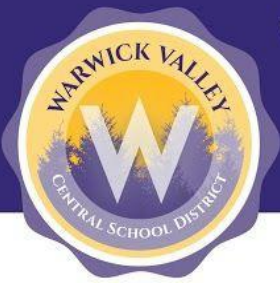




Covid-19 Risk Mitigation Plan

2021-2022



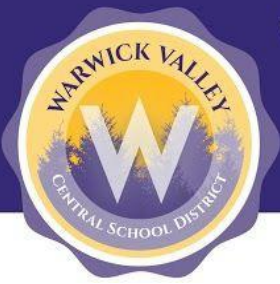
Introduction

Warwick Valley Central School District is returning to 100% in-person education when schools reopen on September 2, including our full schedule of academic, athletic, and extracurricular activities.

This plan was designed to meet three key goals for reopening, and was driven by a set of four guiding principles. It will help steer us through the process of safely reopening our schools so we can welcome back our students, faculty, and staff, while also taking into consideration the health of students' families and our other neighbors in the community.

This plan aims to limit the potential exposure to, and impact of, COVID-19 on our District. It has been informed by the latest recommendations from the CDC, AAP, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and guidelines established by the New York State Education Department (NYSED). It outlines the layered prevention strategies that will be in place when we return to school in the fall.

By following this plan, we expect the spread of COVID-19 to be greatly mitigated, although not eliminated. Due to the evolving nature of the pandemic, periodic updates to this plan may be made in response to new information from the CDC and applicable federal, state, and local agencies.



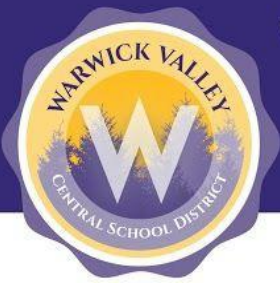
Guiding Principles for Reopening

- To provide a safe learning and working environment
- To prioritize in-person instruction
- To provide students with instruction at high standards, with the necessary supports for success
- To provide clear, proactive, and timely communication to stakeholders

Reopening Plan Development

With these guiding principles in mind, we developed a Reopening Plan that will achieve three main goals.

1. Create a learning environment where people feel protected and also empowered to maintain their own personal health and safety.
2. Reunite all of our students and teachers for in-person instruction.
3. Keep schools safely open for in-person instruction throughout the entire 2021-2022 school year.



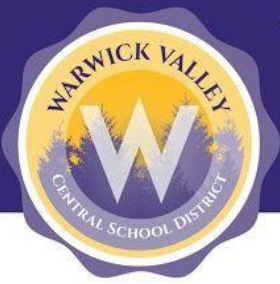
Communication

The District remains committed to communicating all elements of our 2021-2022 Reopening Plan to students, parents, guardians, staff, and visitors. This plan is available on the District website at www.warwickvalleyschools.com/reopening and will be updated throughout the school year, as necessary, to respond to local circumstances.

All necessary information will be communicated to District staff, students, parents/guardians, visitors, education partners and vendors via our existing communication modes, which include the District website, Superintendent Update emails, and Facebook.

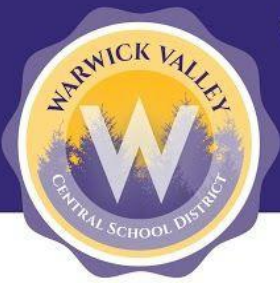
We intend to:

- Provide regular updates about health and safety, scheduling, and all other information.
- Provide information through multiple platforms, including email, telephone calls, text messaging, social media, and website postings.
- Provide helpful resources, such as who to contact with questions, concerns or suggestions; current facts regarding Covid-19 and the pandemic as sourced by local experts, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); and information such as physical distancing and protocols to reduce the spread of the virus in the community.
- At this time, New York State has not reestablished reporting on the State “Report Card”; however, the District is prepared to comply with all State reporting requirements for Covid-19. In the absence of a State Dashboard, the District will report Covid-19 cases via community updates.



Health & Safety

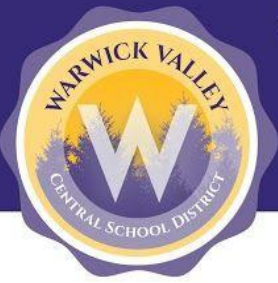
- As long as infection rates remain low and the Governor permits us to be in session, the District will begin the 2021-2022 school year with an in-person model.
- Students who are medically fragile with a 504 plan and proper paperwork will be referred to BOCES for remote instruction.
- The school district will follow guidance set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the New York State Department of Education (NYSED), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and the Orange County Health Department (OCHD).
- There will be no changing of clothes (at the secondary level) for physical education. Locker rooms remain closed for PE.
- Symptomatic persons will be sent to the school nurse or other designated personnel.
- COVID-19 has had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea



Health & Safety (cont.)

According to the New York State Education Department (NYSED) *Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year*:

- COVID-19 Vaccination Verification
 - CDC guidance states:
 - Administrators who maintain documentation of students' and workers' COVID-19 vaccination status can use this information, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, including those related to privacy, to inform prevention strategies, school-based testing, contact tracing efforts, and quarantine and isolation practices.
 - Schools that plan to request voluntary submission of documentation of COVID-19 vaccination status should use the same standard protocols that are used to collect and secure other immunization or health status information from students.
 - The protocol to collect, secure, use, and further disclose this information should comply with relevant statutory and regulatory requirements, including Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) statutory and regulatory requirements.
 - Policies or practices related to providing or receiving proof of COVID-19 vaccination should comply with all relevant state, tribal, local, or territorial laws and regulations.



Health & Safety (cont.)

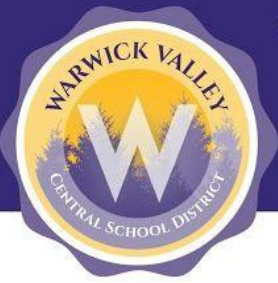
- Wearing Masks:

- The District will require universal indoor masking for all individuals, regardless of individual vaccination status.
- The CDC has recently updated its guidance on masks due to [emerging evidence](#) that demonstrates that the Delta variant of COVID-19, currently the predominant strain in the United States, is more infectious and has led to increased transmissibility when compared to other variants, even in vaccinated individuals.

The CDC states that unvaccinated people remain the greatest concern. Although breakthrough infections in vaccinated people happen much less often than infections in unvaccinated people, individuals infected with the Delta variant, including fully vaccinated people with symptomatic breakthrough infections, can transmit it to others. **Thus, the CDC and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) recommend [universal indoor masking](#) for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status and community transmission levels.**

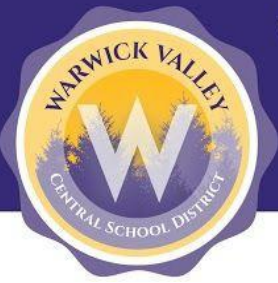
Consistent and correct mask use is particularly important indoors and when physical distancing cannot be maintained and in areas of high transmission of COVID-19. When teachers, staff, and students (ages 2 years and older) consistently and correctly wear a mask, they protect others as well as themselves.

