

MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL DISTRICT

REOPENING PLAN

2021-2022

The Reopening Plan will be updated as additional guidance is received from New York State Education Department, the New York State Department of Health and the New York Governor's Office.

Mount Sinai Principles & Priorities for Reopening

- The health, safety and security of our students, staff and community is paramount in continuing the successful reopening of Mount Sinai Schools.
- The goal of the district is to return all students to in-person instruction on a consistent basis throughout the school year (no cohort or hybrid schedules).
- Minimize the need for quarantines for students, staff and families, especially those who are health compromised.
- The District will focus on social, emotional and mental health needs of our students and staff.
- This plan is based on Public Health Law, requirements issued by the NYS Department of Health and the directives provided by the CDC, NYS Department of Education and Suffolk County Department of Health Services. These agencies prioritize school efforts to have all children safely engage in in-person instruction with layered COVID prevention strategies in place.
- The District strives to return to normal school schedules and activities as much as possible while ensuring safety.

Communication

The Mount Sinai School District is invested in engaging school and community stakeholders in the development of the reopening plans. As a result, various reopening committees were formed.

Mount Sinai Reopening Task Force: Community and District Members

Board of Education President: Robert Sweeney	Board of Education : Anne Marie Henninger
Superintendent: Gordon Brosdal	Asst. Superintendent for Business: Linda Jensen
Executive Director of Educational Services: Deena Williams-Timo	
Principals: Rob Catlin; Elizabeth Hine and Peter Pramataris	
Mt. Sinai Teachers' Association: Mitch Wolman and Ron Feinberg	
Director of Technology- Ken Jockers	Director of PE, Health, Nursing & Facilities- Scott Reh
Director of Special Education- Doris Stanojev	Director of Humanities- Brigit DiPrimo
Psychologists: Terence Reilly, Diana Thorley and Sheila Moran	
Social Workers: Marcella Viscosi, Stephanie Candurra, Christa Marano and Kayla Muglia	
School Nurse: Kathy Pantino	
First Student Bus Co Representative: Tom McEnany	School Lunch Director: Marie Lane
PTO representative: Maureen Sweeney/S. Sabo	FOA representative: Sandra Hart
Booster Club representative- Diane Tabile	SEPTO representative: Tina LoRusso

The Committee meets on an ongoing basis.

Mount Sinai Reopening Committee: Administrators and Faculty

Superintendent: Gordon Brosdal	Executive Dir. Of Educ Services: Deena Williams-Timo
Principals: Rob Catlin, Elizabeth Hine and Peter Pramataris	
Director of Technology: Ken Jockers	Director of PE, Health, Nursing & Facilities: Scott Reh

Director of Special Education: Doris Stanojev Director of Humanities: Brigit DiPrimo
Director of Math, Science & Tech: Andy Matthews Staff Developer: Tara Davidson
Mt. Sinai Teachers' Association: Mitch Wolman, Ron Feinberg & Melissa Mullen

The Committee continues to meet on an ongoing basis.

Building Reopening Committees: Building Administrators and Teachers

Elementary School Reopening Committee:

Principal	Assistant Principal
3 Teachers	School social worker
School nurse	Head custodian
CSEA representative (clerical)	

Middle School Reopening Committee:

Principal	Assistant Principal
School psychologist	4 general education teachers
2 social workers	1 special education teacher
School Nurse	Head Custodian
2 Guidance Counselors	2 teacher union members
2 clerical staff	1 non-instructional aide

High School Reopening Committee:

Principal	Assistant Principals/Directors
School psychologist	General education teachers
Social worker	Special education teacher
School Nurse	Head Custodian
Guidance Counselor	MSTA building representatives
CSEA representative	Parent representative
Student representative	

Ongoing Communications

- All information necessary for the reopening of Mount Sinai School District will be posted to the district & building webpages.
- Information may also be communicated through School Messenger, email and/or the Mount Sinai School District Facebook page.
- At all times, the district will provide communications in the language spoken among families at home.
- Written plans will be accessible to those with hearing impairments.
- Alternative forms of the plans are available by calling the District Office 631-870-2500.

To date, all NYSED and DOH guidelines for reopening have been posted to the website as well as letters from the Superintendent and Building Principals. A PowerPoint and video instruction was posted for students and parents regarding the use of Google Classroom.

Mount Sinai School District will utilize Google Classroom for remote learning and will provide Professional Development related to Google Classroom for teachers during the summer 2020.

Mount Sinai School District will continue to provide Professional Development for teachers, during Superintendent's Conference Days.

