

**Waterville Central School District
COVID-19 Plan: Layered Mitigation Protocols
August 24, 2021**

Imagining, designing, and creating best futures!

August 24, 2021

Dear Waterville CSD family,

On behalf of the Board of Education, faculty and staff of the Waterville CSD, I welcome you to the 2021-22 school year! We are excited to have all of our students back in school this year for a full day of in-person instruction. While there is still uncertainty related to COVID-19, please know the district is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, faculty and staff. Based on the current COVID transmission rate in [Oneida County](#) and recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC), the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP) and [The New York State Education Department](#), we have developed the following procedures and health and safety protocols that will be in place when students return for the first day of school on September 7.

- Instruction will be fully in-person.
- Masks will be mandatory in all schools and district buildings regardless of vaccination status. Masks will be optional outside on school grounds.
- Masks will be required on school buses. We will be returning to full capacity transport this school year.
- A 3-feet physical distance requirement will be in place in our school buildings, including classrooms. Students in band and choir will be distanced at 6'.
- While eating in the cafeteria, students will be distanced 6' apart.
- If a student tests positive, the close contacts of the student from the classroom will not be expected to quarantine as long as a 3-6 foot distance was maintained and masks were worn consistently and properly the entire time, as long as the student remains symptom free.
- Individual students who are directed to quarantine by the OCHD will be provided packets, online documents or assigned work to complete at home. An online tutor will be available. There will not be an option to join their class remotely unless more than 50% of the class is required to quarantine.
- Unvaccinated adults who are considered close contacts of an individual with a suspected or confirmed COVID diagnosis may be expected to quarantine for 10-days, as per the review of the case by the Oneida County Health Department.
- We will not be conducting health screenings but urge those who are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, to stay home and get tested.
- Hand hygiene, and daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols will continue to be practiced to ensure a safe and healthy environment.
- The fall athletic season began August 23. Athletes are required to wear masks while indoors.

We strongly encourage all who are eligible for a COVID-19 vaccination to get one. We will continue to coordinate vaccination clinics this school year. While this still remains a time of uncertainty, I am extremely confident that the 2021-22 school year will be a successful one. Thank you for your continued partnership. It is our privilege to educate your children.

Warmest regards,
Jennifer Spring, Ed.D. Superintendent

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All provisions described are subject to change based upon revisions to NYSED regulations, NY State Department of Health Guidance, and/or changes to New York State Law.

Levels of Community Transmission Indicator Chart - CDC

Indicator - If the two indicators suggest different transmission levels, the higher level is selected	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days	0-9.99	10 - 49.99	50 - 99.99	≥ 100
Percentage of NAATs ¹ (Nucleic Acid Amplification Tests) that are positive during the past 7 days	0 - 4.99 %	5 - 7.99 %	8 - 9.99%	≥ 10.0 %

Resources for Monitoring Community Transmission

- Reference the **COVID-19 Regional Metric Dashboard** for information on new cases reported per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days at this link: <https://forward.ny.gov/covid-19-regional-metrics-dashboard>
- Reference the **NYS COVID-19 Tracker** at this link: <https://covid19tracker.health.ny.gov> for updated information about % positive COVID-19 case results.

Mitigation Protocols According to Level of Community Transmission

	Mitigation Protocol	Low Community Transmission	Moderate Community Transmission	Substantial Community Transmission	High Community Transmission
1	COVID-19 Vaccines	Strongly Encouraged for all eligible	Strongly Encouraged For all eligible	Strongly Encouraged for all eligible	Strongly Encouraged for all eligible
2	COVID-19 Testing	No screen testing	Required for unvaccinated staff Pool Testing for students At 10% per week, pending availability of tests	Required for unvaccinated staff Pool Testing for students At 10% per week, pending availability of tests	Required for unvaccinated staff Pool Testing for students At 20% per week, pending availability of tests
3	Facemasks	Required at all times indoors per NYS	Required at all times indoors per NYS	Required at all times indoors per NYS	Required at all times indoors per NYS
4	Transportation	Masks required at all times/ windows open. Seating chart utilized	Masks required at all times/ windows open. Parents encouraged to transport. Seating chart utilized	Masks required at all times/ windows open. Parents encouraged to transport. Seating chart utilized	Masks required at all times/ windows open. Parents encouraged to transport. Seating chart utilized
5	Physical Distancing (Indoors)	Distancing measures in consultation with medical director/OCHD	3' distancing <u>and</u> masked 6" feet distancing for music and PE	3' distancing <u>and</u> masked 6" feet distancing for music and PE	3' distancing <u>and</u> masked 6" feet distancing for music and PE
6	School Visitors	No restrictions	Minimal and masked	3' distanced <u>and</u> masked	3' distanced <u>and</u> masked.

