



FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED #156
RE-OPENING PLAN QUESTION & ANSWER DOCUMENT
UPDATED 1/5/2021



1. Is the in-person plan hybrid or full-time? If hybrid will it be same days, same student groups, weekly? If hybrid, are cohort groups going to be developed?

Our current plan is full-time. We have an option to include an additional group hybrid. If hybrid, one group would come in Mon/Tues and another Thurs/Fri. Cohort groups would depend on the number of students that would be returning.

2. What type of COVID tests will be administered? Who administers? How often & location?

The District will be sending out specific information regarding testing: type of test, how it will be administered, who will administer it. Once information has been forwarded, the Principal will determine the best location for administration of testing.

3. What is a realistic timeline for students not returning in February?

The District has not given us a specific timeline for the phase-in. Ideally, all students are expected to return by mid-March.

4. What does phase in look like for Middle School? Siblings in middle school, will they be the same day in person if hybrid?

Once we move to hybrid, phase-in planning will be based on the number of students that are returning. It could be per grade level or per last names, it depends on the numbers.

5. If we choose remote instruction, will it continue as it is now? Same teachers, synchronous/asynchronous instruction?

We will try to leave everything as is but cannot make any promises. Everything will depend on the number of students that will be returning versus the number of students that opt out.

6. What criteria is used to determine if students need to return to 100% remote learning? Is it community covid rates or pos rates within the school? Or both?

The Superintendent's Advisory Committee will be monitoring both rates.

7. What about scheduling coordination with siblings at different BPS buildings?

The District will be sending us a sibling report to work from. We will do our best to make accommodations.

8. What if you select hybrid in person but then community rates are very high when it's time to return, can you change your decision?

The Superintendent will not have students return if it is not safe to do so.

9. Will kids taking BPS transportation be socially distanced on the buses?

The Transportation Department will be socially distancing students on the buses. All students will be expected to follow all social distancing protocols. The Transportation Department sent out a letter detailing all protocols.

The Buffalo Public Schools will provide student transportation services consistent with federal, state and local guidance. Please be aware that the following procedures will be in place:

- All students, bus drivers and bus aides are required to wear a face mask at all times
- Students may be assigned seats in order to ensure appropriate social distancing
- Students from the same household will be required to sit together
- Bus capacity will be reduced to promote social distancing
 - Maximum capacity will be 26 students
- Bus windows will be opened to improve air circulation as weather conditions allow
- Temporary bus passes will not be utilized due to COVID-19 bus capacity limits
- Transportation changes may take 7 to 10 days to be processed
- Students must be listed on a route sheet in order to receive transportation services

10. How will common spaces be managed? Lunch? Will kids be changing classes?

All common spaces will follow the same protocols: socially distanced, masks must be worn, hand sanitizers on site, supervision at all times. Given our wide hallways and traffic patterns, students will be able to change classes.

11. How much flexibility is there to move back and forth from in person to remote?

We will accommodate to family needs but would appreciate a commitment to one or the other.

12. If we choose in-person, can my child attend remote (if sick, if risk of exposure, feels uncomfortable after being in person.)

The District has not given any guidance, but we will make necessary accommodations to meet our students' needs.

13. If my student is in person, is he marked absent if needs to switch to remote?

We will accommodate to family needs but would appreciate a commitment to one or the other.

14. Will mental health clinic service resume onsite?

At this point, the District has not given us a decision on this matter.

15. Will there be gym onsite? Music?

Gym classes will not meet traditionally on-site.

16. Will teachers be required to be onsite?

Per the District, all teachers were given a 30-day notice to return to work February 1st.

17. What if a teacher cannot be onsite?

If a teacher cannot be on-site, accommodations will be made for student supervision.

18. How will dismissal work?

Students will be dismissed per floor using the P.A. system, following traffic patterns. Hallways will be supervised to ensure there is social distancing between groups. Specific exits will be used for those using yellow buses, metro buses and those being picked up and/or walking.

19. How many kids will be on the bus?

Maximum capacity on buses depends on the size of the bus. The Transportation Department and NFTA will be ensuring buses do not exceed maximum capacity.

20. Are there issues with public transportation?

BPS has addressed all concerns with NFTA.

21. Will there be daily health checks? Who will do them?

All faculty and staff will be required to complete daily health check forms. Parents will be required to complete daily health check forms for their children and self-monitor at home. All students will use a thermal scanner at the entrance to check their temperature prior to entering the building.

22. Can we refuse that my child be tested but still come in-person?

No child can be refused the right to in-person learning.

23. Who should parents contact with concerns?

For additional concerns, parents should contact Mrs. Claudio-Cotto, Principal or Mr. Fredo, Assistant Principal.