- The [CDC's Order](#) regarding masks, issued in January 2021, requires that “[a]ll passengers on public conveyances ... traveling into, within, or out of the United States ... regardless of their vaccination status, are required to wear a mask over their nose and mouth.” It applies to all forms of public transportation, including school buses. Passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, regardless of vaccination status, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in CDC’s Order. [Learn more about the CDC requirement for face masks on buses here.](#)
- Masks are recommended for school events and athletics while indoors, per the CDC.



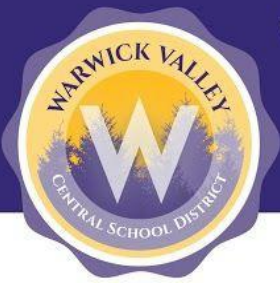
Health & Safety (cont.)

- Wearing Masks:
 - The CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated should wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised.
 - The CDC recommends that schools should have a sufficient supply of masks for students and staff who forget their own or need a replacement, including on buses.
 - The Occupational Health and Safety Administration has established [masking requirements](#) that apply to school districts.
- Per the CDC guidance, schools that require people to wear a mask should consider:
 - The possibility of [reasonable accommodation](#) for individuals who are not fully vaccinated and/or who are unable to wear or have difficulty wearing certain types of masks because of a disability.
 - Relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.



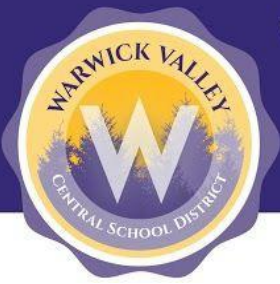
Health & Safety (cont.)

- Physical Distancing and Cohorting
 - The CDC recommends that schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing, to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully reopen while maintaining these distances, it is important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as cohorting.
 - A distance of at least 6 feet is recommended between students and teachers/staff, and between teachers/staff who are not fully vaccinated.
 - The CDC states that cohorting can be used to limit the number of students, teachers, and staff who come in contact with each other, especially when it is challenging to maintain physical distancing, such as among young children, and particularly in areas of moderate-to-high transmission levels. The use of cohorting can limit the spread of COVID-19 between cohorts but should not replace other prevention measures within each group.
 - Pursuant to the CDC's Order, physical distancing is not required on school buses.
 - The CDC states that, permitting large groups of students to eat in the cafeteria should be based on community transmission rates. Schools should maximize physical distance as much as possible when students are moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors). Using additional spaces and outdoor seating can facilitate distancing. Schools should consider limiting meals to classrooms in areas with substantial or high transmission rates.



Health & Safety (cont.)

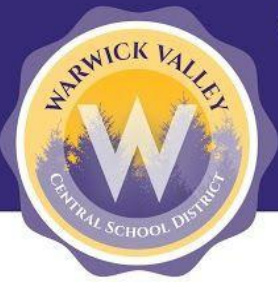
- Sports and Other Extracurricular Activities
 - At a minimum, students and adults should follow the same school-day policies and procedures during athletic and extracurricular activities.
 - Student athletes and coaches participating in indoor fall sports will be required to wear masks during competition, including any pre- and post-game activities.
 - Students should refrain from these activities when they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and should be tested.
 - Schools are strongly encouraged to use COVID-19 screening testing for student athletes, students participating in extracurricular activities or other activities with elevated risk (such as activities that involve singing, shouting, band, and exercise that could lead to increased exhalation) , and adults (e.g., coaches, teachers, advisors) who are not fully vaccinated and participate in or support these activities to facilitate safe participation and reduce risk of transmission – and avoid jeopardizing in-person education due to outbreaks. See Table 1: [Screening Testing Recommendations for K-12 Schools by Level of Community Transmission in the CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#).
 - High-risk sports and extracurricular activities should be virtual or canceled in areas of high community transmission unless all participants are fully vaccinated.
 - People who are fully vaccinated can refrain from quarantine following a known exposure if they are asymptomatic, facilitating continued participation in in-person learning, sports, and extracurricular activities.



Health & Safety (cont.)

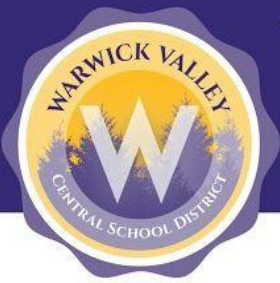
- Temperature and Questionnaire Screenings
 - The CDC no longer recommends temperature screenings or screening questionnaires at school.

- Staying Home When Sick and Getting Tested
 - The CDC recommends that:
 - Students and school personnel should stay home if they are showing signs and symptoms of infectious illness, including COVID-19, and get tested;
 - Parents/guardians are encouraged to screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to their child attending school each day;
 - Schools should encourage everyone in their school community to get tested when symptoms are compatible with COVID-19, as this will help with rapid contact tracing and prevent the spread of COVID-19 at school.
 - [The CDC created a flowchart to assist schools in decision making if a student becomes sick or reports a new COVID-19 diagnosis at school.](#)
 - Students under quarantine at the Grade 7-12 level will have the ability to stream into the classroom. At the Grade K-6 level, parents will have the option to have students join tutoring sessions if the students are under quarantine. All Google Classrooms are updated daily.



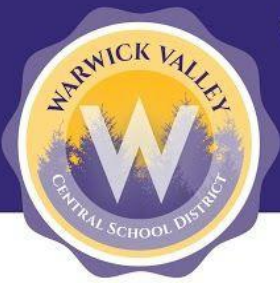
Health & Safety (cont.)

- Contact Tracing, in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine
 - The CDC recommends school leaders continue to collaborate with local health departments, to the extent allowable by privacy laws such as the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 in their school communities. Doing so makes it possible to identify which students, teachers, and staff with positive COVID-19 test results should isolate, and which close contacts should quarantine.
 - School leaders should, to the extent allowable by applicable privacy laws, report new diagnoses of COVID-19 to their local health department as soon as they are informed. School leaders also should, to the extent allowable, notify the teachers, staff, and families of students who were close contacts as soon as possible after they are notified that someone in the school has tested positive (within the same day if possible).
 - The [CDC guidance document](#) defines a close contact as someone who was within [6 feet of an infected person](#) (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).
 - Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) [correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks](#) the entire time. [Additional guidance for wearing masks is available from the CDC](#). This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting. This is 6 feet on a bus and 6 feet in the cafeteria.
 - According to the CDC, people who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have [symptoms](#). However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even if they do not have symptoms, and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.



Health and Safety (cont.)

