

Ellicottville Central School



Community Presentation
Expanding In-Person Instruction 7-12
NYS DOH Updates
Thursday, April 22, 2021

Overview for Meeting:

- Please turn on the chat feature to ask questions. Mrs. Bush and Mr. Ploetz will be answering questions to the best of their ability. If they are unable to answer a specific question, they will write it down and we will get back to the person who asked the question.
- While everyone will be muted to control feedback, participants will be able to unmute themselves if necessary to ask question. If the room becomes “too” loud with background sound, everyone will be muted with the ability to unmute again as necessary.
- I will be sharing my screen for this Powerpoint and will not be able to see the chat.
- There will be an opportunity to ask questions at the end of the presentation.
- There are many moving parts to expanding in-person instruction.
- Expansion of in-person instruction for 7-12 and other changes will be updated in the ECS Re-opening Plan which will be posted to the District Website by the afternoon of Friday, April 23, 2021.



Notes on Updated DOH Guidance:

- **Reduced Social Distancing is Allowed** – While Districts may reduce the distance between students to 3 feet, ECS' current plans maintain 6 feet of social distancing to the greatest extent possible for all students and staff.
- **Community Transmission** – Community Transmission plays a large role in a school's ability to reduce social distancing. The CDC provides data weekly regarding a county's transmission rate. Currently, Cattaraugus County is considered "High." Under this designation, the use of cohorts are recommended for elementary students and are **required** for MS/HS students.
- **Cohorting** – This means the same students are in the same group all day every day. The elementary has always followed this model (even before COVID). This is not possible at the MS/HS for ECS, as students within each grade level have different classes throughout the day.



District Wide General Information:

- ECS remains committed to considering the unique needs of each family and student while designing the 2020-21 school year.
- All students and staff will wear masks unless eating or taking a “mask break.” Any exceptions to wearing a mask will require appropriate documentation from a medical professional.
- **We will still use 6 feet of social distancing campus wide to the greatest extent possible.**
- Students may remain on an all remote option if they are currently following that plan.
- Temperature checks of all students will be taken every morning.
- Daily health screenings will still be required using current procedures.



District Wide General Information (Continued):

- The District will still use double bus runs each morning and each afternoon, resulting in a slightly shorter school day for all students. Arrival / Dismissal cohorts are not changing at this time.
- Students will be picked up and dropped off at the same designated address every day.
- If a family has the ability to transport their child/children, it would be very helpful. Please contact the District if you can help.
- The elementary lunch plans will remain as they are.
- The MS/HS lunch plans will be shared with students via schedules.
- The social distance requirement for chorus and band has changed to 6 feet!
- GOOD NEWS! The USDA has extended the Free Meals for All Students Program!



Transportation:

- The District will be operating at 50% capacity on all buses.
- Unless a student is sitting with family members from the same household, he/she will sit one to a seat, and seating will be staggered with respect to sitting near the window or the aisle.
- Students **MUST** wear a mask at all times on the bus unless he/she is medically unable to do so.
- ALL buses will be sanitized between ALL runs.
- Students will have assigned seats.
- As the number of students wishing to attend in-person can fluctuate, bus routes and arrival/dismissal cohorts are subject to change. The District will monitor this situation closely throughout the year. **Changes to arrival/dismissal cohorts will NOT be made before discussing with parents.**



Instructional Models:

- PK-GR 6 students will continue to attend in-person on campus 5 days a week.
- **ALL** MS/HS students will transition to in-person instruction 5 days per week starting Monday, April 26th.
- Families still have the ability to keep their child/children on all remote instruction. If you need to switch to this model, please contact your child's / children's principal. This District will continue to provide remote instruction to these students. The elementary plan will remain the same. The MS/HS plan will look a little different, and these plans will be shared with applicable students / families.
- It is still possible that we will need to switch to an all remote model if there is a COVID outbreak at the school, too many staff are quarantined, directive of the DOH, etc.
- If the all students in-person for all MS/HS students model does not work, we may have to revert back to a hybrid model.



MS/HS – Expanded In-Person Model

- Transitioning to 4 days / week in-person instruction for each class increases from 58 minutes per week to 90 minutes.
- Transitioning to 5 days / week in-person instruction for each class increases to 135 minutes every other week.
- Transitioning to a 5 day / week model over a two (2) week period, will increase in-person instruction for each class from 116 minutes to 225 minutes!



