A large, two-story red brick school building with a central white cupola topped with a gold dome. The building has a grey shingled roof with several dormer windows. In front of the building is a green lawn with a paved walkway. Several cars are parked along the front of the building. The sky is overcast.

September 2021: Opening Update

Sullivan West Central School District

Report to the Board of Education

August 18, 2021

A group of children are gathered behind a chain-link fence. They are holding up several handmade signs. One prominent sign in the center reads "You Are BRAVER Than You Believe STRONGER Than You Seem SMARTER Than You Think". To the right, another sign says "CONGRATS". The children are wearing masks and are looking towards the camera. The background shows a red structure, possibly a playground slide, and a brick building.

Overview

- Schools to be open every day for all students, Pre-K through Grade 12
- Regular Start and End Times for the School Day (2019-2020 Start and End Times)
- All courses, extracurricular activities and athletics to take place
- Social Distancing (at least 3 feet), when possible
- Remote/At-Home Learning for students with documented significant medical conditions
- Masks required for all students, staff and visitors when indoors

Sources of Information and Guidance

Centers for Disease
Control

American Academy
of Pediatrics

Sullivan County
Department of
Health

New York State
Education
Department

Legal Counsel

Insurance Company

School Nurses

WSUT and SRP Unit
Leadership

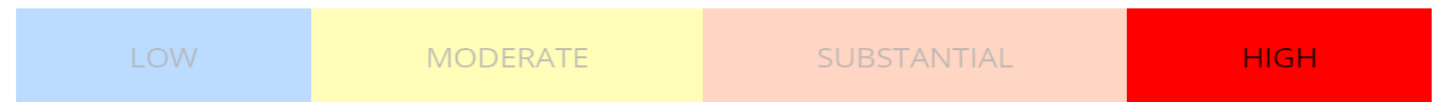
Board of Education's
Contingency
Planning Committee

Administration, Staff
and Parents

Decision-Making Principles

- In-person teaching and learning continues to be the most effective approach for our students and staff
- Full-time, daily in-person learning for all students and staff members is our expectation
- Guided by the recommendations of the applicable medical professionals, including the CDC, AAP and the County Department of Health
- Guided by information regarding the spread of COVID-19 within our County
 - Currently “High” (highest of the 4 level scale)
 - When the community spread level changes, our mitigation planning should be responsive to that change

Level of Community Transmission in Sullivan County, New York



Map Data:

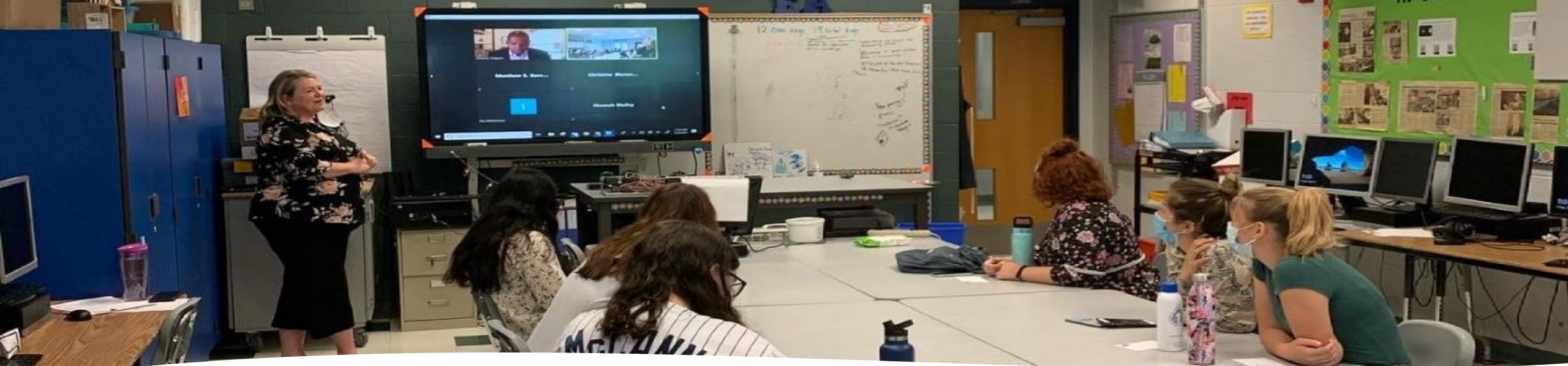
Time Period: Mon Aug 09 2021 - Sun Aug 15 2021

[Back to U.S. Map](#)

A photograph of a classroom where students are engaged in a hands-on activity. In the foreground, a student in a light-colored patterned hoodie is using a magnifying glass over a small object on a table. Other students are visible in the background, some standing and some sitting at tables, all appearing to be working on projects. The classroom is decorated with fish-shaped cutouts on the wall and an American flag. A large, semi-transparent circular overlay is positioned on the left side of the image, containing the title and a list of bullet points.

