wearing masks, as required.
- The District has developed a protocol to ensure that all students and staff who are at high-risk, or who live with a person at high-risk, are provided with appropriate accommodations. Each plan will be developed specifically to respond to the issues raised by the student, parent or staff member, in consultation with the appropriate health officials and legal counsel.
- The District has developed a protocol requiring all students, staff members and visitors to
  our schools to wear a face mask, as required, whenever social distancing cannot be
  maintained. Signage will be placed throughout both schools, and written guidance will
  be provided to all students, staff members, parents and visitors explaining the
  requirement.
- The District has developed a plan to ensure that an adequate supply of cloth face coverings and KN95 masks are available for school staff members, students who forget their masks, and necessary PPE for school nurses and other staff members whose assignments require PPE beyond a face mask.

- The District will continue to follow protocols and procedures mandated by the Department of Health and local Public Health agency with regard to a positive COVID-19 case in the school and follow the guidance set forth by the Department of Health for the individual's return to school and timeline for quarantine and masking recommendations. Isolation areas have been created in both schools, and any individual who feels sick or exhibits potential COVID-19 symptoms will be required to immediately report to the school nurse for evaluation.
- 2022 Update: The District has implemented weekly COVID-19 testing of staff members
  that are not fully vaccinated pursuant to the mandate from the NYS Department of Health
  requiring all school staff members and contractors to either produce documentation that
  they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or that the staff member/contractor
  provide/arrange documentation of weekly COVID-19 testing.
- The District has a written protocol regarding cleaning and disinfecting schools following the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control. Bottle-filling water fountains have been installed in both schools, and students will be encouraged to use refillable water bottles brought from their home.
  - Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms, cafeterias and other spaces used by students or staff members. School buses will be cleaned on a daily basis as well.
- The District has a protocol to ensure that the required school safety drills, including fire drills and lockdown/intruder drills, are completed, while providing for the necessary social distancing. During a fire drill, students and staff members will wear masks, when required, while exiting the school building, and will gather at the designated area while observing social distancing. Lockdown drills will be addressed through discussion of the appropriate actions that would be taken if a lockdown were to occur.
- The District has a protocol to ensure that social distancing and wearing of face masks will occur as required during the before and after school programs. If a student exhibits symptoms of potential COVID-19 illness during attendance in the before/afterschool program, the student will be immediately isolated and his/her parents will be contacted to pick him/her up.
- The District will also be implementing other recommended health strategies, including encouraging outdoor learning and meetings when possible, and continued education for our students regarding hand washing and symptom identification.
- The School District has designated an administrator to be the COVID-19 Safety Coordinator. This role will entail ensuring for compliance with all aspects of the School District's Re-Opening Plan. The COVID-19 Safety Coordinator is the Interim

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kathleen Bressler. She can be reached at (845) 482-4610, extension 3000.

• The District has developed flowcharts designed to provide guidance in the event that a student, or a staff member, displays possible COVID-19 symptoms in the school setting. These flowcharts are attached as appendices to the end of this plan.

# **Facilities:**

The School District has been reviewing all aspects of our school facilities to ensure that they are appropriately configured to meet the requirements for social distancing, regular and thorough cleaning, and meet the mandates set by the New York State Education Department. The following information provides an overview of that planning and preparation.

- The District will comply with the 2020 Building Condition Survey and Visual Inspection by utilizing our architectural firm to complete the required survey and inspection.
- The District will ensure that the necessary Lead-In-Water testing is conducted, as required by New York State regulation.
- The District will ensure that all existing, and any new Alcohol-Based Hand-Rub Dispensers which are installed are in compliance with the applicable New York State regulation.
- The District does not plan to install any dividers in any space during the 2021-2022 school year.
- The District will ensure that all new building construction projects will be submitted to the New York State Education Department's Office of Facilities Planning for review.
- The District does not plan to lease any facilities during the 2021-2022 school year.
- The District will ensure that any use of tents, for temporary or permanent use, is done so after having submitted plans for their use to the BCNYS.
- The District will ensure that the existing or altered number of toilet and sinks fixtures meets the minimum standards of the BCNYS.
- The School District will ensure that each school provides the appropriate number of sources of drinking water for students and staff members. Bottle-filling stations have

been installed in both schools, and students and staff members will be encouraged to use refillable water bottles provided from home.