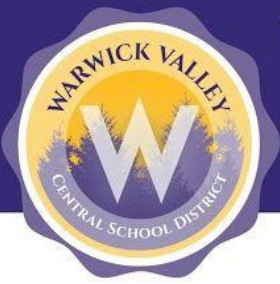
- District Actions:
 - Students who are symptomatic while entering school or become symptomatic during the school day will be isolated from others right away by the school nurse. Students exhibiting symptoms will be required to continue to wear masks and wait in a supervised, designated isolated room through which others do not enter until students can be transported home. If more than one student is in the isolation area, physical distancing will be maintained to the best extent possible. The school nurse will have a plan for triaging students in the health office, recognizing that not all symptoms are COVID-19 related.
 - The school nurse will advise parents of sick students suspected of having COVID-19 that students are not to return to school until they have met CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>. Students will be allowed to return to school 24 hours fever free without fever reducing medication, with a note from their healthcare provider, and/ or with a documented negative COVID-19 test, and will continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID -19 for 14 days from date of onset. There will be no COVID-19 testing of students at school. Local testing site information will be shared with families. The schools' nursing offices will monitor testing results of students once made available by parents, complying with relevant privacy and health laws. If a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, the District will uphold their right to privacy and confidentiality to the greatest extent possible while also supporting any contact investigation by the Orange County Department of Health (OCDOH). We will determine the level of closure in consultation with the OCHD, as well.
 - **If Covid-19 transmission levels rise and official guidance warrants further risk mitigation**, our schools are prepared for contingencies (if required by State or County authorities).
 - **If Covid-19 transmission levels decline and official guidance allows risk mitigation reductions**, our schools are also prepared to remove Covid-19 risk mitigation efforts.



Health and Safety (cont.)

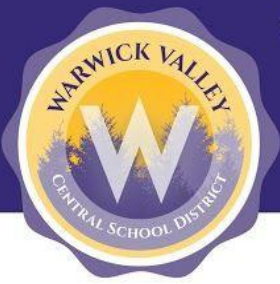
District Actions:

- Fully-vaccinated individuals are not subject to quarantine for exposure at this time.
- Daily Attestations will no longer be required; however, students and staff who feel ill **must not** come to school.
- The District will limit non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations during school instructional times. Masks will be required for all essential visitors in order to enter the building.
- Any instances of Covid-19 infection will be reported to the OCDOH and contact tracing will be conducted immediately.



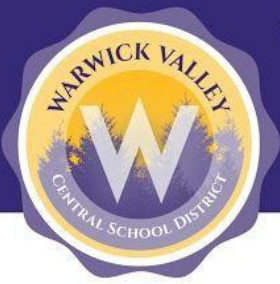
Transportation

- Masks are required by federal order on school buses and other forms of public transportation. Therefore, masks will be required by all drivers and passengers on District school buses.
- The school district will fulfill existing mandates regarding the safe and effective transportation of students who are homeless (McKinney-Vento), in foster care, have disabilities and attend non-public schools and charter schools.
- Buses and other transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected daily (focus on high touch areas) and in between runs if scheduled for multiple routes.
- School buses shall not be equipped with hand sanitizer due to its combustible composition and potential liability to the carrier or district. School bus drivers, monitors and attendants must not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with them on school buses.
- Wheelchair school buses will be configured for wheelchair placement to ensure physical distancing.
- All transportation department employees shall perform a self-health assessment for symptoms of COVID-19 before arriving to work. If personnel are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 they should notify their employer and seek medical attention.
- As per CDC order, all school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, mechanics and passengers must wear a face covering, regardless of vaccination status, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in CDC order. Students who are able will be required to wear masks and maintain physical distance on the bus.
- Busing will return to a regular schedule and operate on regular routes. Masks on buses will be mandatory. A return to more normal busing levels should also ease traffic in and around each of our schools.



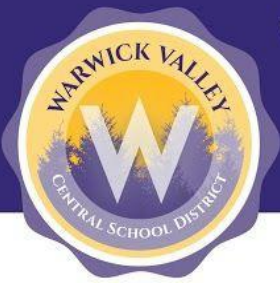
Transportation (cont.)

- To comply with the mandates and recommended health and safety guidance the district will adopt the following standard operating procedures:
 - Training (Office Personnel, Drivers, Mechanics, Aides)
 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - COVID Awareness
 - New cleaning Protocols (buses, transportation center)
 - Handwashing
 - Face Covering (sizing, use, wear & care)
 - Personal Health and Hygiene
- Transportation department will provide Personal Protective Equipment such as masks and gloves for drivers, monitors and attendants in buses as well as hand sanitizer for all staff in their transportation locations such as dispatch offices, employee lunch/break rooms and/or bus garages.
- Drivers, monitors, and attendants who must have direct physical contact with a child must wear a mask and gloves.
- All parents/guardians will be required to ensure their child/children are not experiencing any symptoms of Covid 19 and do not have a fever of 100 degrees or more prior to them boarding their method of transportation to school.
- Individuals must wear acceptable face coverings at all times on school buses (e.g., entering, exiting, and seated).
- Students who do not have a mask cannot be denied transportation. Students who do not have masks must be provided one by the district.



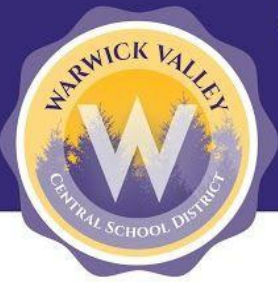
Transportation (cont.)

- Students with a disability which would prevent them from wearing a mask will not be forced to do so or denied transportation.
- Individuals should maintain appropriate physical distancing, unless they are members of the same household.
- Responsible Parties must adhere to and promote hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection guidance set forth by DOH and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- If the school district is in session remotely or otherwise, pupil transportation must be provided to nonpublic, parochial, private, charter schools or students whose Individualized Education Plans have placed them out of the district whose schools are meeting in in-person sessions when/ if the district is not.
- All students are entitled to transportation by the district to the extent required by law. Transportation departments do not have the ability or the right to deny transportation for children who are in foster care, homeless or attend private or charter schools. Parents who may have missed the due date to request out of district transportation due to a reasonable excuse may file a 310 appeal with the Commissioner of Education. The district will provide students a mask on an emergency basis.



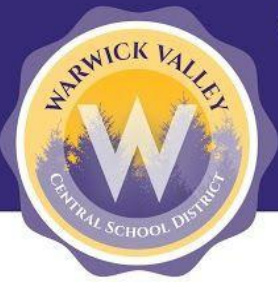
Transportation (cont.)

- The District will utilize computerized routing systems to design routes that limit the number of students on the bus and provide for the following arrival/dismissal schedule (subject to change based on enrollment and capacity restrictions):
 - HS/MS: Pick-up times begin at 6:35 a.m. Upon arrival at the schools, buses will park in slots and release students a few buses at a time beginning at 7:25 a.m. School begins at 7:30 a.m.
 - Sandfordville & Park Avenue: Pick-up times begin at 8:00 a.m. Buses arriving at Sandfordville will utilize a drop-and-go model at 8:45 a.m. Buses arriving at Park Avenue will be park in the slots for an 8:45 a.m. drop-off. School begins at both Sanfordville and Park Avenue at 8:55.
 - Pine Island: Pick-up times beginning at 7:40 a.m. Upon arrival at Pine Island, buses will deliver students in a drop-and-go style beginning at 8:50 a.m. School begins at 8:55 a.m.
- Arrival and Dismissal Procedures:
 - DOH and NYSED guidance requires that the District consider the following in developing plan:
 - Responsible Parties should take additional measures to prevent congregation
 - Physical Distancing – Stagger arrival and/or dismissal times to allow increased physical distancing on buses as well as in classrooms.
 - Dividing up student entry points rather than funneling all students through the same entry space, to limit the amount of close contact between students in high-traffic situations and times.
 - Making arrival schedule changes for students who walk or are dropped off at school by a parent or caregiver.
 - Establish designated areas for student drop-off and pick-up, limiting contact and entry of parents/ guardians into the building, to the greatest extent possible.
- Bell Times
 - HS/MS: 7:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
 - Elementary: 8:55 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.
- If a student becomes ill after arriving at school the student will need to be picked up by their parent/guardian from their school.



