

CCSD 2020-2021 Reopening Plan

Introduction

The reopening of the Candor Central School District in the Fall of 2020 will present many opportunities and challenges. Much thought has gone into developing the safest and most effective model to educate our community's children. Stakeholders, including the Board of Education, Administration, Faculty and Staff, BOCES, the County Health Department, and parents, guardians and community members have been consulted and have access to this document.

Following the State Education Department and Department of Health guidelines, as well as ensuring the health and safety of the entire school community, were top priorities in preparing this document. Please treat the following as a guiding document, as situations and circumstances surrounding the recent pandemic continue to cause plans to change rapidly.

Communication/Family and Community Engagement

- The Candor Central School District reopening plan will be posted on the school district web page, printed in the District Newsletter (August 2020) and sent to each school district parent or guardian through School Messenger as an email attachment.
- The district utilized committee meetings and surveys to engage in the planning process.
- School Messenger messages will be sent to all District parents and guardians, directing them to the District webpage, when updates to the reopening plan occur.
- All questions, comments or concerns regarding the Candor Central School District reopening plan can be directed to the Office of the Superintendent by phone at 607-659-5010 or by email at JKisloski@candorcs.org
- You may also use the following contact information for specific questions or concerns:
 - Elementary School- 607-659-3935
 - High School- 607-659-5020
 - Transportation- 607-659-3115
 - Food Services- 607-659-7227
 - Special Education- 607-659-7727
 - Technology- TechHelp@candorcs.org

Health & Safety / Facilities

- The district has reviewed and considered the number of students and staff allowed to return in person based on: six feet social distancing, use of face coverings, availability of safe transportation, and local health care capacity.
- The School Nurse in each building will be the designated COVID-19 resource person.
- Students and staff with symptoms of illness will be sent to the Health Office. Isolation and dismissal of any student or staff member will occur if fever or other symptoms of COVID-19 are present and cannot be explained by a chronic health condition. Mandatory follow up with a health care provider is required prior for reentry to school. The school will follow all CDC guidance for allowing a student or staff member to return to school after exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
- Each school building will designate a separate room from the Nurse's Office for isolating ill persons.
- Written instructions and videos on performing student illness screenings at home will be provided to all parents/guardians. Temperature screenings by parents and guardians prior to school is preferred as an attestation of student health.
- Mandatory health screenings for all staff will be conducted daily.
- Staff and students will not be required to have COVID-19 viral testing prior to arriving on campus; however, testing of staff will be encouraged.
- Visitors will not be allowed on school grounds. Contractors or guests will be screened for illness prior to entry of any school building.
- Healthy hygiene practices will be taught and retaught regularly regarding hand and respiratory hygiene, proper face covering, PPE and social distancing. Healthy hygiene practice signage and posters will be displayed in all highly visible areas of the District.
- All students and staff are required to wear appropriate face coverings and maintain appropriate social distancing. If students or staff do not have individual face covering, a mask will be provided for them by the District.
- The District will increase ventilation with outdoor air to the greatest extent possible and all doors and windows will remain open to the extent practicable.
- The District will adhere to and promote hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection guidance set forth by the DOH and the CDC. Cleaning logs that include the date, time and scope of cleaning and disinfection will be maintained by the District.
- All required safety and security measures (ex. Fire safety, building security emergency drills, hand sanitizer installation, Lead water testing, inspections...) will be conducted and balanced with efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Families are encouraged to transport children when possible.
- All students will need to provide their own supplies for school, in accordance with individual teacher requests.
- District Chromebooks will be provided to each student for individual use at the beginning of the school year.
- The District will consult with and collaborate with the Tioga County Department of Health if there is a documented case of COVID-19 by a student or staff member and if positive cases of COVID-19 increase beyond an acceptable level.

School Schedules

- In order to reduce class sizes and promote social distancing of students, the CCSD will operate on an A.M. / P.M. school schedule for days Monday through Thursday.
- An alphabetical split based on students' last names will be utilized to create A.M. / P.M. cohorts. Consideration of households and families will be given when scheduling students for cohorts in-person instruction.
- A.M. students will receive breakfast at school and sent home with a bagged lunch. P.M. students will receive lunch at school and take home breakfast food for the following day. Additional breakfast and lunch food will be sent home with students on Thursdays.
- Fridays, with the exception of holiday weeks, will be online learning days.
- Student schedules will be communicated with families as soon as is practicable.
- In both buildings, the A.M. cohort will attend approximately 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. The P.M. cohort will attend approximately Noon - 3:00 p.m. Specific student schedules and further details will be provided in the near future.
- PreK -12 combined transportation runs will occur each day. The morning run will be designed to bring all A.M. cohort students to both buildings for an approximate 8:00 a.m start time. The afternoon run will be scheduled to bring all P.M. cohort students to both buildings at approximately Noon each day.
- Schedules have been created to provide instructional and social-emotional support for all students while limiting movement and transitions within the building.
- A.M. cohort students will be expected to continue their learning online during the afternoons and on Fridays. The same is true for P.M. cohort students, utilizing their mornings and Fridays for online learning.

Benefits of an A.M./P.M. Schedule

- Allows for smaller cohorts, smaller class sizes and reduces the number of students on buses.
- Allows for minimal movement and traffic within the buildings.
- Allows for extended cleaning opportunities during midday transition and Fridays.
- Provides for consistent in-person support from teachers and ongoing assessment of learning.
- Children are not required to wear masks all day.
- Children receive consistent Social-Emotional support throughout the week.
- Elementary Specials and Jr-Sr High Elective classes will continue to be offered.
- All students will have access to breakfast and lunch on a daily basis.
- Provides the best foundation for future educational decisions regarding school reopening or school closure.
- Allows staff to develop and maintain relationships with students.
- Fridays allow for additional coordination, planning and logistics.

