

SOUTH GLENS FALLS Central School District

A Snapshot: Reopening Plan

REIMAGINING EDUCATION





Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Staff PPE

- Staff will wear masks at all times they are with children or cannot be 6 feet apart from another adult.

Student PPE

- All students must wear acceptable face coverings; excluding students who are unable to medically tolerate a face covering.
- The district will give two reusable masks to each student. Students may also use their own masks.
- Disposable masks will be available for students who forget a mask.
- Students will be given face covering breaks when they can socially distance.
- Students will not be required to wear a mask during meal time, snack time, or in-classroom instruction when social distancing can occur.



Cleaning Protocols

- All staff must ensure adherence to hygiene and cleaning and disinfection requirements as advised by the CDC and DOH, including “Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection of Public and Private Facilities for COVID-19,” and the “STOP THE SPREAD” poster, as applicable.
- Regular cleaning and disinfection of restrooms will be done throughout each day.
- Cleaning and disinfection of exposed areas in the event an individual is confirmed to have COVID-19 are outlined in the containment plan.
- Each child’s belongings should be kept separate and in an individually labeled storage container, cubby, or area. Belongings will be sent home regularly to be cleaned.



Health & Safety

- Staff will be required to self screen and report this daily.
- Parents/guardians will be required to self screen their students and to report this daily. Pinpoint Health Screening will be used to track this daily screening requirement. A daily email will be sent to families with a link to use to report. Specific instructions will be sent to parents/guardians before school starts.
- Healthy hygiene practices will be taught and re-taught in school settings for both students and staff.
- All students will be required to maintain a minimum of 6-foot distancing while in school. This distance will be increased to 12 feet if students are singing, playing a wind instrument or participating in an aerobic activity.
- Smaller student/educator cohorts will minimize the mixing of student groups throughout the day. Movement of students, educators and staff will be minimized as much as possible.



Technology

- Future-ready learning has been a theme for the South Glens Falls District for several years. We believe that in order for our students to lead productive and successful lives upon graduation, they must understand and know how to use digital technologies. Technology knowledge and skills are vital for full participation in 21st century life, work and citizenship. Sufficient access to computing devices and high-speed internet are essential for educational equity.
- All students K-12 will be given their own device for their exclusive use beginning in September.
- SGF will resurvey parents/guardians to determine the level of access to high-speed internet that students have access to in their places of residence.
- The district will provide tutorials and specific support to families around the use of this technology in their child’s education.
- Student data privacy and security will be maintained in compliance with Federal and State laws related to student technology use.



School Structure & Supports

- South Glens Falls CSD will ensure it has a continuity of learning plan for the 2020-21 school year. This plan will prepare for hybrid, remote and in-person models of instruction.
- Regardless of the instructional model implemented, equity and access is a priority for all students in South Glens Falls.
- The district plans will be adjusted as needed based on the guidance from the New York State Education Department.
- Daily attendance will be required for all models.
- All related services will be provided for students, including special education and English as a new language services.
- All interscholastic athletics have been postponed until Sept. 21, and extracurricular activities are being reimaged by our reopening committee.

POTENTIAL LEARNING MODELS

Hybrid Learning Model

- 50% of students attending school in-person on a rotating basis.
- Students would be split into Group 1 and Group 2. While Group 1 attends in-person classes, Group 2 would be at home learning remotely.
- Considerations would be made for family logistics and transportation needs.
- Special education, English language learners and other students who may require more support may be back fulltime in school as needed.

Virtual School

- Students in K-5 may have the opportunity to learn completely remotely for the first trimester of the year and students in grades 6-12 may have the opportunity to learn completely remotely for the first half of the year.
- Classes would be fulltime, well-organized and follow a schedule based on the grade level.
- Academic requirements would be equal to what is done in-person
- This option would cover all core and required courses. Some limitations on electives may happen for secondary students.
- A detailed outline and registration materials can be found at www.sgfcscd.org/virtual-school.



Mental Health/Social-Emotional Learning

- The district will identify students and families in need of additional support during the transition. Resources will be made available to address mental health, behavioral and emotional needs of students.
- SEL will be incorporated into daily instructional and social practices at all grade levels.
- The district will focus on the five core competencies of SEL (as defined by the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)). These include self awareness, self management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making. A toolkit will be made available to teachers, staff and families with strategies for each grade level and skill.
- The district will continue to use the multi-tiered system of support (MTSS), to help determine and provide services for students. It includes three tiers of social-emotional support for students' various needs.
- South Glens Falls Referrals for school based counseling and support services can be made by the teacher or parent by contacting the building.
- Referrals to outside services and supports can be made by the school counselor, school social worker, or school psychologist.
- The district has two counselors from the Saratoga Center for the Family who work in the buildings. These individual are available to see students through a referral.
- The district has a Community Resource Guide (a comprehensive list of resources in the South Glens Falls area) available on its website.

Remote Learning Model

- South Glens Falls CSD will pivot to remote learning if required by the state or local health department.
- This model would require regular attendance and daily interaction with teachers.

In-Person Learning Model

The decision will be made to hold 100% in-person learning if the district can comply with all mandated health and safety requirements.



Transportation

- All parents/guardians will be required to screen their child/children before the board a school bus.
- Masks must be worn at all times while riding on the bus.
- Students should maintain social distance (6 feet separation) on the bus.
- Siblings or children who reside in the same household should be encouraged to sit together.
- If students are not related, there will only be one student per seat.
- Students and parents should maintain 6-foot distancing at bus stops and while loading and unloading.
- All buses that are used by our district and contract carriers must be cleaned/disinfected once a day.
- High-contact areas will be wiped down after the am and pm run.
- Buses will be disinfected nightly.



Food Service

- No-touch payment systems will be installed in each school and no-touch barriers will be installed in cafeteria lines.
- If served in the same common areas, lunch times will be staggered to ensure that all tables and chairs that require cleaning and disinfection are done prior to the next group of students arriving for meals.
- At the 6-12th grade level, lunches will be staggered within the third block to ensure that there is time in between classes. At the K-5 level, limited amounts of students will be in common areas to start the school year.
- Food service will consist of a “grab and go” model to ensure that all students are able to receive an individual, pre-packaged meal prepared in advance by kitchen staff.



Staffing Solutions

- As SGF finalizes its reopening plans, it will be critical for the district to think about certain areas that may need temporary staffing. These include but are not limited to part-time nurses, cleaners, transportation and substitute teachers.
- The district will ensure that all individuals employed to teach in New York State public schools have a valid certificate.
- If necessary, there may be times where a certified teacher may be instructing in areas not covered by their certifications. This time will not exceed 10 classroom hours a week during the 2020-21 school year.



Communications

- Weekly emails to staff and families about reopening will continue.
- The district website will be updated regularly to reflect the most recent information, including the formal reopening plan the district must submit to the state.
- Staff and families will have the opportunity to attend Town Hall meetings and attendees will have the chance to ask questions in real time.
- Individual school plans will be released by each principal. Principals will conduct virtual parent meetings in August.



Before & After School Care

- Any day that students have in-person instruction, before and after school care will be offered in each elementary school through the Moreau Community Center (MCC).
- Staff will be required to follow all school health/safety protocols, including social distancing/use of PPE.
- All staff will be required to conduct a self screening prior to work through the district's tool.
- Students will be in the same cohort each day and students in the same family will be together.
- Each school will consider cleaning and disinfect these areas nightly.
- The MCC and school district will work in collaboration with the local health department in the event a staff member contracts COVID-19.