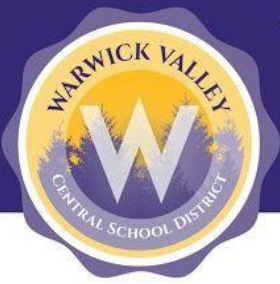
Technology and Connectivity

- District Actions
 - The District will provide each K-12 classroom with 25 Chromebooks and access to hi-speed Internet as needed. The District has purchased 60 MIFI devices. Family needs for internet & wireless access will be handled on a case by case basis. The District has also put outdoor wireless on all its buildings so community members may go to the surrounding areas of each school and have high speed Internet access. This access will be advertised. All instructional staff have also been given a district provided Chromebook.
 - The IT department will be prepared to provide necessary technology hardware and software in classrooms, and will be prepared to support all needs in any scenario via a help desk system. Parents and students can email helpdesk@wvcsd.org.
 - The District has a dedicated 2 GB connection that will support the middle school and high school. The District has a dedicated 1 GB connection that will support the elementary buildings in the school district. In every classroom, there is a document camera that can be used for video conferencing as well as the camera on every Chromebook. All classrooms are also equipped with an Interactive TV.
 - Each grade 7-12 student will be scheduled for a maximum of eight classes. Attendance is required and will be documented. Each class period will be 55 minutes in length.
 - Teachers are expected to be prepared to provide instruction for each class that they teach using Google Meet.



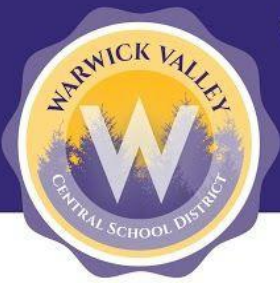
Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - Schools are responsible for developing a mechanism to collect and report daily teacher/student engagement or attendance regardless of the instructional setting.
 - Attendance of any school-age student of compulsory age, who resides in the district or is placed by a parent/guardian in another public school district, a charter school, or is placed by a district administrator or the CSE of the school district in educational programs outside the district (such as, another school district, BOCES, approved private in-State or out-of-State school, and State supported school) must be reported in SIRS. To date, the reporting of daily attendance of Prekindergarten students is not required;
 - Attendance must be reported by any reporting entity that is required to take attendance;
 - Resident students of compulsory age who were not in attendance in a public school, including charter schools, nonpublic school, or approved homeschooling program in the current school year must be reported until they exceed compulsory school age, they no longer reside in the district, or the district has documentation that the student has entered another educational program leading to a high school diploma;
 - Students who drop out while still of compulsory school age must be kept on the school attendance register until they exceed compulsory school age or move out of the district.



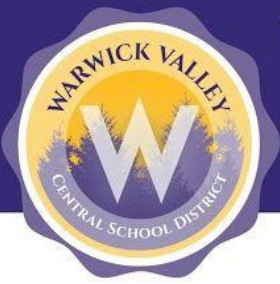
Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism (cont.)

- District Actions
 - All students are assigned classes through our Student Management system, eSchoolData. Teachers can view their students in eSchoolData and will take attendance accordingly. This will allow the District to keep all attendance state reportable and meet any mandates. Attendance policies and procedures will be communicated with families and students prior to the start of the school year or if the instructional model changes during the year. Communication will take the form of building level parent letters/newsletter, robocalls and email. While there is no one-size-fits all approach to addressing chronic absenteeism, Warwick Valley is committed to providing interventions to prevent and address health-related and mental health chronic absenteeism.
 - Warwick Valley addresses chronic absenteeism as follows.
 - Nurture a culture of attendance
 - Communicate clearly to families and students what the attendance policy is and expectations for participating based on the model of instruction
 - Explain the importance of attendance to the entire school community
 - Track daily attendance, tardies, and student engagement in one central, secure location with a tool that allows you to quickly see how these data points impact student behavior.
 - Early Identification and Intervention
 - Each school regularly monitors attendance data and communicates with parents about issues as they arise.
 - Use data to identify which students are at risk, so you can intervene before isolated absences become chronic absenteeism.
 - Establish intervention plans; parent phone call, home visit, counseling, instructional modifications, engage community partners, etc.



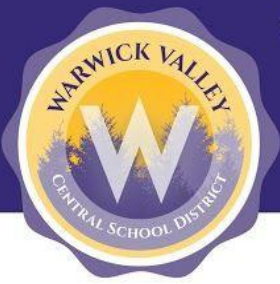
Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Warwick Valley addresses chronic absenteeism as follows.
 - Create a more positive school culture and a focus on engaging instruction
 - Evaluate and address your students' engagement in learning
 - Provide teachers and school leaders with multiple levels of support to help students stay more engaged and act positively.
 - Help students achieve positive social and emotional character development while reinforcing the behaviors that make up your ideal school culture.
 - Use goal-based incentives and rewards to motivate attendance and positive student behaviors where age-appropriate.
 - COVID Positive Test
 - If a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, we will uphold their right to privacy and confidentiality to the greatest extent possible, while also supporting any contact investigation by the Orange County Health Department (OCHD). We will determine the level of closure in consultation with the OCHD, as well. "Cohorting" practices (the amount of intermingling among groups) will dictate whether a classroom, grade level, wing of a school building, or entire school will close. Those in close contact with the individual who tested positive will then receive instructions from the OCHD regarding testing, quarantine, and a timeline for returning to school in-person.



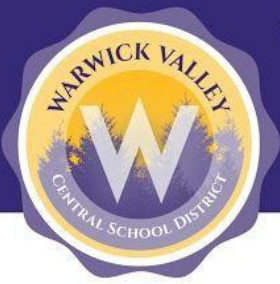
ENL & World Languages

- District Actions
 - Support of English language learners (ELLs) will be comprehensive and high-quality. We will complete the ELL identification process within 30 school days of the start of the school year. The district also has access to the OUBOCES Professional Learning Catalog to support teachers to assure ENL and world language instruction is personalized and research-based.
 - Regular communication with the parents/Guardians of ELL children will be maintained. The District utilizes a service provided by the local BOCES to translate communication into different languages by an official translator. For Parent teacher conferences, the District also utilizes the service so the parents can communicate with teachers in their preferred language.