Nutrition

- Along with details provided in the District Information section, the District's routine registration procedures provides updated information regarding student's food allergies.
- Cleaning of classrooms will occur between each cohort classroom meal.
- All meals served will comply with the Child Nutrition Program requirements.
- Students will be socially distanced during mealtime.
- Students may bring food from home, but this food cannot be shared with others.

Transportation

- The district will continue to follow routine transportation expectations and requirements in a safe and effective manner.
- Parents will be required to ensure their child is not experiencing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 including a fever of 100 degrees prior to boarding school transportation.
- Students who are able will be required to wear a mask and social distance on the school bus.
- Individuals must wear acceptable face coverings at all times on school buses (e.g. entering, exiting and seated).
- One student per seat will be assigned; however, siblings or children who reside in the same household will be seated together.
- To help maintain the face covering and social distance requirements an aide will be assigned to each bus.
- Buses will be disinfected between the a.m. and p.m. runs and again after the final p.m. run.
- When temperatures are above 45 degrees, school bus roof hatches and windows will be slightly opened to provide air flow.
- School staff who must have direct physical contact with a child must wear gloves.
- Families are encouraged to transport their children to help reduce density on buses.

Social-Emotional Well-Being

- The district maintains a comprehensive developmental school counseling plan that meets the current needs.
- Building and District Student Support Teams and Instructional Support Teams are in place and meet regularly to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional needs.
- The district will utilize counselors and social workers to provide resources and referrals to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional support services and programs.
- Professional development will be provided to staff before the start of the school year on talking to and supporting students regarding COVID-19
- Both buildings daily schedules include opportunities for intentional social and emotional learning.

Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism

- For in person instruction, homeroom and classroom attendance will be taken through the District's student management system, School Tool for grades PreK - 12.
- For online instruction, assigned teachers will take and record daily attendance and student engagement.
- Chronically absent or disengaged students will be referred to the District's Student Support Teams and school personnel will continue to reach out to disengaged students.
- The attendance of compulsory age students will be reported to SIRS as required.
- The district will continue to follow all other attendance reporting requirements.

Technology & Connectivity

- The school district will survey all families and staff to determine their level of access to devices and high-speed internet.
- All students will be provided with a device and families that do not have access to the internet will be provided with hotspot access, access to district wifi or hard copies of instructional materials.
- All teachers will be provided with a device.
- Each school is equipped with high speed internet which extends to parking areas at each school building.
- Each school is equipped with the ability to live stream lessons.
- The district continues to provide professional development for teachers and leaders regarding effective online/remote learning experiences.
- The district will continue the use of its email helpline to assist families and staff with technology needs.
- If technology is not accessible, other methods will be implemented to allow students to learn and demonstrate mastery of learning standards.

Teaching & Learning

- Teachers will be expected to use online platforms to share instructional lessons and materials that can be used for in-person, remote and hybrid models of instruction.
- All instruction will be prioritized in accordance with NYS Learning Standards at each grade level and content area.
- Standards-based report cards will continue to be used for Grades PK-6 to communicate student progress to families.
- Regular marking period reporting for Grades 7-12 will be shared with families regarding student progress.
- The district's reopening plan provides for daily interaction between students and school staff whether in-person or remotely.
- Equity of instruction is inherent in the district schedule, that there will be daily contact with each student.
- Students that are not participating in in-person instruction will be assigned a teacher mentor for regular check-ins.
- A technology helpline (via email) has been established and will be maintained throughout the school year for students and families.
- Students and families will continue to have in-person, email, and GoogleMeet contact with district staff.
- Instruction will be provided by a certified teacher to the greatest extent possible.
- Contact information for instructional staff will be provided to families for use in the case of any questions.
- The PreK- 6 instructional emphasis will be on in-person learning with support and enrichment materials provided through GoogleClassroom.

- The grade 7-12 instructional emphasis will be on online learning with support and enrichment provided through weekly classes.
- Conferencing and office hours will be provided for all students throughout the week.
- Attendance and grading will be required for all students.
- For logistical reasons (transportation, food services and scheduling) students choosing online learning are required to continue online learning for a minimum of ten weeks in the Jr-Sr High School and for each trimester in the Elementary School.
- Extracurricular activities for the 2020-2021 school year are still in question as we await further guidance from the state. However, students choosing online learning will not have the option to participate in extracurricular activities when available.

Special Education

- The district will continue to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education consistent with our need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those providing special education service.
- The district will continue to engage parents regarding the provision of services to their child through typical communication methods.
- The CSE and CPSE will collaborate to address the provision of services.
- Communication with parents and provision of services will be routinely documented by providers.
- Students with disabilities will continue to have access to all accommodations and modifications as well as assistive technologies as documented on their IEPs.
- Initial and Reevaluation Assessments will be conducted in-person and/or remotely in order to meet the deadline requirements outlined in Part 200.
- Programs and services will continue to be accessible in IEP direct. Progress monitoring and progress reports will be saved in the IEP Direct system.

Bilingual Education & World Languages

- The district will continue to use the ELL identification screening process for all students enrolling in the district.
- The district will provide the appropriate Instructional Units of Study to all ELLs based on their most recent English Language proficiency level.
- The district will continue to maintain regular communication with families of ELLs to ensure engagement with their child's education in their preferred language and mode of communication.

Staffing & Human Resources

- Pursuant to Education Law 3012-d, the district will fully implement its currently approved APPR plan.
- The district will ensure that teachers, leaders, and pupil personnel service professionals hold a valid certificate for their assignment.
- The district can utilize incidental teaching when determining how to staff classrooms.
- Staff certifications will be reported to SIRS as required.