



2021-22 OPENING PLAN

COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures

All K-12 students in the East Greenbush Central School District will return to full time in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year. The following procedures are based upon guidelines and recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics and the NYS Education Department.



MASKS

- Face masks covering both the mouth and nose will be required for all students, staff and visitors inside schools and on school buses regardless of vaccination status.
- Students will be provided mask breaks when seated in class and socially distanced.
- Masks will be optional when outdoors on school property.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Schools will maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms. All schools within the district are able to comply with this guidance and fully accommodate all students for instruction.



VENTILATION

- Schools have implemented improved ventilation procedures to allow more fresh air into buildings including a purge cycle program, running exhaust fans 24/7, replacing and repairing exhaust fans and upgrading air filters.



CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Continued regular cleaning and disinfecting of school buildings, buses and high-touch areas.



TRANSPORTATION

- All students and staff must wear face masks while riding on a school bus regardless of vaccination status.
- Windows and roof hatches will be open to increase ventilation on the bus.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will continue following each bus run daily.



CAFETERIA

- Seating arrangements for students are being made to ensure as much physical distancing as possible within space constraints.
- Layered mitigation protocols will include hand washing or hand sanitizer before and after meals; limiting mask removal to the duration of eating; cleaning and disinfection between lunch periods; providing increased ventilation of seating areas.



ATHLETICS

- Interscholastic sports will be offered to students this Fall.
- Higher-risk sports (Football, Volleyball, Cheer) will have weekly mandatory testing for all students regardless of vaccination status while Rensselaer County remains in a "high" transmission zone.
- Testing is also available on a voluntary basis to all students participating in moderate to low risk sports.
- Parent/Guardian consent for testing of students is required in all cases.



MUSIC

- General Music, Chorus and Orchestra must wear masks and maintain 3 feet social distancing during instruction.
- Wind and brass instrumental instruction will maintain 3 feet social distancing and make use of bell covers for instruments.
- Outdoor instruction will be considered as weather permits.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION

- When indoors, students should maintain 6 feet social distancing during physical education instruction.
- Physical Education teachers will prioritize outdoor activities as weather permits.



CONTACT TRACING

- The district is discussing contact tracing and quarantine protocols with the Questar Health and Safety team and the Rensselaer County Health Department.



TESTING

- The district is working with Questar BOCES to implement a surveillance testing program for students and staff.



FULL REMOTE PROGRAM

- A Full Remote Program through Questar III BOCES will be offered to medically eligible students. This program will be a regional Full Remote Program for K-12 students taught by Questar instructors.
- Parents interested in this program should submit the Form for Student Medical Needs by August 27, 2021.



COMMUNICATION

- COVID-19 updates will be shared with faculty, staff and families via email and text messages.
- Important information will be posted at www.egcsd.org.



RESOURCES

- Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools (CDC)
- COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools (American Academy of Pediatrics)
- Back to School Health and Safety Guide (NYS Education Department)
- Vaccine Finder

Our opening plan will be adjusted as needed based on the changing circumstances related to COVID-19 and recommendations from the CDC and NYS Education Department.