

**Frequently Asked Questions
Highland Falls - Fort Montgomery CSD
Instructional Plan
2021-2022**

- **Will unvaccinated students and faculty be tested regularly?**
This is not part of our plan at this time. In the event that we need to implement a testing protocol to effectuate staying open to in-person instruction or if NYS requires testing we will, once again, work with Horizon Medical to set it up. In addition, in the event that we need to test in order to continue our high risk athletics or other activities, we will do so, as we did last year.
- **What are the specifics of social distancing policies as we start the year?**
As was mentioned in the presentation, the CDC requires 3 feet between students, regardless of masking. We will work to maintain four feet, from student to student. Between students and staff, the recommended distance is six feet, as it is between staff and staff.
- **Will vaccinated and unvaccinated students have different lunch areas?**
This is not part of our plan, however, we will be using barriers and/or enhancing distances in areas where students are eating lunch, as an extra layer of protection.
- **What will the quarantining policies be and will they be different according to vaccination status?**
We are following quarantine and isolation guidelines from the NYSDoH and the OCDoH. Currently these indicate that individuals who have been fully vaccinated will not have to quarantine in the event of an exposure.
- **Who should a student (or parent) contact if a teacher is not abiding by or enforcing the mask mandate?**
The building principal should be contacted as they can address this with the faculty and staff members.
- **Do we know what the quarantine requirements will be if there is a positive case in the classroom?**

As addressed in the presentation, we will follow the same protocols as last year as directed by the OCDoH.

- **Will fully vaccinated students be exempt from quarantine if they are exposed in class?**

Yes. Fully vaccinated individuals would not have to quarantine.

- **Re JIO high school schedule: Will there be an asynchronous day each week again?**

No, students at JIO will have classes 5 days a week. However, As in the past, students will have an expanded day Tuesday through Friday, in which they can receive additional support from their teachers.

- **How do we submit our students' vaccination record?**

These may be sent to the school nurse. One can send in a hard copy of immunization records or ask for the nurse to send a secure email, which can be replied to with an attachment.

- **Re sports for high school, can you require students to be vaccinated to play high risk sports?**

There is no requirement for this at this time or for any other purpose. If the state requires the vaccination after it is no longer under an EUA, then this might change.

- **When do you expect to have the rules from Section IX on sports teams vaccination/masks by sport?**

We included these in the presentation

- **Will there be unlimited spectators allowed at the home sports competitions?**

Spectators will be encouraged to socially distance. Indoor spectators will be required to mask up.

- **Will there be in-person parent teacher conferences this year?**

Each building plans to have an in-person Welcome Back Night/Meet the Teacher Night, but P/T Conferences will remain virtual. The buildings had a high turnout rate.

- **How do I petition for my child to have virtual schooling through BOCES due to a health concern?**

As mentioned in the presentation, individual students with documented and verified health conditions which preclude their in-person attendance at school will be provided virtual homebound instruction as any medically fragile child would, as per NYSED guidelines. Additionally, OUBOCES is providing virtual classes for students in grades 6-12. If a student is approved to receive homebound instruction, then the building principal and guidance department would work with the family and OUBOCES to determine if the student's program can be delivered through that vehicle. As a point of information, NYS required five hours of instruction per week for students in grades K-6 and ten hours of instruction per week for students in grades 7-12.

- **Will there be some form of CCT this year?**

Each of the school buildings will communicate their plans to address the Social and Emotional Learning Needs with families.

- **Are the students being cohorted in the event of a school closure, or will they just go virtually all day in their current classes if the whole school shuts down?**

We have maintained our maroon and gold flags in SchoolTool. While we do not anticipate a need for this at this time, in the event that we have to increase distance and decrease density, we will be able to do so in short order.

- **Is a health screening still required for students every week?**

As per the presentation, we are following the CDC guidelines which no longer recommends screening questionnaires at schools. However, we will continue to conduct daily temperature screenings prior to staff, faculty, students and visitors entering a building.

- **Will vaccinated student athletes require covid testing for high risk sports in the fall?**

In the event that we are testing student athletes or adults, vaccinated individuals would not be required to be tested.

- **Will there be a school spirit store opened this year at the high school? Last year we knew it wasn't open, but would like to have it open this year.**

Our goal is to return as much as possible. Please give us a few weeks to get up and running.

- **Please clarify, if quarantine protocols will change in lunchroom settings as last year? Will classrooms be using the lunchroom or classrooms?**

Students who are masked who are within three feet of an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be included on the contact list for the OCDoH. Students who are unmasked who are within 6 feet of an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be included on the contact list for the OCDoH. Classroom settings will be used for lunches at the FMES. Cafeteria and other locations will be used for lunches at the HFIS and JIOHS.

- **Will my child be required to bring the school issued chromebook back and forth to school each day?**

Students in grades 6-12 will be expected to bring their Chromebook back and forth to school each day. Students in grades Prek-5th will have access to a 1-1 device in their classroom, but will not be allowed to take them home.

- **How will those that are isolated or quarantined get their education if there is no virtual?**

Depending on the timeframe of the isolation or quarantine, we would either communicate through Google Classroom (for up to a couple or few days) or through remote tutoring. If an entire class (or building) was quarantined, that would be accomplished by the entire class being remote for that short duration.