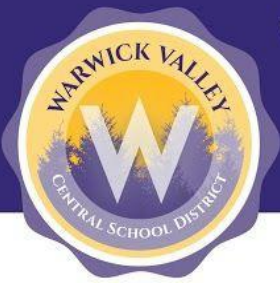
Social-Emotional Well Being

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - A district-wide and building-level comprehensive developmental school counseling program plan has been developed under the direction of certified school counselors and has been reviewed and updated to meet current needs.
 - Establish an advisory council, shared decision-making, school climate team, or other collaborative working group comprised of families, students, members of the board of education, school building and/or district/charter leaders, community-based service providers, teachers, certified school counselors, and other pupil personnel service providers including school social workers and/or school psychologists to inform the comprehensive developmental school counseling program plan.
 - Address how the school/district will provide resources and referrals to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional support services and programs.
 - Address professional development opportunities for faculty and staff on how to talk with and support students during and after the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, as well as provide supports for developing coping and resilience skills for students, faculty, and staff.



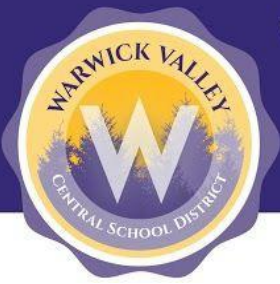
Human Resources

- District Actions
 - All teachers hold valid and appropriate certificates for their teaching assignments except where otherwise allowable under the Commissioner's regulation (e.g., incidental teacher) or Education Law. Pursuant to Education Law 3001, individuals employed to teach in New York State public schools must hold a valid certificate. The District will continue to review the SIRS 329 Staff Certifications report, which is available in COGNOS for authorized users, to ensure that teachers hold the appropriate certificates for their teaching assignments. This report is refreshed weekly and lists all valid certificates for all staff identified in the school district.
 - The District's reopening plan ensures that all teachers and principals are evaluated pursuant to the approved APPR plan. The District will continue to implement the NYS approved APPR plan for the 2021-2022 school year. The District will convene the APPR committee to review the APPR plan and make any necessary adjustments. The District will collaborate with the Warwick Valley CSD Teachers Association and the Warwick Valley CSD Administrators Association to ensure that all teachers and principals are evaluated pursuant to the districts APPR plan.



Teaching & Learning

- District Actions
 - The District will prioritize in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. The District will be discontinuing its District Learning Academy all together and returning to its traditional model of five days of in-school instruction for grades K through 12. This return to a traditional model will also allow the District to reinstate its full schedule of course offerings
 - Elementary School days will once again begin at 8:55 a.m. and conclude at 3:35 p.m. Middle School and High School days will also return to their typical schedule, beginning daily at 7:40 a.m. and concluding at 2:30 p.m.
 - Labs: Lab activities will be utilized and students will share materials and resources as needed. Students will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands before and after lab activities. Enhanced cleaning protocols will also be followed.
 - Library: Libraries will be open and students will be able to browse stacks, check out books and use other resources. Students will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands before and after library visits.
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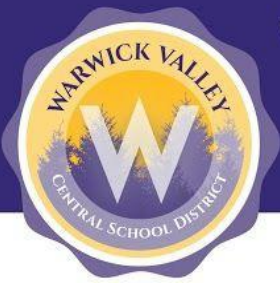


Teaching & Learning

Academic Intervention Services (AIS):

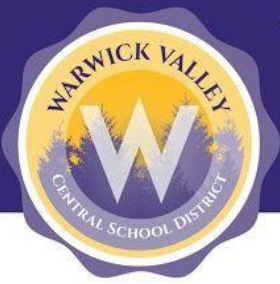
In accordance with the Commissioner's Regulations section 100.2(ee), students who are at risk of not achieving State Learning Standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, and or Science will continue to be entitled to receive AIS. To assist in identifying students in need of AIS, the District will consider students' scores on multiple measures of student performance, which include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following measures:

- Fountas and Pinnell reading assessments (running records) and optional assessments
- NWEA testing
- Unit and lesson assessments
- Past State assessment scores



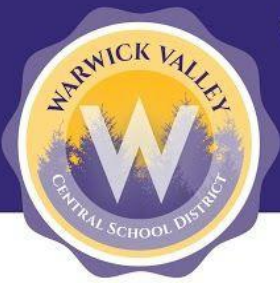
School Schedules

- District Actions
 - All Grades: The School District has made a model that allows for cohorting of students, especially in grades K-6
 - K-4: 8:55 a.m. - 3:35 p.m.: All of the District's students will attend school daily based on their school's bell schedule.
 - Grades 5-6: 7:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.: All of the District's students will attend school daily based on their school's bell schedule. Middle School days are broken out into eight (8) periods and lunch
 - Grades 7-12: 7:40 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.: All of the District's students will attend school daily based on their school's bell schedule. Days in grades 7-12 are broken out into six (6) rotating periods and lunch. Students are scheduled for 8 but only see six each day.



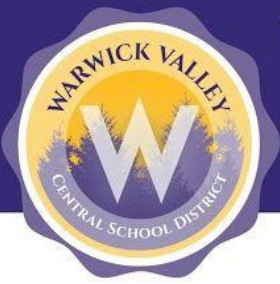
Facilities

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - General Health and Safety Assurances: School districts or other applicable schools, must follow all guidance related to health and safety. This will include meeting physical distancing requirements and cleaning frequently touched spaces regularly to prevent spread of infection. These requirements will be addressed in more detail in other parts of the NYSED Re-Opening Guidance. The Facilities portion of the district's or other applicable school's reopening plan will seek assurance that school districts or other applicable schools will meet all requirements associated with building space related changes that they may elect to make.
 - Fire Code Compliance: Changes or additions to facilities require review by the Office of Facilities Planning (OFP) since all spaces to be occupied by public school students and staff must meet the requirements of the 2021 New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (BC) and the State Energy Conservation Code. In their plans, districts or other applicable schools will provide assurances that, should alterations be made, districts and other applicable schools will submit the proposed changes to the OFP for review and approval - just as with any other project.
 - Doorways: Many stairs and corridor doors have closers with automatic hold opens. These doors are normally held in the open position and are automatically released by the fire alarm system. The function, position, and operation of those doors must remain unchanged. Fortunately, they need not be touched during normal use.
 - Emergency Drills: Districts or other applicable schools shall conduct standard operations and procedures to the best of their abilities without deviating from current requirements. Fire (Evacuation) Drills and Lockdown Drills are required by Education Law and regulation and the Fire Code, and they must be conducted without exceptions. Fire Code Section 404 requires that schools maintain Fire Safety, Evacuation, and Lockdown Plans and these plans include how lockdown and evacuation drills are conducted. Methods to promote and provide for physical distancing during the evacuation drills are ultimately the district's or other applicable school's decision and responsibility. Those changes must be included in the Fire Safety plans.



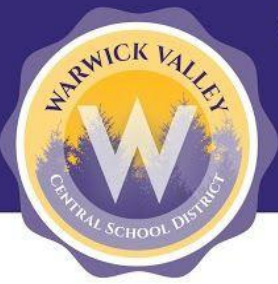
Facilities (cont.)

