

AT A GLANCE

Changes to Hicksville Public Schools Reopening Plan 2021-2022

Things that have changed:	Things that have not changed:
<p><u>Face Coverings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masks are <u>optional</u> in schools and buses based upon currently low-infection rates in the area and updated guidance from the NYSDOH and Governor Hochul. Masks can still be worn by individuals that feel more comfortable wearing one. Masks are <u>required</u> for individuals testing positive for COVID-19 when returning from isolation on days 6 -10. Masks are strongly <u>recommended</u> for individuals with a known exposure to COVID-19. It is recommended that a mask is worn for 10 days, and testing occurs on day 5. Additionally, the Board of Education of the Hicksville Union Free School District hereby declared that, effective upon the expiration of 10 NYCRR 2.60, or effective upon its earlier repeal, and provided no other law, rule, regulation, decision and/or order is adopted and/or issued requiring face coverings in P–12 schools, it shall be the policy of the Board of Education that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each Hicksville Union Free School District teacher, student, staff member and/or visitor will have the individual discretion to determine whether they will wear a face covering/mask while on District property 	<p><u>Face Coverings:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People do not need to wear masks when eating, drinking, singing, or playing a wind instrument when masks are removed for these purposes, but students will be spaced apart as far as possible. If the infection rate increases and the health department deems necessary, we will follow the guidance of the health department. <p><u>Group Size:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-foot distancing of desks in classrooms remains in effect
<p><u>COVID-19 Testing and Reporting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you test positive for COVID-19, you are required to stay home in isolation for 5 days and may return to school masked for days 6 - 10. If you have been exposed to COVID-19 as a close contact it is strongly recommended you test on day 5. 	<p><u>COVID-19 Testing and Reporting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are experiencing COVID-19 like-symptoms, please stay home and test. All results need to be submitted to the portal on the district’s website using this link: Student COVID Test Reporting or email the COVID Coordinator, Gail Hunker at ghunker@hicksvillepublicschools.org. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Test results can be obtained from a testing facility or using a home test kit. Home test kits need to have the child’s initials and date written on the kit. All results are to be uploaded to the portal or email to Gail Hunker.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you need a COVID-19 home test kit, you can pick one up in your child’s school building. ● Additionally, the Hicksville Aquatic Center is still open for testing members of the community by appointment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COVID-19 test kit and testing location resources can be found on the district’s website link: 2021-2022 RETURN PLAN & COVID-19 RESOURCES.
<p><u>Exposure and Notification:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantining is no longer required for those individuals that have been exposed to another individual that has tested positive for COVID-19. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Those exposed should be monitored rather than being placed in quarantine with the updated guidance from the state. ● Potential exposure does not indicate that there was direct close contact between your child and the positive case. 	<p><u>Exposure and Notification:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The district will continue to notify families in which the individual is exposed to someone who had tested positive for COVID-19. ● The district continues to post the daily positive COVID-19 data on the district’s website, which is located on the COVID-19 Positive Case Tracker. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Results can be viewed with this link: COVID-19 Positive Case Tracker.
<p><u>SEL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resources were created to address students transition back to school when masks become discretionary ● Elementary buildings will use their OLWEUS program and Morning Meetings to conduct lessons - Diversity is our Strength PowerPoint K-5 (PowerPoint) ● Hicksville Middle School will be using their Advisory Period to implement these lessons - Focus: Start with Hello Program, HMS Mantra philosophy, and Tik Tok video ● Hicksville High School will have designated time with a video, announcements, and discussion - Focus: Start with Hello Program and Tik Tok video ● Parent Talking Point document for families - Conversation Starters 	<p><u>SEL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hicksville Public School will continue to address students' social and emotional needs as done so in the past through the use of OLWEUS, morning meetings, advisory, announcements, assemblies and school personnel. ● School personnel (teachers, administrators, counselors, social workers, psychologists, and any other adult in the building) are here to help any student in need at all times. ● The Hicksville Public School staff welcomes partnering with parents and caregivers to address the mental health needs of its students.
<p>Governor Hochul has indicated to school superintendents that an updated COVID Toolkit will be coming in March. We will share this information with the community once it is received.</p>	