City School District of Albany
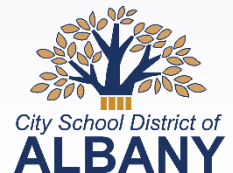
2020-21 High School Reopening

Town Hall meeting

Information is subject to change

Karen Bechdol, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
July 22, 2020

CSDA Guiding Principles

Vision Statement

The City School District of Albany will be a district of excellence with caring relationships and engaging learning experiences that provide equitable opportunities for all students to reach their potential.

Mission Statement

We will work in partnership with our diverse community to engage every learner in a robust educational program designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for success.

Goals

Increase **student achievement**
Enhance the **delivery of quality instruction**
Build our **leadership capacity**
Empower families
Partner with our diverse community

City School District of
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2020-21 High School Forum

Provide an update and opportunity for feedback on the planning process and status of reopening schools in September.

If you have questions or feedback you would like to provide during this focus group, please use the **Chat function** on your screen.

We will answer as many new questions as time allows.

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2020-21 High School Forum

Superintendent Adams charged the High School Reopening Committee with developing recommendations for reimagining school for grades 9-12 in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. She asked the committee to define the framework for learning in three modalities: fully on-site, blended and fully virtual/off-site.

The team's best thinking to date, given the parameters, is presented within. The team continues to research, review guidance documents from the Reimagine Education Advisory Council and the NYS Departments of Health and Education, and seek input from stakeholders to inform this recommendation.

Our ultimate goal and purpose is to present our best recommendation for a safe plan for reopening that creates the most conducive learning environment within the guidance parameters.

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Planning Committee: High School

Name	School	Role	Name	School	Role
Greg Baker	AHS	Social Studies Teacher	Karen Hauth	AHS	Social Studies Teacher
Kim Baker	AHS	Guidance Counselor	Casey LeCuyer	AHS	Special Education Teacher
Karen Bechdol	District	Director, Curriculum and Instruction	Nicole Lindeman	District	Tech, FACS, and Library Instructional Supervisor
Kristin Bonds	AHS	Science Teacher	Catie Magil	District	Asst. Director, SPED
Ashley Chapple	District	Director of Health, PE and Athletics	Kristen Majkut	AHS	Librarian
Jodi Commerford	AHS	AHS Principal	Andrea Marques	Abrookin	Abrookin Principal
Frank DelSignore	District	Math Instructional Supervisor	Kristine Monahan	AHS	Art Teacher
Bridget Dolan	AHS	Teaching Assistant	Pete Nizinkirck	AHS	English Teacher
Mike Elliott	District	SS & WL Instructional Supervisor	Zack Petker	AHS	English Teacher
Erin Erickson	AHS	Math Teacher	Bill Rivers	TCCE	TCCE Principal
Tim Farry	AHS	Special Education Teacher	Rick Shea	AHS	Discovery Principal
Laura Franz	District	APSTA President	Tom Vacanti	AHS	APEX Coordinator
Stephanie Garcia-Galagarza	AIC	ENL Teacher	Tricia Wolfe	District	Data Coordinator
John Halvorsen	AHS	Music Teacher	Kate Wright	District	Fine Arts Instructional Supervisor

City School District of ALBANY

2020-21 Reopening Discussion

Required components of our Reopening Plan

- Parent choice: hybrid/blended or virtual
- Enhanced academic rigor and accountability
- Students and employees wearing masks
  - Families are asked to provide masks for their children
  - The district will have replacement masks and also face shields as an option for employees
- Daily health screenings/temperature checks for all employees and students
- Parents asked to take their child's temperature daily before coming to school
- Contact tracing and coordination with local health department guidelines
- Daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- Shared books and supplies minimized
  - Where used, books (e.g., library books, trade books) and supplies (e.g., science lab materials) will be disinfected or allowed to remain untouched between use (as per CDC and DOH guidelines)
- School visitors will be restricted to those required for school business
- Students and staff will be trained on proper hand hygiene practices

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

High School Reopening Overview

- ➤ **Virtual** - All classes may be conducted via an "Enriched Virtual Blended Learning" model
- ➤ **On-site:**
  - ➤ In-person or virtual daily tutoring, support, assessment, enhancement
  - ➤ Schedule may permit limited hands-on labs to take place
  - ➤ Students may be cohorts of 12-15 and in one classroom
  - ➤ Grade 9 students may attend two days/week; grade 10-12 may attend one day/week; ELLs may attend two days/week
- ➤ **Curriculum:**
  - ➤ Students have eight classes; for each class students may have class five times in a 10-day cycle
  - ➤ Focus on high-leverage standards and content; prepare students for Regents and other exit exams
- ➤ **Platform** - Google Meet and Google Classroom
- ➤ **Feedback and Grading** - Grading Committee to reconvene to establish parameters
- ➤ **Attendance and Participation** - Daily attendance may be taken in a "virtual" homeroom during pod time; attendance may be taken in all classes

