

Garden City Public Schools **Reopening**



Important Note: It is our hope that most of these safety measures are temporary and can be relaxed and eliminated as numbers decline.



Goals for 2021-22

- Maximize our ability to offer in-person instruction to all K-12 students every day.
- Minimize the impact of quarantining on students, staff and their families.
- Address social, emotional and mental health needs of our students.
- Continue to use a comprehensive risk mitigation and prevention strategy.
- Continue to prioritize health and safety of our students and staff.



Mental Health

- The district has partnered with Northwell Health to enhance mental health supports to students and families. This includes access to the Behavioral Health Clinic in Mineola, mental health evaluations and referrals, coordination of care staff professional development and parent/community resources.
- The district's Mental Health Committee continues to assess needs and provide support for social emotional wellness. School counselors are always available to assist students and families.
- For 2021-22, the district added an additional 0.5 psychologist and an additional 1.0 social worker. Now, each elementary school has one full-time social worker. In addition, each elementary school has two full-time nurses.

Health & Safety Measures

- Masks are to be worn indoors regardless of vaccination status. Mask breaks will be provided and masks are not required outdoors.
- 3 feet of social distancing as much as possible.
- Masks on buses for all students and staff*.
- Contact tracing and quarantining*.
- Ventilation/HVAC in classrooms and buses.
- Cleaning protocols will be in place, especially for high-touch areas.
- Students and staff should stay home when ill.

**Required by Nassau County Department of Health*

Quarantining Guidelines

- Students will not be required to quarantine if they are exposed to someone else in the classroom who tests positive, as long as properly fitting masks and 3 feet of social distancing are maintained (this does not apply to teachers, staff or other adults in the indoor classroom setting).
- At lunch, students will be spaced 3-6 feet apart. This means that there may be a need to quarantine students if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19.
- Quarantine is also excluded for asymptomatic people who have been fully vaccinated or who were previously diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last three months and are still asymptomatic.

Returning to Normalcy for 2021-22

- Daily in-person instruction.
- All students in their home buildings.
- All K-5 specials reinstated.
- Regular K-5 start time.
- All co-curricular activities.
- Field trips and competitions.
- Musical and theater student productions and performances.
- Lunch in the cafeterias, large spaces and courtyards.
- Use of lockers.
- 1:1 devices.
- No daily screening.
- In-person events for parents with some virtual options.
- Visitors allowed in buildings.