

Reopening Plan
Parent Forum
8-2020

- Social distancing. Some kids do not get this at all.. So how is this going to be done without the feeling of rejection.
 - Staff will still be in proximity to students, that's just what our students need; however hugs will be discouraged - but we will be working on other ways to greet others (waving, elbow bumps)
- How often will classroom and gym equipment and playground be sanitized. ?
 - The CDC does not recommend that playground equipment be sanitized, just undergo regular cleaning
 - Students will wash their hands before and after using the playground equipment (hand sanitizer will also be used once they enter the building from the playground but upon return to the classroom they will wash their hands)
 - Our PE teachers are working hard to design units with the least amount of equipment necessary; all PE equipment will be sanitized in between each class (as will any equipment utilized by OT/PT)
- My child hates anything on his face. Even hats. So medically idk . But a meltdown can happen when required of him.
 - That's okay - we understand that a lot of our students won't tolerate wearing masks; we are going to work on this skill with students
- Will teachers work with students on wearing masks?
 - Yes; We will be working with families to increase tolerance of student's wearing a mask (we also can work on using a face shield if that would be better tolerated); for students who don't tolerate others wearing a mask we will be working on tolerating this as well - working with our behavior support team to determine potential reinforcers that can be used to try to increase this tolerance
 - This will look different for each student but the idea is we would set a timer to a predetermined amount of time and utilize the identified reinforcers for success in tolerating for that length of time and will systematically increase the amount of time as tolerated
- Are these masks the staff will be wearing be see thru..? I ask cuz for speech or basic communication. He was taught to learn to speak or mimic speech by looking at someone's mouth?
 - We are looking into getting face masks with clear plastic in front of the mouth for the speech department and other staff as needed
- Classrooms usually have shared tables.. are they going to have individualized desks now spaced out?
 - Student seats will be spaced 6 feet apart; students may still sit at tables if that is what they are accustomed to but it will be one student per table/desk
- I apologize if I missed this part but does the staff have to stay 6ft away from students?

- We are going to encourage social distancing at all times, however, the reality of the needs of our students will require us to be in closer proximity on a fairly regular basis
- my child may wanders and needs hand held when outside. Will teachers be able to hold hands with students?
 - Yes, the health and safety of our students is our number one priority and wandering/elopement is a serious safety concern
- can parents have a drop off time to drive in school supplies before school opens?
 - We typically have time during our fall staff days for this; please contact your child's social worker to coordinate this; please be aware that you might not be able to enter the building rather pass the supplies to a staff member
- If the child has fever, does he/she needs to be tested for covid19 or be subjected for 14 days quarantine automatically?
 - You are going to work with your child's healthcare provider
- The therapies in the classrooms would they be doing them in the side rooms so they will be individual?
 - It really depends on your child; some of the skills that are being worked on in individual therapy sessions lend themselves quite nicely to push-in sessions in the classroom so the therapist can work with the child on the skills in real time; other sessions might pull your child aside to the side room if available to work on skills in isolation
- Ummm wait please. My child. We all know. Has issues even going into the school. Like taking HIS time to get into the school from the bus.. I'm expecting a huge issues when he gets back. N cones n this "new" might upset him further n take longer for him to go IN..
 - We understand that this is going to be difficult for a number of our students - it is a huge adjustment; we will be working with our behavior support staff, social workers, your child's classroom team and you to come up with a plan to address issues that arise
- We have spent time teaching turn taking n sharing. What is the plan to teach these ?
 - We will still work on turn taking and sharing with staff; right now sharing with peers is going to be put on hold; the health and safety of everyone has to be our first priority
- Considering these kids have had no school for 6 months. And meltdowns for the first few weeks will be a normal for these kiddos. Have you hired more staff to help these kids ?
 - Administration and our behavior support department will be pushing into classrooms to assist with supporting students,, helping sanitize materials, and to troubleshoot any issues with social distancing
- As Chris mentioned for therapies.. group therapies.. ? How are these going to happen?
 - Group therapy sessions will be conducted in-person to the fullest extent possible, utilizing the following modifications when needed:
 - Reducing group size to maintain social distancing