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - Inspections: Statute has not been changed to provide an extension to the submission deadline for the Building Condition Survey or Visual Inspections. These deadlines must be met.
 - Lead Testing: At present, the statutory requirement that lead testing occur in 2021 continues. NYS DOH regulation 67-4, Lead-In-Water Testing - DOH requires lead-in-water testing to be conducted when the building is “normally occupied.” Sampling should not be conducted when the building is vacant or has been vacant for an extended period due to COVID-19 closure. Simulation of “normally occupied operation” for the purpose of lead-in-water testing is not permitted. NYS DOH advises that schools follow recommended procedures to the extent possible to provide clean and safe drinking water upon reopening.
 - Alterations Mandatory Requirements: If districts/schools expect to make space alterations to the physical space or the building, these items will be required: If alterations to the configuration of existing classrooms or spaces or the introduction of temporary and/or movable partitions are made, the change must be submitted to OFP, the local municipality and/or code enforcement officials for review. Means of egress, fire alarm system, ventilation, and lighting may be affected and must be indicated on all submitted plans. Consult your architect and submit floor plans to OFP for approval. COVID-19 Projects shall be indicated as “COVID-19 Reopening” when submitted to the OFP. This will allow NYSED to expedite those reviews. The installation of movable partitions (gym, cafeteria, Library classroom dividers) and queue barricades shall require an abbreviated submission consistent with the Form FP-AU Request for Approval of Use of a Facility. Use of Cafeterias, Libraries, Auditoriums and Gymnasiums: A floor plan of the entire room showing the furniture layout with egress aisles shall be submitted to OFP for approval. Lighting, ventilation, means of egress, and fire alarm coverage must be indicated.



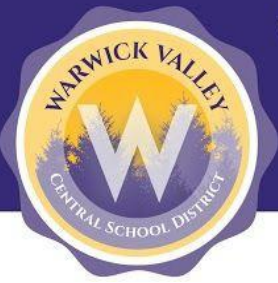
Facilities (cont.)

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - Space Expansion Mandatory Requirements: If districts or other applicable schools choose to expand their square footage in order to enable improved physical distancing (e.g. building additions, lease space, transportable classroom units or spaces such as tents), the following requirements apply for all spaces to be occupied by school district staff and students:
 - Code Review - Per statute, NYSED's Office of Facilities Planning must review and approve the above types of projects to ensure that the proposed spaces meet the fire code. Off Site Lease Requirements: For offsite facilities, the district or other applicable schools must contact their project manager at NYSED Office of Facilities Planning (OFP) and submit a Temporary Quarters (TQ) Project submission. To ensure that these sites meet all requirements, TQ submissions require submission of OFP Form FP_AU-Request for Approval of Use of a Facility, architectural quality floor plan, site plan, AHERA Plan, Fire Safety Report, Confirmation of Americans with Disabilities Act compliance, Local Code Authority Certificate of Occupancy, and Approval of use of space. Please note – if a Change of Occupancy in the Existing Building Code applies (e.g. office or B-occupancy to E-occupancy), code requirements such as rescue windows, accessibility, fire protection systems such as sprinkler or emergency voice alarm communication systems, and ventilation may make it infeasible. Districts or other applicable schools should identify COVID-19 Projects as “COVID-19 Reopening” when required materials are submitted to OFP for review. Consult with OFP for a preliminary evaluation of all facilities under consideration for leasing. All leased facilities must be submitted to OFP for review and approval.



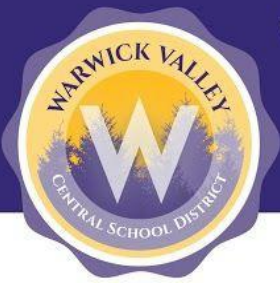
Facilities (cont.)

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - Tents for Additional Space: If tents are used as alternate spaces, Mandatory Requirements apply. Tents, both temporary and permanent, are regulated by code and must be submitted for a building permit. Temporary structures and tents are those erected for 180 days or less. The Building Code Section 3103.1 indicates, “tents and membrane structures erected for a period of less than 180 days shall comply with the Fire Code of NYS.” The Fire Code (FC) Chapter 31 contains extensive requirements for Tents and Other Membrane Structures. FC Section 3103.2 indicates that a permit and approval of temporary tents is required. FC Section 3103 contains requirements for temporary tents and Section 3104 has requirements for
 - permanent tents. They include requirements for construction documents, access roads, location, seating plans, means of egress, illumination, exit signs, construction, and use. Permanent tents are considered a membrane structure and are regulated by Building Code Section 3102 and other applicable sections.
 - Districts or other applicable schools must consult their design professional to prepare submission drawings for approval by OFP. The following information must be shown on the drawings: Dimensions, minimum separation distance to other structures, tent sides (yes) (no), duration of use, type of use/activity, anchorage, number of exits, width of each exit, table/chair/contents, layout, fire extinguisher location, occupant load, heating or cooking equipment, utilities, exit signs, and NFPA 701 testing/label/certification. If the tent is used for E-occupancy, consult with local municipalities and/or code enforcers provide code-compliant design for mechanical heat and ventilation, lighting, emergency lighting, power, fire alarm, plumbing, etc., as required. Districts or other applicable schools must consult their architect and submit to OFP for approval. The district or other applicable school must provide an architectural quality floor plan, which clearly indicates existing and proposed use of space showing the furniture layout with egress aisles. Lighting, ventilation, means of egress, and fire alarm coverage must be indicated.



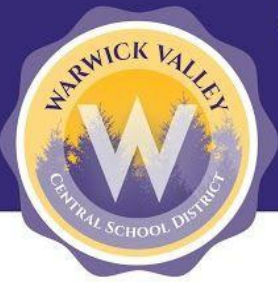
Facilities (cont.)

- New York State Requirements & Non-Negotiables
 - Plumbing Facilities and Fixtures: The number of toilet and sink fixtures must meet the minimum standards of the New York State Building Code. In order to ensure compliance, a design professional should be consulted prior to any modifications to layouts or number of fixtures. All temporary facilities must be approved through the Office of Facilities Planning.
 - Ventilation: Maintain adequate, code required ventilation (natural or mechanical) as designed.