					Use of facilities by outside organizations will be limited
7	Handwashing, Hand Sanitizer, and Respiratory Etiquette	Expected and encouraged	Expected and encouraged	Expected and encouraged	Expected and encouraged
8	Quarantine	Quarantine per local health departments	Quarantine per local health departments	Quarantine per local health departments	Quarantine per local health departments
9	Staying Home When Sick (Staff and Students)	Students and staff are instructed to stay home with any sign of infectious illness	Students and staff are instructed to stay home with any sign of infectious illness	Students and staff are instructed to stay home with any sign of infectious illness	Students and staff are instructed to stay home with any sign of infectious illness
10	Return to School/work Protocols (following illness)	Return per DOH protocols for COVID and WCSD protocols for non-COVID illness. Health care provider note when applicable	Return per DOH protocols for COVID and WCSD protocols for non-COVID illness. Health care provider note when applicable	Return per DOH protocols for COVID and WCSD protocols for non-COVID illness. Health care provider note when applicable.	Return per DOH protocols for COVID and WCSD protocols for non-COVID illness. Health care provider note when applicable
11	Cleaning and Disinfection	Daily Routine Cleaning	Daily Routine Cleaning and Daily Disinfection of High-Touch Surfaces	Daily Routine Cleaning and Daily Disinfection of moderate and high-touch surfaces	Daily Routine Cleaning and Daily Disinfection of moderate and high-touch surfaces
13	Cafeteria	Distancing requirements in consultation with medical director/OCHD	6' distancing while eating. Masks required when not eating.	6' distancing while eating. Masks required when not eating.	6' distancing while eating. Masks required when not eating.

14	Recess and Physical Education (Outdoors)	No masks required	No masks required	No masks required	No masks required
15	Ventilation and Air Quality	Increased fresh air circulation	Increased fresh air circulation	Increased fresh air circulation	Increased fresh air circulation
17	High Risk Sports (Outdoors)	In consultation with medical director/OCHD	Masks optional for athletes and spectators outdoors. Masks required in locker rooms.	Masks optional for athletes and spectators outdoors. Masks required in locker rooms. Possible Screen testing/pool testing	Masks optional for athletes and spectators outdoors. Masks required in locker rooms. Possible Screen testing/pool testing
18	School Visitors During Academic Day	No restrictions on visitors	Minimal restrictions	Limited visitors	Limited visitors

COVID-19 Testing in Oneida County, NY

Walgreens - walgreens.com

* Free COVID-19 testing is available to patients ages 3+. Patients will not receive a bill from Walgreens or any lab partner. If you receive a Diagnostic Test and have insurance, you will be asked to show your insurance card at the appointment and the lab may bill your insurer.

201 S. James Street, Rome, NY 13440
1750 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13502
104 Genesee Street, Oneida, NY 13421
49 Kellogg Road, New Hartford, NY 13413
1143 Mohawk Street, Utica, NY 13501
102 E. Schuyler Street, Boonville, NY 13309

Rite Aid - riteaid.com


Free COVID-19 Testing ages 4+ through partnership with Department of Health and Human Services.

1924 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13502
4854 Commercial Drive, New Hartford, NY 13413
141 Oriskany Boulevard, Whitesboro, NY 13492
405 Erie Boulevard W., Rome, NY 13440

Quest Diagnostics - questdiagnostics.com

“zero out-of-pocket patient responsibility is expected for medically appropriate testing ordered by an authorized provider”
–OR– “for individuals who decide to pay out of pocket for the test and do not wish to have their claims submitted for reimbursement to their health plan or the government - \$128.30

2002 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13502



1790 Black River Boulevard, Suite 19, Rome, NY 13440

Kinney Drugs - kinneydrugs.com
\$0 out of pocket with insurance

12 Franklin Avenue, Clinton, NY 13323
40 Oriskany Boulevard, Whitesboro, NY 13492

CVS- cvs.com
\$0 out of pocket with insurance
9 Meadow Street, Clinton, NY 13323

If none of these are convenient, here's a helpful tool to personalize locations for your zip code:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>



Teaching and Learning

The district has established priorities for the school year, which focus on enhancing teaching and learning, while identifying and addressing learning gaps generated by the interruption presented by COVID-19.

Priority #1: *We will address instructional learning gaps and focus on increasing academic achievement for all students*

Priority #2: *We will implement strategies/programs/services to enhance the social/emotional/physical wellness of both students and staff.*

Priority #3: *We will enhance connections with and opportunities for post secondary success*

Priority #4: *We will enhance communication with and outreach to our families and the community.*

Priority #1: We will address instructional learning gaps and focus on increasing academic achievement for all students

Action Steps	Timeline	Person (s) Responsible	Indicators of Accomplishment
Continue Atlas Curriculum Mapping and Alignment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPS - Math and ELA unit calendar and unit planner • Jr/Sr High School - 2 courses per teacher - unit calendar, and unit planner 	September-June (Year 2 of 5)	Superintendent, Principals, Teachers K-12	Check-ins and feedback from teachers, monitoring of Atlas and completion of the unit calendars/planners
Incorporate a pervasive, consistent, and explicit approach to reading instruction K-6/SPED through PD with the Reading League	September - June (Year 1 of 3)	Superintendent, Principals, Teachers K-6/SPED	Walk throughs, observations, grade-level meetings, faculty meetings, Atlas curriculum mapping and alignment
Conduct a review of the MPS AIS/RtI plan to ensure high-functioning processes and outcomes.	September -June	MPS Principal, Director of Special Programs, MPS Teachers	Grade-level data meetings, building instructional support team meetings, monitoring of student growth and referrals
Strengthen usage and functionality of iReady to provide diagnostics on student gaps, progress and interventions	September -June	MPS Principal, MPS Teachers	Training by MORIC Models Schools on iReady; use of iReady during WIN time