MS/HS – Expanded In-Person Model (con't):

- Students will be on campus 5 days a week and follow the traditional A/B schedule. This could change if there is significant community feedback indicating that a 4 day / week (M,T, TH, F) model is preferred / needed. If you have significant concerns with the 5 day / model, please e-mail the school.
- Students will follow 6 foot social distancing in classes, lunch, SH, etc.
- Changing classes will take place on a staggered basis to avoid prolonged crowding in the halls and at lockers.
- We are asking students to NOT congregate at lockers, in restrooms, etc. We need your help making this work.
- Open Campus for Seniors – Seniors providing written parental permission to the office may sign in and out of the school throughout the day when they have lunch or SH.
- Modified Open Campus for Juniors – Juniors providing written parental permission to the office may sign in late or out early, **BUT** not both or throughout the day.
- More information about Open Campus rules will be shared with Seniors and Juniors.



MS/HS – Expanded In-Person Model (con't):

- Juniors and Seniors on campus for lunch may be assigned to eat at the back of a SH.
- Lunches will start as early as 10:30 and end after 1:00. This is necessary to maintain social distancing while eating..
- We realize that students will have an increased number of study halls, but this is necessary to keep instructional class sizes small enough to allow for 6 feet of social distancing.
- We are committed to working with students to balance the number of study halls they may have on a daily basis. Some students may also be “pulled” from study halls for extra help / support.
- Our hope is that students will use this time to complete work; especially since they will all have access to the internet.
- Students should charge their computer every night before coming to school so that they can use it during study halls.
- Classrooms will be disinfected between students switching classes. A huge **THANK YOU** to the teachers for volunteering to help with this; we couldn't do this without your help!!!!



MS/HS – Expanded In-Person Model (con't):

Time	Grade Level Schedules			
8:00 - 8:45	Per 1	Per 1	Per 1	Per 1
8:48 - 9:33	Per 2	Per 2	Per 2	Per 2
9:36 - 10:21	Per 3	Per 3	Per 3	Per 3
10:24 - 10:54 LUN	GR 6 & 8 LUNCH	Per 4	Per 4	Per 4
10:54 - 11:09 SAN	Per 4			
11:09 - 11:39 LUN		Freshman LUNCH	Per 5	Per 5
11:39 - 11:54 SAN	Per 5			
11:54 - 12:24 LUN		Per 5	Sophomore LUNCH	Per 6
12:24 - 12:39 SAN	Per 6	Per 6		
12:39 - 1:09 LUN			Per 6	Per 6
1:12 - 1:57	Per 7	Per 7	Per 7	Per 7
2:00 - 2:55	Per 8	Per 8	Per 8	Per 8



Special Education Services / Placements:

- The District will continue to offer all special education services and programs.
- If a student attends a program in another building, the District will transport the student as long the program is open.
- The CSE Office will continue to hold meetings, evaluate students for placement, coordinate services, etc.



Other Important Notes:

- Increasing the total number of students in the MS/HS may result in an increase in the number of MS/HS students having to quarantine in the event of a positive case at the school.
- Since we are not changing the instructional model in the elementary at this time, there should not be a large increase in the number of students that would have to quarantine in the event of a positive case, but there are no guarantees.
- While we are planning to have all MS/HS students return in-person on Monday, April 26th, a positive case of COVID 19 over the weekend could change this plan. In the event we have a case over the weekend, there is a very strong possibility that we will continue with the M/T, Th/F cohort hybrid model for an additional week. It will depend on the circumstances and we will provide announcements to families accordingly..
- We are still working on plans for end of the year events and dates such as prom, graduation, last days of school, etc. As we finalize these items, we will reach out to the entire ECS community.



Closing Thoughts:

- Check the website and Facebook pages often for updated information.
- E-mail questions, concerns, suggestions to the ECS COVID-19 e-mail at: covid19@ecsny.org
- Call the ECS COVID-19 Hotline at 716-699-6052
- Be informed – Check out the CDC Guidance on-line.
- Watch for expanded opportunities for vaccinations as the eligibility list is constantly changing. This information can be found on the Catt. Co. Dept. of Health Website.
- **Thank you!** It has been a very different year. Your understanding and patience as we have worked through and continue to work through challenges is greatly appreciated!



Questions



Thank You and Take Care!