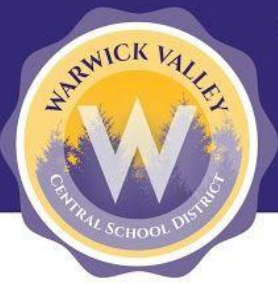
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Classroom
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (but not limited to):
 - Classroom desks and chairs
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Bathroom faucets
 - Light switches
 - Shared telephones
 - Shared desktops
 - Shared computer keyboards and mice
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed from the room
 - Floors swept and dust mopped
 - Floors spot mopped or full mopped
 - Wipe clean: Tables, furniture and countertops
 - Window in the classroom door is cleaned routinely
 - Walls are spot cleaned
 - Carpets are spot cleaned
 - Clean/Disinfect classroom sink and toilet area (if applicable)
 - Vacuum carpet daily if applicable
 - Restock all paper and soap products
 - Clean Baseboards - Weekly
 - Clean Light Fixtures - Weekly
 - Replace Lights (Notify Custodian or Maintenance)



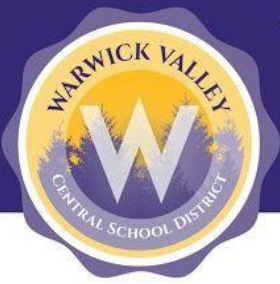
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Restrooms & Locker Rooms
 - Clean and disinfect toilets, sinks and shower areas
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (but not limited to):
 - Drinking Fountains
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Light switches
 - Handrails
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed from the room
 - Floors full mopped
 - Clean Doors and Partitions in Restrooms and Locker Rooms
 - Walls are spot cleaned
 - Check that toilets, faucets, and drains are working
 - Check Sanitary Napkin Boxes
 - Clean Exterior of Dispensers
 - Restock all toilet paper and soap products
 - Clean Baseboards - Weekly
 - Clean Light Fixtures - Weekly
 - Replace Lights (Notify Custodian or Maintenance)
 - Common Areas (Hallways)
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (but not limited to):
 - Drinking Fountains
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Bathroom faucets



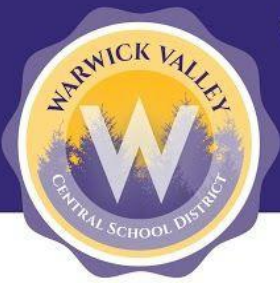
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Common Areas (Hallways)
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (but not limited to):
 - Light switches
 - Handrails
 - Buttons on vending machines
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed
 - Floors swept and dust mopped
 - Floors spot mopped or full mopped
 - Walls are spot cleaned, when soiled
 - Carpets are spot cleaned
 - Make sure all unoccupied classrooms are locked
 - Medical Office
 - Clean and disinfect health cots regularly (after each student use)
 - Discard or launder coverings after each use
 - Cover treatment tables and use pillow protectors
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces (but not limited to):
 - Classroom desks and chairs
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Bathroom faucets
 - Light switches
 - Shared telephones
 - Shared desktops - Shared computer keyboards and mice



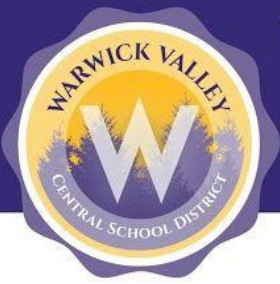
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Clerical/Admin Offices
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed from the room
 - Floors swept and dust mopped
 - Floors spot mopped or full mopped
 - Wipe clean: Tables, furniture and countertops
 - Window in the door is cleaned routinely
 - Walls are spot cleaned
 - Carpets are spot cleaned
 - Clean/Disinfect shared sink and toilet area if applicable
 - Vacuum carpet daily if applicable
 - Restock all paper and soap products
 - Clean Baseboards – Weekly
 - Clean Light Fixtures – Weekly
 - Replace Lights (Notify Custodian or Maintenance)



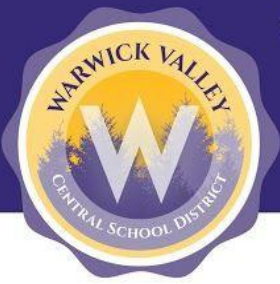
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Athletic Areas
 - Establish a regular cleaning schedule for shared environmental surfaces such as wrestling mats or strength training equipment
 - Disinfect mats and other high-use equipment at least daily
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces:
 - Handles on equipment (e.g., athletic equipment)
 - Drinking fountains
 - Ice Machines
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Light switches o Shared telephones
 - Shared desktops
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed from the room
 - Floors swept and dust mopped
 - Floors spot mopped or full mopped
 - Wipe clean: Tables, furniture and countertops
 - Window in the door is cleaned routinely
 - Walls are spot cleaned
 - Restock all paper and soap products
 - Clean Baseboards – Weekly
 - Clean Light Fixtures – Weekly
 - Replace Lights (Notify Custodian or Maintenance)



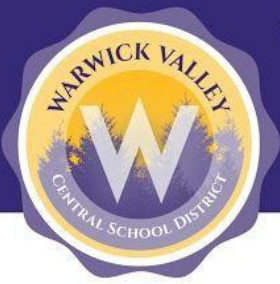
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Restrooms
 - Clean and disinfect toilets, sinks and shower areas
 - Wear proper PPE, avoid splashes
 - Clean and disinfect high touch surfaces:
 - Sinks
 - Faucets
 - Soap dispensers
 - Drinking Fountains
 - Door handles and push plates
 - Light switches
 - Handrails
 - All trash receptacles emptied and trash removed from room
 - Floors full mopped
 - Clean Doors and Partitions in Restrooms and Locker Rooms
 - Walls are spot cleaned
 - Check that toilets, faucets, and drains are working
 - Check Sanitary Napkin Boxes
 - Clean Exterior of Dispensers
 - Restock all paper and soap products
 - Clean Baseboards - Weekly
 - Clean Light Fixtures – Weekly
 - Replace Lights (Notify Custodian or Maintenance)



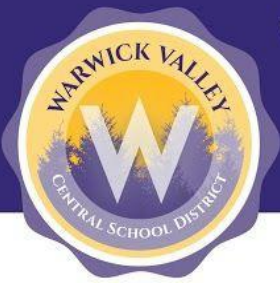
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Other Recommendations:
 - Before/Afterschool Activities
 - Before school activities are limited to day care provided overseen by the Department of Health. Before school co-curricular activities will not be scheduled until further notice in order to ensure classroom spaces maintain cleanliness prior to the arrival of student mass. After school activities will be cancelled until further notice. Licensed day care operations may continue until 6 PM. Buildings are closed to non-custodial staff from 6 PM to 5 AM for disinfecting cleaning to occur without disruption.
 - Field Trips/Assemblies/Open Houses
 - Athletic events/practices shall adhere to guidance from State
 - Performances where students can be physically distanced shall be live streamed to parents
 - Field trips are to be limited to free virtual opportunities
 - School trips are cancelled through at least January 1
 - Wherever possible, in-school events will be changed to a virtual format Club Activities In-person activities cancelled until further notice. Students are encouraged to stay engaged in club activities using remote resources. Closure Considerations The building principal will recommend to the Superintendent of Schools closure of in-person activities under the following circumstances: 1. Infection rate, 2. Absentee rate trend for students, 3. Absenteeism of essential personnel to the extent that it creates a health and safety concern or prevents district from complying with mandates. At closure, the District will provide an exclusive remote learning program.
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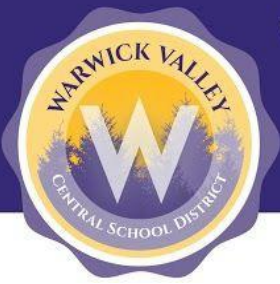
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Fire Code Compliance: Changes or additions to facilities require review by the Office of Facilities Planning (OFP), since all spaces to be occupied by public school students and staff must meet the requirements of the 2021 New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (BC) and the State Energy Conservation Code. In their plans, districts or other applicable schools will provide assurances that, should alterations be made, districts and other applicable schools will submit the proposed changes to the OFP for review and approval - just as with any other project. All school buildings are currently compliant.
 - Doorways: Many stairs and corridor doors have closers with automatic hold opens. These doors are normally held in the open position and are automatically released by the fire alarm system. The function, position, and operation of those doors must remain unchanged. Fortunately, they need not be touched during normal use. The District is compliant in all our buildings.