Student, Faculty, and Staff Social, Emotional Health & Wellness

Priority #2: *We will* implement strategies/programs/services to enhance the social/emotional/physical wellness of both students and staff.

Action Steps	Timeline	Person (s) Responsible	Indicators of Accomplishment
Expand Positivity Project - articulate into Curriculum K-12	Aug-June	Superintendent, Principals, P2 Coordinators and Teachers	<p>Integrate Positivity Project Curriculum and Social-Emotional Learning Standards into K-6 curriculum and 7-12 Physical Education and Health Curriculum.</p> <p>Analyze data from the culture and climate survey to determine future action steps.</p>
Reduce student chronic absenteeism	Sept - June	Superintendent, Principals	<p>MPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Monitoring • LINK Referral (Connected Community Schools) <p>Jr./Sr. High</p> <p>Daily monitoring</p> <p>Monthly PPS Meetings</p> <p>LINK Referral (Connected Community Schools)</p> <p>IRT</p> <p>Pre-PINS</p> <p>PINS</p>

Administer Culture and Climate Survey to students, parents, faculty and staff	Nov	Superintendent, Principals, Connected Community Schools	Strong participation from students, staff and parents
Implement School Based Health Center	Aug - June	Superintendent, Principals, Upstate Family Health	Parent permission/sign ups Student participation Reduced absentee rate Student health care needs addressed
Increase education and healthy opportunities for staff through the district's health provider- Excellus	Sept - June	School Business Official, Excellus	Monthly email with tips and strategies. Staff challenges with incentives
Integrate district-wide book study into monthly faculty meetings to foster greater awareness of resilience and self-care: <i>Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators</i> .	Sept - June	Superintendent, Principals	Use of activities in the <i>Onward: Cultivating Emotional Resilience in Educators</i> workbook.
Establish district-wide Culturally Responsive Sustaining Education Committee to meet NYSED guidelines. NYSED Culturally Responsive Standards	Oct-May (Year 1 of 3)	Superintendent	Establish committee and meeting schedule, unpack standards, develop action plan for 22-23 school year
Plan for offering the Seal of Civic Readiness (NYSED)	Year 1 of 3	Superintendent, Principals, Social Studies Teachers	Establish committee and meeting schedule, develop action plan for 22-23 school year

Provide PD opportunities for staff to support Trauma Informed/Responsiveness: <i>Understanding trauma and its impact on student learning</i>	September 2 Supt Conference Day	Superintendent, Connected Community Schools	Scheduled teacher training during conference days. Administer teacher feedback survey after training.
Establish SEALS Coordinator - Coordinate early recognition and screening - Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire - to assess students' social emotional attributes, needs and follow up interventions	September - June	Principal, SEALS Coordinator, CCS Coordinator, nurses, social workers, Counselors	Seal Coordinator will attend MPS Building Instructional Support Team meetings to monitor and assist with student needs. The Seal Coordinator will attend PPS meetings at 7-12. The Committee will monitor and assist with student needs as indicated by screening. Minutes of meetings will be taken to track actions taken.
Connect students in need to Neighborhood Center onsite counseling services	Aug-June	NC clinician, principals, LINK system	Increased participation

Communication with Families

As the 2021-22 school year begins, the District will transition to ParentSquare to connect with families through email, text, and phone messages. Additionally, surveys, board of education meetings, public forums, WCS website and social media pages will be used to share information.

Priority #4: *We will enhance communication with and outreach to our families and the community.*

Action Steps	Timeline	Person (s) Responsible	Indicators of Accomplishment
Onboard Communications Specialist	2021-2022 School Year	Superintendent, Business Official, Principals	Use of Website, social media, and Parent Square to streamline and increase effectiveness of communication
Communicate and promote district's new vision, mission, beliefs, commitments and priorities	Continuous	Board of Education, Superintendent, Business Official, Principals, Teachers, Support Staff	Use of Website, Social media, Parent Square Include vision and mission in school communications.
Successfully transition to ParentSquare, the district's new communication platform and tool	2021-2022 School Year	Superintendent, Business Official, Principals,	Provide administration and associated support staff with professional development during July/August of 2021. Provide teachers with professional development during opening conference days for the 2021-2022 school year. Provide ongoing support to all employees as the district transitions to ParentSquare.
Continue support and outreach to students/families through Connected Community Schools	Continuous	Superintendent, Principal, Counselors	Monitor referral and participation statistics and report to Health and Wellness Committee