- The District will ensure that adequate, code-required ventilation is provided as designed. Cleaning, inspection and certification of our HVAC system will occur as scheduled.
- The District will ensure that any use of plastic separators in any space in the school buildings will be done so in compliance with the 2020 BCNYS Section 2606.

#### **Child Nutrition:**

The School District prioritizes the overall physical and mental health of our students, including the importance of providing students with healthy meals while at school. The following items provide details regarding the District's planning regarding Child Nutrition for the re-opening of our school buildings.

- The School District will provide all students attending school in person with access to school meals each day. The District plans to offer "grab-and-go" meal access to enrolled students when education is remote for the entire school due to a COVID-19 school closure.
- All applicable health and safety guidelines will be adhered to during the breakfast and lunch programs. All Food Service Workers will receive training on hand hygiene, appropriate wearing of PPE and will be wearing PPE during food preparation and service. Social distancing will occur in the cafeteria through the alteration of student seating arrangements, and surfaces will be cleaned after each use.
- In the event that students are served meals in a location outside of the cafeteria, the
  District will ensure that students with food allergies will be provided the necessary
  protective measures. Food Service Staff will coordinate with the school nurse and the
  student's teacher to ensure that the student's food allergies are appropriately and
  discretely addressed.
- The District will develop written protocols for how students will perform hand hygiene
  before and after eating, how hand hygiene will be promoted among students, and to
  discourage the sharing of foods and beverages. Students will be provided the opportunity
  to wash their hands before and after food service, and hand sanitizer will be provided.
  Posters and signage will be provided for a visual reminder of the importance of hand
  hygiene.
- The cafeteria tables, food service line, and other common areas will be cleaned after each group of students has finished their lunch.

- The School District will ensure compliance with the Child Nutrition Program requirements by providing any necessary training to all Food Service Workers.
- The School District will communicate with families using multiple means, including our website, K12 Alert automated phone call, email and text system, social media, and mailings.
- The School District will ensure that social distancing will occur in the cafeteria setting. This will occur through modifying the configuration of our cafeteria seating, and limiting the number of students who can sit at one table. Students will also be encouraged to eat lunch outside, when appropriate, while continuing to socially distance. At the High School, the District plans to provide additional seating options for students around the outside of the cafeteria, to allow for additional social distancing.

# **Transportation:**

Sullivan West contracts with First Student, Inc. to provide transportation to our students on a daily basis. In preparation for the re-opening of our schools, District officials met with representatives from First Student in order to make plans to provide for the health and safety of students who ride the bus, as well as the First Student employees. The information below provides detail regarding the District's collaborative efforts with First Student, Inc. to provide bus transportation to all students who require it, beginning in September.

- The School District, in collaboration with First Student, Inc. transportation and any other applicable partners, will ensure that the following occurs:
  - a. each school bus which is used by students is cleaned.
  - b. due to the fact that hand sanitizer is flammable, it will not be allowed on school buses.
  - c. school bus drivers and monitors do not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with them on the school bus.
  - d. all school bus drivers and monitors wear a face mask while on the school bus, when required.
  - e. all transportation staff, including drivers, monitors, attendants, mechanics and others receive training on the proper use of PPE and the signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
  - f. all transportation staff receive training on the proper use of social distancing.
  - g. PPE will be provided for all transportation staff.
  - h. hand sanitizer will be provided for all transportation staff in their office locations, such as dispatch offices, employee lunch/break rooms and bus garages.
  - i. all transportation staff must perform a self-assessment for symptoms of COVID-19 before arriving to work.

- j. students must wear a mask on the school bus if they are physically able, when required. When required:
  - i. students who do not have a mask will not be denied transportation.
  - ii. students will be provided with a mask to wear on the bus if they do not have one.
  - iii. students with a disability which would prevent them from wearing a mask will not be forced to do so, and will not be denied transportation.
- k. students will be trained and provided periodic reminders on the proper use of social distancing on the school bus.
- 1. students attending a non-public, parochial, private or charter school or students whose Individualized Education Program have placed them out of district will be provided transportation in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

#### **Social Emotional Well-Being:**

As part of our District's focus on educating the "whole child", Sullivan West has done significant work in the past year to engage our staff members in learning about the value and importance of social emotional learning in schools, both for children and adults. The District has adopted use of the RULER Social Emotional Learning Approach, which will continue to be used, during the 2021-2022 school year.