Reopening Plan Highlights for 2021-2022

- Every K-12 student is scheduled for daily in-person instruction.
- No “Full Remote Learning”. This is no longer an option for 2021-2022.
- At least 3 ft. for social distancing in all classrooms
- Masks will be required during bus transportation. “All passengers on public conveyances.....are required to wear a mask”-CDC/NYSED.
- Masks will be required for students and staff during instruction when social distancing cannot be maintained (less than 3 feet).
- Masks are NOT required when outdoors, during recess and during outdoor Physical Education classes.
- Daily Health Screenings and temperature checks are discontinued.
- All K-5 special area classes are scheduled to occur in the originally designated classrooms
- K-12 start times for instruction are at the typical arrival time. No abbreviated days.
- The plan is to offer co-curricular activities.
- Visitors will be allowed back into the buildings subject to the mask policy
- Limited field trips and competitions will be planned.
- Lunch will return to the cafeterias
- Continue the strict, documented cleaning protocols.

Health and Safety

- Continued health and safety information will be communicated via the District webpage, School Messenger, District Facebook and letters from Administration.
- Face Masks will be required for staff and students when indoors.
- Masks are not required outdoors and may be removed during meals.
- Physical distancing will be observed to allow for in-person instruction.
- Individuals should remain home when sick.
- Signage consistent with the CDC guidelines will be visible at the entrance to the Mount Sinai School District Campus and the entrances to each Building on campus.
- Signage consistent with the CDC guidelines will also be posted throughout the halls, offices and classrooms in all buildings.
- The district will work with the local health department and follow the DOH and CDC guidance for the return to school of students and staff following a positive screen for COVID-19 symptoms, illness of diagnosis or following quarantine due to contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
- Cleaning and disinfecting all buildings will occur throughout the day and cleaning/disinfecting logs will be maintained by Custodians.

- Requests for mask exemptions may be submitted to the Building Principal with the appropriate medical documentation. All requests are subject to the approval of the District's medical director.
- The COVID-19 safety coordinator for each building is the building Principal:
 - Mr. Rob Catlin- Elementary School
 - Ms. Elizabeth Hine-Middle School
 - Mr. Peter Pramataris- High School

Instruction

- All students will return to five-days per week of in-person instruction
- Students will follow pre-pandemic schedules
- Special classes will take place in traditional classroom settings
- Lockers will be available as they were prior to the pandemic
- No hybrid or remote options for instruction
- School functions will resume on campus with precautions in place.

Child Nutrition

- The USDA has once again approved Free Meals for ALL students for the 2021-2022 School Year. Students may receive one breakfast and one lunch at school every day.
- The current plan is to have students eat in the cafeterias, however, if a resurgence of Covid infection rates reach a critical level, according to the BOH/CDC data and social distancing restrictions change, the District will revisit the cafeteria use.

Transportation

- Transportation will be provided for all eligible students
- Masks will be required as per NYSED and NYSDOH mandates
- All school busses will be cleaned/disinfected regularly
- Bus windows will remain open, whenever possible to allow for increased fresh air and improve ventilation.
- Members of the same household are encouraged to sit together

Extra-Curricular Activities

- After-school programs and clubs will be in place in accordance with health & Safety protocols
- Athletics will continue in the fall. As of today, COVID-19 testing of athletes will not be required. That may change as directed by NYS DOH guidance.
- Concerts, play and ceremonies will return with consideration for capacity limits and activity. Outdoor venues may be used when possible
- Field trips and competitions will be considered on a case by case basis.

Social Emotional Well-Being

- School psychologists, social workers and guidance counselors will continue to work together to identify and provide additional support to at-risk students.
- School psychologists and social workers will continue to provide students and families with resources and referrals to address ongoing mental health issues.

Technology and Connectivity

- The District's reopening survey included questions regarding access to devices and internet service.
- The District provided devices and internet access to students and teachers in need of such services during the COVID-19 closure.
- The District is providing a 1:1 device initiative to begin in the 2021-2022 school year.

Special Education

- Maximizing access and equity of instruction and learning for students with a disability continues to be a priority for the Mount Sinai School District.
- The District will continue to provide FAPE consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and the providers of programs and services.
- Students attending special education programs in District will continue with five-days per week in-person instruction.
- The Director of Special Education will maintain ongoing communication and collaboration with providers of programs outside the district where Mount Sinai students attend based on CSE recommendations and IEP plans.
- All Student with disabilities will receive programs, services and accommodations in accordance with their IEP.
- All students with a 504-Accommodation plan will receive accommodations in accordance with their plan.

Bilingual Education and World Languages

- During the 2021-2022 School Year, identification of ELL's will occur within 10 school days of initial enrollment as required by Commissioner's Regulation Part 154.
- During In-Person instruction, the district will provide required instructional Units of Study to all ELL's based upon their most recent measure of English Language Proficiency level.
- All communications with parents/guardians of ELL's will be provided in their preferred language or mode of communication.

Teacher and Principal Evaluation System: APPR

Teachers and Principals will be evaluated pursuant to the District's currently approved APPR plan

Summary

- This Reopening Plan supports full-time in-person instruction for students and offers the greatest likelihood of ensuring school safety without disruption due to the pandemic.
- The Governor may consider rolling back restrictions on a regional basis depending on local data.
- The District will continue to follow federal and state mandates and guidance and will revisit the Reopening Plan as necessary.