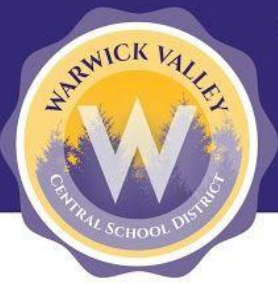
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Emergency Drills: School Safety Drills Schools must continue to conduct mandatory fire and lockdown drills according to the existing statutory schedule. When planning drills, consideration will be given to how each building may modify their drill procedures to minimize risk of spreading infection. Conducting drills is an important part of keeping students and staff safe in an emergency, however, steps will be taken to minimize the risk of spreading infection while conducting drills. Students will be instructed that if it was an actual emergency that required evacuation or lockdown, the most imminent concern is to get to safety; maintaining physical distancing in an actual emergency that requires evacuation or lockdown may not be possible and should not be the first priority. Modifications to evacuation drill protocols may include, but are not limited to: - Conducting drills on a “staggered” schedule, where classrooms evacuate separately rather than all at once, and appropriate distance is kept between students to the evacuation site. Staggering by the classroom, minimizes contact of students in hallways, stairwells, and at the evacuation site. All students, regardless of hybrid model, will receive proper instruction in emergency procedures, and participate in drills while they are in attendance in-person. Modifications to Lockdown Drills may include, but are not limited to: - Conduct lockdown drill in classroom setting while maintaining physical distancing and using masks. - Conducting lockdown drills on a “staggered” schedule with smaller numbers of students present to maintain physical distancing, however all students will receive instruction in emergency procedures and participate in drills while they are in attendance in-person; and - Conduct lockdown drill in classroom without “hiding”/ “sheltering” but provide an overview of how to shelter or hide in the classroom.



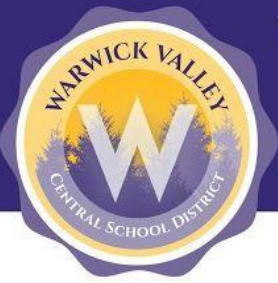
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Inspections: Statute has not been changed to provide an extension to the submission deadline for the Building Condition Survey or Visual Inspections. These deadlines will all be met. Additionally, at the Pine Island ES, the local BOCES along with the District's engineer, will ensure these inspections are completed prior to occupancy.
 - Lead Testing: At present, the statutory requirement that lead testing occur in 2021 continues. NYS DOH regulation 67-4, Lead-In-Water Testing, DOH requires lead-in-water testing to be conducted when the building is "normally occupied." Sampling should not be conducted when the building is vacant or has been vacant for an extended period due to COVID-19 closure. Simulation of "normally occupied operation" for the purpose of lead-in-water testing is not permitted. The District will comply with the recommended procedures to the extent possible to provide clean and safe drinking water upon reopening. This approach may include the installation of portable cold water/drinking stations if needed.
 - Alterations Mandatory Requirements: If the District elects to use alternate spaces for supervisory or instructional purposes, the District will seek NYSED approval.
 - Plumbing Facilities and Fixtures: The District's engineer is working with NYSED to ensure compliance at Pine Island ES. All other facilities meet code.
 - Ventilation: The district will increase the fresh air ventilation rate to the extent possible to aid in maintaining a healthy indoor air quality. The District will consider installing higher efficiency filters where feasible.



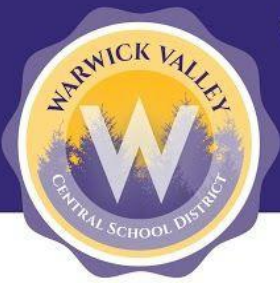
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Other:
 - Time Management: School leaders will manage time and schedules to reduce student use of the corridors. The traditional practice of changing classes between periods results in congested hallways and creates challenges to enforcing physical distancing.
 - Leave Doors Open: Where appropriate, to reduce the spread of the virus from touching door levers and knobs, doors may be fixed in the open position. This is only permitted at doors without door closers and doors which are not fire rated.
 - Plastic Separators: In offices and food service areas, light-transmitting plastics will be installed where physical distance or mask requirements cannot be complied with or easily regulated.
 - Alcohol-based Hand Rub Dispensers: An additional 30 dispensers ordered. The District assessed each building's capacity to provide adequate hand washing facilities and determined that adding Alcohol-based Hand Rub Dispensers is needed.
 - Drinking Water Facilities: The District wishes to reduce the number of drinking fountains available, in order to facilitate frequent cleaning. Therefore, drinking fountains may be replaced with units with bottle fillers. Consideration will also be given to supplying students with bottled drinking water or water in disposable cups at specified locations.



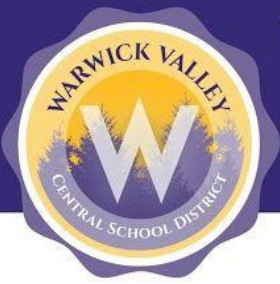
Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Drills:
 - The District will phase fire drills to reduce the congestion in the corridors
 - Custodians will place markers on the floors, including tape and decals, to help students maintain physical distancing.
 - Staff will monitor the students at the entrance/ exit doors and staging areas to ensure the students maintain physical distancing.
 - Staff and Students will need to expand their staging areas into parking lots or on grass areas to obtain physical distancing. Once the return to the building bell sounds, the staff will need to return to the building in a controlled manner, one class at a time to maintain the physical distancing guidelines. Or, conduct the fire drill at the end of the day



Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Before and Aftercare programs: If the District elects to continue with after-school childcare programming, the following will occur:
 - Continue to adhere to all county, local requirements, Division of Childcare Services (<https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/#COVID19>)
 - All programs shall follow CDC guidelines:
 - Fill out appropriate paperwork with the district
 - Provide appropriate insurance to the district
 - Provide total number of participants- This will determine the room that is needed to accommodate the group.
 - Participants of the function, only, will be allowed in the building.
 - Participants will enter the building through the building scanner to check their temperature. Anyone's temperature that is above 100 degrees will be asked to leave the building.
 - Any participant that has symptoms of the COVID 19 virus shall not be allowed in the building
 - Follow physical distancing guidelines
 - Face masks must be worn at all times.
 - Once the activity is finished and participants have departed, the area that was used shall be disinfected by school personnel.
 - A log of the names and contact information will be kept to assist with any contact tracing that may be needed.



Facilities (cont.)

- District Actions
 - Anchor Documents
 - [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)
 - [NYS Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year](#)
 - [New York State Education Department: Recovering, Rebuilding, And Renewing: The Spirit Of New York's Schools Reopening Guidance](#)
 - [American Academy of Pediatrics: COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry](#)