- The District began reviewing our comprehensive School Counseling Plan in the 2019-2020 school year. We are committed to meet the changing needs of our students.
- The School District will ensure that a collaborative group is tasked with working to inform the School Counseling Plan development, including the use of student voice in the development of the School Counseling Plan.
- The District will ensure that resources and referrals are provided to students and staff
  members in order to address mental health, behavioral and emotional support needs. The
  District's Social Workers have developed a regular newsletter containing a number of
  resources and supports, as well as a social media presence in order to share information
  digitally.
- Quarterly Newsletters called Counseling Corner Newsletter. These can be found on the District website under Sullivan West Elementary School. Then choose Elementary Counseling.
- The District will ensure that professional development opportunities are provided to faculty and staff on how to talk with students about the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impact, as well as provide supports for developing coping and resilience skills for students, faculty and staff.

• The District began using the RULER Social/Emotional Learning Approach in the 2019-2020 school year, which is oriented toward providing all staff and students with an emotional vocabulary, ways to recognize, understand, learn about, evaluate and harness our emotions. The District will continue to utilize the RULER Approach in the 2021-2022 school year.

# **School Schedules:**

The District has worked to develop instructional schedules to address the multiple re-opening scenarios. Details regarding the various scheduling scenarios are included below.

- The School District has developed several instructional schedules in order to plan for the possibility of multiple scenarios, including full-time in-person instruction, a hybrid of inperson and at-home learning, and full-time at-home learning.
  - a. The full-time in-person schedule would allow for all students to attend school on a daily basis, in the event that such a schedule would be able to comply with the DOH and NYSED guidelines.
  - b. The hybrid schedule would allow for students to attend school two days per week on an in-person basis, and three days per week through at-home learning. Students would be divided into two groups, with one group attending school inperson on Mondays and Tuesdays, and the second group attending school inperson on Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesdays would be a full at-home learning day for all students, during which a thorough building cleaning would occur, and teacher professional development and at-home learning support would take place. The in-person daily schedule would be shortened in order to allow for teachers to support the students learning at-home on a daily basis.
  - c. The full-time at-home learning schedule, for students who qualify would provide for synchronous and asynchronous learning to occur for all students, using various online learning platforms, including Schoology and Seesaw through a BOCES supported program.
- 2021-2022 Update: Currently schools are planned to be open every day for all students, Pre-K through Grade 12. Schools will observe their regular start and end times for the school day (Elementary School Student Schedule: 8:45 a.m. 3:27 p.m.; Middle/High School Student Schedule: 7:35 a.m. 2:22 p.m.). All courses, extracurricular activities and athletics will take place.

#### **<u>Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism:</u>**

The District created building-level committees during the 2019-2020 school year to analyze student attendance data trends, and to create interventions to reinforce and address the importance of regular student attendance. Those committees will continue their work into the 2020-2021 school year and beyond. Details regarding how the District will address student absence and chronic absenteeism, either during in-person or at-home learning, are shared below.

- All students and staff members will be expected to attend our Schools in-person. If a student has a physician-documented, significant medical condition that might preclude them from learning in-person safely, and that student's family would like consideration of a remote learning opportunity or other accommodations, please contact the Office for Instructional Services, in order to discuss the process for that consideration.
- During a hybrid instructional schedule, the District will ensure that daily student attendance will be taken. The District will employ a "Check and Connect" approach where each staff member is assigned a small number of students who are receiving athome instruction on a given day, and will be required to check in with each of those students. This will allow each student to have access to support on a daily basis, and for our staff to help the student to troubleshoot any issues he/she may be having with athome learning on that day.

In addition, Teaching Assistants and Specialist Teachers will be assigned to provide synchronous learning support periods to students receiving at-home instruction on a daily basis. This will serve as an additional support and check-in for our at-home learning students. Further, the District plans to provide for an hour daily of at-home learning support from each classroom and core content area teacher on a daily basis, to reinforce instructional concepts, provide re-teaching and support and preview upcoming learning material.

• 2021-2022 Update: When full-time in-person learning daily attendance is taken. School buildings will have a plan to address the attendance of students who have been quarantined. The district allows a "Remote Present" for students demonstrating work during their quarantine days.

#### **Technology and Connectivity:**

Beginning last spring, the District began contacting every student household to determine their level of Internet access and their access to devices needed to engage in at-home learning. Based on the results of this engagement, the District has been able to provide student devices to all students whose parents requested this resource. The District is repeating this process this summer in order to inform our decision-making to provide equity to all learners as part of the reopening of our schools in September.