Academic Program

- Regular Daily School Schedule
- Students Move Between Classes as Normal
- Physical Education and Music Classes to Occur as Normal
- Maximize outdoor learning experiences



Access to Remote Instruction

Limited To:

- Students Who Are Medically Fragile
 - Medical Documentation Required
 - Addressed through Committee on Special Education or 504 Committee
 - Investigating options through BOCES providers for fully-remote schooling
- Students and Staff Who Test Positive for COVID-19
 - Building-Level Teams will meet to plan for this occurrence
- Students and Staff Who Are Required to Quarantine
 - Building-Level Teams will meet to plan for this occurrence



Health and Safety

- Indoor Mask Requirement
 - To apply to all staff, students and visitors
 - Recommended by:
 - Centers for Disease Control
 - American Academy of Pediatrics
 - Sullivan County Department of Health
 - New York State Education Department
 - District's Legal Counsel
 - District's Insurance Company
 - Consistent approach throughout County
- Key Consideration
 - Per CDC, students will not be required to quarantine if exposed to a COVID-positive student, as long as the students wore masks during the period of exposure
- Masks not required when outdoors
- Regular mask breaks throughout the school day

Layered Prevention Strategies

Indoor Mask Usage

Social distancing, when possible

Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff Members

Maximize Use of Outdoor Space for Meetings and Learning

Daily Screening Process for Staff and Visitors

- Discontinue temperature checks for students

Education Regarding Hand Washing, Symptom Identification

Other Considerations

- Transportation
 - Masks are required for students and bus drivers, per CDC mandate
 - Social distancing, when possible
 - Windows open (weather permitting) to increase air movement
- Lunch/Recess
 - Reduce number of students per lunch table, when possible
 - Recess as normal (same as 2019-2020 school year)
- Extracurricular Activities/Athletics
 - Masks required when indoors
 - Activities as normal (same as 2019-2020 school year)



For Further Thought

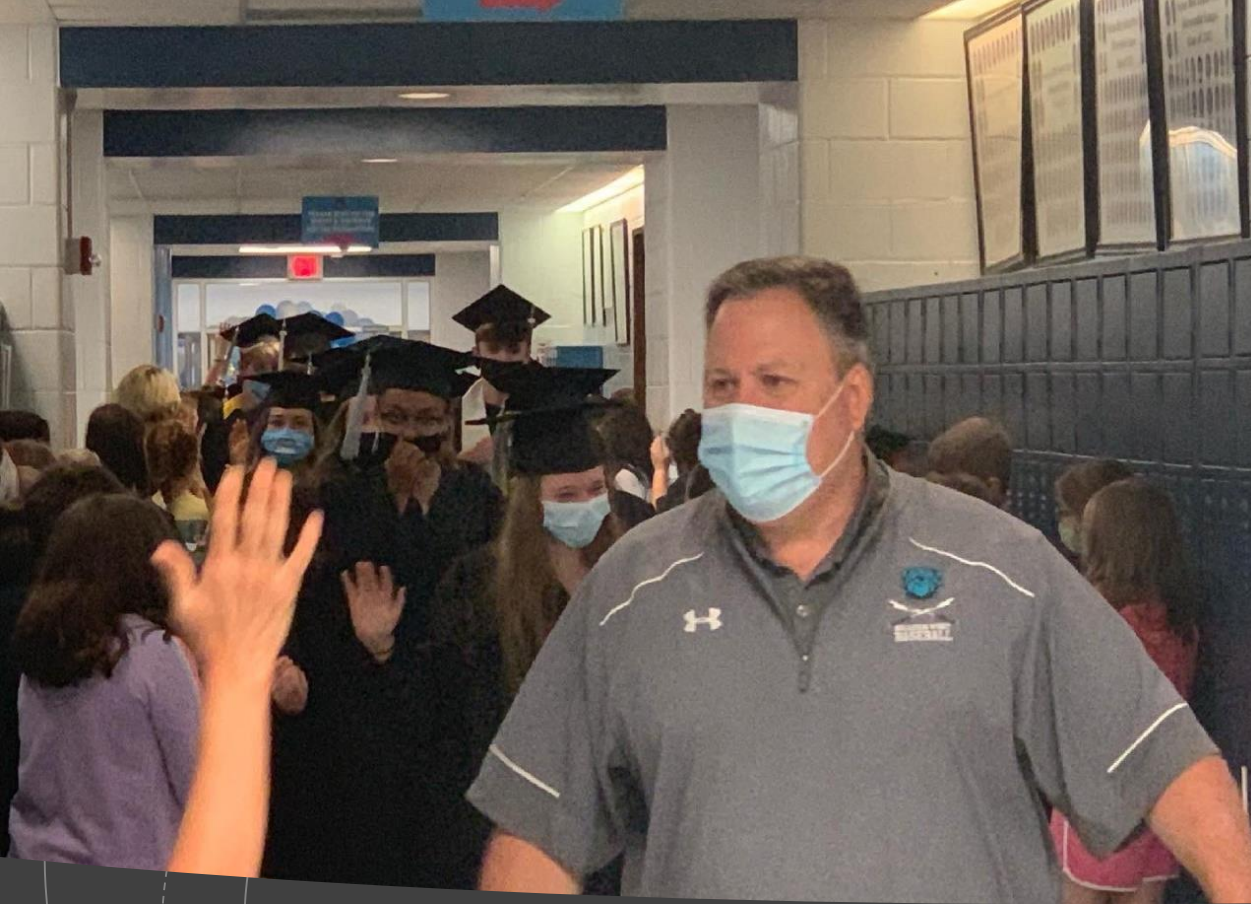
Testing

Vaccination Clinics

Attendance at Outdoor Events

Quarantine requirements for Outdoor Events

In-school volunteers



Communication

- Sharing of Presentation Slides
- Written Communication This Week
- Zoom Meetings for Faculty/Staff and Families
- Update on Status at September Board of Education Meeting