- Splitting groups to some in-person and other simultaneously remote in another location of the school to maintain social distancing
 - Modifying goals to avoid sharing materials
- How often throughout the day are the children going to be expected to sanitize their hands? I ask knowing our child touches many surfaces floors, walls, counters due to his sensory needs for input.
 - A handwashing schedule will be followed throughout the day and will minimally be completed:
 - Start of the day upon entering the classroom
 - Before eating snack/lunch
 - After eating snack/lunch
 - After sneezing and coughing
 - After using the bathroom
 - Before and after using shared technology
 - Minimally one time per hour
- with the young kiddos do you really think this is doable?
 - We do; keep in mind that a lot of daycare centers have been open this whole time (and children haven't been required to wear masks); we are going to do everything we can to keep everyone safe
- if I keep my kid home once a week can I get a note from admin saying school isn't mandatory so my child can still do self direction respite and community hab?
 - Attending school is mandatory in the state of New York so we would be unable to do this for you; please reach out to your child's social worker as they can help you work with your care manager to navigate the services provided by OPWDD
- When does wildwood open?
 - The first day for students is Wednesday September 9th
- Can we get a list of all the counties and districts that go to Wildwood so as we ourselves can watch the #s of covid increase/decrease of cases
 - If you would like to try to watch this, it is safe to watch all counties within an hour and a half radius
- what if my child gets upset on bus and refuses to sat seated. the bus aide has always sat with my son helping him through bus drive. I worry bc some of these bus rides are long for the kids
 - Unfortunately we have no control over what happens on the bus; please contact your transportation department with specific questions
 - We can always offer a meeting with your transportation provider to provide them with suggestions that might work for us
- Are school districts still going to be expected to transport kids to wildwood, as I know they will be more buses due to school districts attempting to reduce the number of kids on them. Also are we going to have to reach out to the our child's school for transportation if we're not bringing him ourselves?

- School districts are required to transport students to Wildwood per their IEP; for more information about transportation please contact your district transportation department
- For kiddos who already have socialization skills ISSUES and need to learn these.. How will this be implemented?
 - Students will be able to interact and practice socialization skills with staff and students (from a distance)
- can you recommend a good temper gun? what is the school using?
 - I'm not sure of the brand of the thermometer we are using - please reach out to your social worker or send an email to me and I can let you know
- If a child or teacher in a class tests positive for covid, how will Wildwood handle this?
 - Upon notification of a confirmed case of COVID-19 of any person who has been in one of the school buildings, the Schenectady Department of Health will be contacted. Wildwood School Administration will work with the DOH to provide information for contact tracing and procedures for having individuals who potentially had contact with this individual tested for COVID-19.

If we have ONE confirmed case of COVID-19

- The classroom that individual is in will switch to remote learning for all students, staff will work from home, for 2-3 days while we await guidance from the DOH and deep cleaning occurs
- If the case was a student, any students who were on the bus with that student would also be switched to remote learning for 2-3 days

If we have TWO or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 simultaneously

- The entire school will switch to remote learning for all students, staff will work from home, for 4-5 days while we await guidance from the DOH and deep cleaning occurs

Any guidance from the Department of Health will override these closures; if instructed to close for longer we will follow their guidance; if cleared to open sooner we will follow their guidance provided the necessary cleaning/sanitizing has been completed. All closures/changes will be communicated to staff, families, and school districts.

- If I chose to do remote at first is there an amount of time I have to wait to send her back if I feel comfortable sending her again?
 - Each family will have the option of choosing in person (as long as we are still allowed to be open) or remote each quarter
 - Special circumstances will be taken into consideration by the Director of Education
- Is there any specific items you could use for the school to help with supplies?
 - Anything you can send in would be helpful! Extra school supplies on the list that will be coming home would be helpful - thank you!
- can we get school supply list asap?

- We finalized that yesterday and will be sending to you very soon
- Kiddos who have issues with personal space and already do "bumps" for their sensory. Do you feel as an elbow bumping them is appropriate.
 - We will take the lead from our students; if the student is not open to this then we will not do it (also if you are concerned please reach out to your child's social worker); if you have other ideas on greetings please let us know
- should i also send in a gallon of hand sanitizer?
 - If you are able to get a gallon of hand sanitizer and want to send it in that would be okay; we are working with our suppliers to keep a stockpile
- Being that the children are from other school districts will they contact us for in person instruction
 - Yes, your school district might contact you asking if you are choosing in-person or remote instruction for transportation purposes
- Do we call when dropping off/picking up? If yes, what is the phone number?
 - You only need to call if you are outside that 10-15 minute window of typically drop off/pick up (8:40 for Latham; 8:25 for Curry)
 - Curry Road and Latham 518-836-2200 (the office call call into classrooms in either building)
- Will there be any community outings?
 - Community outings will be limited to community PE (local parks, Altamont), community based work activities, and trips to Curry Road to access the simulated work experiences that are being developed and run out of there
 - in order to use the van for community activities, students must wear a mask in the van
 - Functional Motor Group activities will be developed for students who are unable to access the worksites at Curry, the community based activities, or community PE
- as of today, the plan is 5 days a week in person?
 - Yes; there is always the possibility that could change based on the numbers for our region, (availability of PPE, staffing)