• The District has collected information on the level of access to devices and high-speed Internet access for all students and staff members. All staff members will be expected to

- report to work in their classrooms on a daily basis, where they will have access to Internet connectivity and support.
- All staff members will be expected to report to work in their classrooms on a daily basis, where they will have access to Internet connectivity and support. When on a hybrid instructional model, the District will prioritize the attendance of students without Internet access on a daily basis, so that those students can have access to School District Internet resources in order to complete at-home learning assignments on an equitable basis with peers who have Internet access at home.
- The District will also provide access to our Public Wi-Fi to families and students after school hours, in the event that students without Internet access at home would like to complete online work in the evening hours. The District will also collaborate with our local libraries to communicate hours when students and families can access Internet connectivity by visiting their local library.
- 2021-2022 Update: Grades 2-4 and 7-8 have 1:1 devices. For grades 2-4, those devices stay in class unless a student is quarantined. At that point, a request to take home the device can be made. Students in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade take devices back and forth. Each building has an inventory of devices maintained by the Instructional Technology Facilitators. Families can contact the main office of each building or contact the Instructional Technology Facilitator directly for a device. A device will be signed out for the duration of quarantine.

Additionally, the District has purchased Hotspots for families that have unreliable Internet at home. Those requests can be made to the building Instructional Technology Facilitator or Director of Technology, Data and Innovation. They are signed out using the district circulation system.

All Hotspots and Devices are turned in by end of the school year to be updated.

#### **Teaching and Learning:**

The District's focus remains on providing a high-quality program of teaching and learning for all students. Details regarding the District's planned approach to the instructional program for students are provided below.

- The School District's Re-Opening Plan includes a continuity of learning plan for the 2021-2022 school year, including preparations for in-person, at-home and hybrid models of instruction as needed or required.
  - The District has prepared a plan to provide for full-time, in-person instruction for all students, in the event that Department of Health and New York State Education Department requirements allow for such a plan to be implemented.

- The District has prepared a hybrid model of instruction for students for the 2020-2021 school year, which would allow for students to attend school two days per week on an in-person basis, and three days per week through at-home learning. Students would be divided into two groups, with one group attending school inperson on Mondays and Tuesdays, and the second group attending school inperson on Thursdays and Fridays. Wednesdays would be a full at-home learning day for all students, during which a thorough building cleaning would occur, and teacher professional development and at-home learning support would take place. The in-person daily schedule would be shortened in order to allow for teachers to support the students learning at-home on a daily basis. At-home learning would be designed to build upon the concepts and learning introduced during in-person instruction, with review of material, independent practice, preview of new material to be learned, and project-based learning to be prioritized. Support for at-home learning will be provided through synchronous and asynchronous methods, utilizing classroom and core content area teachers, as well as Teaching Assistants and Specialist Teachers.
- The full-time at-home learning schedule, for students who qualify would provide for synchronous and asynchronous learning to occur for all students, using various online learning platforms, including Schoology and Seesaw through a BOCES supported program.
- The instructional program will meet the New York State Learning Standards, regardless if instruction is delivered in-person, remotely or in a hybrid model.
- Regardless of the model of instruction, students will receive regular substantive interactions with their teachers. The District plans for teachers to provide in-person instruction, as well as synchronous online learning opportunities and asynchronous learning materials, discussion and feedback to students using our learning management system (Schoology). All students will have an opportunity for direct interaction and engagement with their teachers every day, either through in-person or online methods. Students will receive feedback and assessment on their learning, and interventions will be provided for students who are struggling to demonstrate learning, either in-person or via at-home learning.
- The School District values equity in our decision-making regarding students, and we will ensure that our instructional program demonstrates equity for all students. Students with significant Special Needs, English Language Learners, and students who do not have Internet access at home will be prioritized to attend school on a daily basis, even if the District adopts a hybrid model of instruction. Students will be regularly assessed regarding their demonstration of learning materials both through in-person and at-home

methods, and interventions, including scheduling a student to attend school daily if the District adopts a hybrid model, will be implemented when appropriate.