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

City School District of
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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

High School Reopening Overview

- General education: approximately 650 students may attend daily
- Special education: approximately 210 students may attend daily
- Clement students: approximately 60 students may attend daily; students staggered into the program for approximately two days/week
- Regular security protocols in place; four to five entry and exit points
- Students may have health screenings/temperature checks and grab-and-go breakfast or grab-and-go lunch to eat in the classroom
- Considering limited student movement, reduced adult contact – student cohorts of 12-15
- Students may be primarily located in one space for the duration of the day

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Building Space

- Albany High School may be separated into five pods:
  - 4 General Education – Three floors in building 2 and one (Citizenship) in building 1
  - 1 Clement - in Albany High building 1
  - SC classes may be assigned through the pods and Abrookin, paying special attention to life skills class needs
- Each pod may have 10-15 classrooms designated for student on-site instruction (exclusive of the classrooms needed for SC SPED)
- Each of the 10-15 classrooms may have only one 12-15 student cohort in it each day to allow for daily cleaning after dismissal
- General education and integrated SPED students may attend once/week; except freshmen, who may attend twice/week
- Self-contained SPED students may attend every day

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

City School District of
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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Staffing

- Teachers may be assigned to an on-site pod/advisory each week
- Teachers may facilitate tutoring, Google Classroom access and modeling, and address other needs during the pod/advisory
- The teacher in the pod with the cohort of 12-15 may be a content teacher of the students in the room (e.g., English 9 teacher to all students in that room)
- Attendance may be taken in pod time
- Pod/advisory teachers may check in with students virtually each week above and beyond the pod time – their role is to monitor the students' assignments, participation and attendance, and make contact with the parent
- Teachers may conduct virtual learning using Google Classroom and Google Meet

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Recommendations for Curriculum and Instruction

Enriched virtual blended classroom

- ➢ Compressing the curriculum to focus on the priority standards
- ➢ Inquiry-based model of instruction
- ➢ Access to support, tutoring, enhancement, hands-on as needed
- ➢ Student-centered
- ➢ Easy shift to completely virtual environment
- ➢ Direct instruction bi-weekly via Google Meet
- ➢ Google Classroom as cornerstone for all instruction

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

City School District of
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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Next Steps

➢ Focus on logistics of entry/exit, transportation, meals

➢ Finalize staff and student schedules, advisory groups, structure for pod time

➢ Develop robust guidelines and resources for:

    ➢ Enhanced virtual instruction

    ➢ Teacher professional development and planning (academic, social emotional and procedural)

➢ Develop a communication plan for students, families and staff to provide clear guidance on re-entry procedures

Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Planning Committee: Student/Parent/Community Forums

- ➤ **646 survey participants**
- ➤ **3,632 total comments and questions**
- ➤ **9 categories**

Frequently Asked Questions

Delivery of instruction
- ➤ **Online Q**: Will students be held more accountable for grades and participation than in the spring?
- ➤ **Hybrid Q:** What percent of instruction will be online and what will be in-person?
- ➤ **In-person Q:** How many students will receive instruction at a given time?

Transportation
Q: How will social distancing be maintained and enforced on buses, and how frequently will buses be cleaned and sanitized?

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Planning Committee: Student/Parent/Community Forums

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Athletics
Q: What safety precautions will the district implement and enforce to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among student-athletes, coaches and spectators during the fall?

Safety and security
Q: What will be done to enforce social distancing, handwashing and other safety protocols during the school day, including arrival and departure? What consequences will individuals face if they intentionally refuse to comply?

Health screening
Q: How will screening be handled – process, frequency, etc. – for all students, employees and building visitors?

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CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

Planning Committee: Student/Parent/Community Forums

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Health and hygiene
Q: What procedures will be in place to ensure that adequate supplies of hand sanitizer, soap, paper towels and PPE are available to students and staff in buildings? How will you assure that students can easily access sinks for handwashing during the school day?

Breakfast and lunch
Q: Where will students eat their meals, and how will you enforce social distancing while students eat and are not wearing masks?

Technology
Q: What is the district doing to provide a laptop to every student and Internet access to every home that doesn't have it?

Other
Q: How will the district handle it if a student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19?

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Questions

If you have additional new questions or feedback you would like to provide, please use the **Chat function** on your screen.

We will answer as many new questions as time allows.

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