- Students will receive regular "check-ins" with faculty and staff to ensure that their social/emotional and other needs are being met, and Special Education and related services will be provided to all students in compliance with the Individualized Education Program documents.
- The School District will clearly communicate to families and students who they can contact to receive assistance, both with the instructional program and technology supports. In addition, students will receive regular "check-ins" with faculty and staff to ensure that their social/emotional, learning, technology and other needs are being met.
- The School District provides a Pre-Kindergarten program for eligible students, and plans to continue to do so while adhering to the Department of Health and New York State Education Department guidelines. The School District does not contract with an outside agency to provide the Pre-K program.
- The District has created resources to provide an overview of the expectations regarding
  instruction, both for in-person and at-home learning. Those resources are attached to this
  plan as appendices.
- For students in quarantine, the school buildings offer various supports including work through our online learning management system, virtual tutoring and attendance support.
- Students who do not have access to the learning management system may make arrangements with their school to receive learning materials and resources needed during that time.
- 2021-2022 Update: Currently schools are planned to be open every day for all students, Pre-K through Grade 12. Schools will observe their regular start and end times for the school day (Elementary School Student Schedule: 8:45 a.m. 3:27 p.m.; Middle/High School Student Schedule: 7:35 a.m. 2:22 p.m.). All courses, extracurricular activities and athletics will take place.

## **Special Education:**

Students with special needs are required to receive the programs, services and supports detailed on their Individual Education Program document. The District's plan to meet the needs of our students with special needs is detailed below.

- Students receiving special education services through any of the instructional models (In-Person, Hybrid or At-Home) will receive specially-designed instruction from their Special Education Teachers aligned with their needs, in the Least Restrictive Environment. The Instructional Services Office and the Special Education staff will ensure that students who have IEPs are receiving education which is designed specifically to allow the students to make progress toward their IEP goals and demonstration of learning of instructional material. Considerations will include:
  - a. Specially-Designed Instruction
  - b. Related Services
  - c. Accommodations and Modifications
  - d. Instructional Materials individualized to the student's needs
  - e. Individual and/or Small-Group Instruction
  - f. Modeling of Instruction for parents to practice with their children
- The District will ensure that it is documenting the programs and services offered and provided to students with disabilities, as well as communication with parents. Each student's IEP and Progress Reports will remain the foundation for written communication regarding a student's progress. In addition, parents will receive communications from teachers by email, phone call and learning management system related to their child's academic and social/emotional progress.
- When students are absent due to COVID/Quarantine online instruction will be offered daily.
- The District will ensure that there is meaningful parent engagement in the parent's preferred language or mode of communication regarding the provision of services to his/her child to meet the requirements of the IDEA. Students' present levels related to their IEP goals will be assessed in order to record necessary baseline data. Baseline data will be used in measuring progress toward a student's annual goals. The parent of a student with a disability with the Committee on Special Education can convene a meeting for the purpose of reviewing the student's progress and recommending any necessary changes to the student's IEP. Meetings will be conducted either in-person or virtually. Progress monitoring of IEP goals will be reported to parents on a quarterly basis.
- The District will ensure that there is collaboration between the Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE) and program providers in order to ensure there is an understanding of the provision of services consistent with the recommendations on IEPs, plans for monitoring and communicating student progress, and commitment to sharing resources.

The District will ensure that all accommodations and services will be provided. Changes
in services and accommodations will be made through the IEP Amendment process, if
needed.

# **Bilingual Education and World Languages:**

The District has developed plans to ensure that our English Language Learners continue to receive the instructional support required under Part 154 of the Commissioner's Regulations, regardless of the instructional model which is adopted.

- The District will ensure that the identification process for students who may be English Language Learners (ELLs) will be completed in accordance with Part 154 of the Commissioner's Regulations.
- The District will continue to provide the required instructional units of study to all ELLs based on their most recently measured English Language proficiency level during inperson or hybrid instruction.
- The District plans to specifically schedule our English Language Learners so that they receive significant daily instruction from the Teacher of English as a New Language.
- The District will continue to ensure that we maintain regular communication with parents/guardians of ELLs to provide for their engagement throughout the school year.

#### **Teacher and Principal Evaluation System:**

The District highly values its commitment to providing all teachers and principals with feedback on their professional practice, and we will continue to do so during the school year regardless on instructional models.

• The District will ensure that all teachers and principals are evaluated pursuant to the District's recently-approved Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) Plan.

### **Certification, Incidental Teaching and Substitute Teaching:**

 The District will ensure that all teachers hold valid and appropriate certificates for their teaching assignments except where otherwise allowable under the Commissioner's Regulations.