



# Opening 2021-2022 School Year

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent

---

August 25, 2021



**Welcome!**

# On behalf of the Board of Education, welcome to the Syracuse City School District!



Dan Romeo,  
President



Tamica Barnett,  
Vice President



Patricia Body,  
Commissioner



David Cecile,  
Commissioner



Derrick Dorsey,  
Commissioner



Dr. Mark D. Muhammad,  
Commissioner



Katie Sojewicz,  
Commissioner



# 20,000 Students PK-12



**72** Languages spoken

**16.29%** ENL Students

**20.1%** Receive Special  
Education Services

# School Supervision



## Elementary & Pre-K-8

### **Executive Directors of Elementary & Pre-K-8**

Melissa Evans  
Dr. Rob DiFlorio



## Middle & High Schools

### **Executive Director of Secondary Education**

Pamela Odom

### **Assistant Executive Director of Secondary Education**

Tara Jennings



# Special Programs/ Schools



## Dual Language

Delaware Primary  
Seymour Academy



## Montessori

LeMoyne Elementary



## Latin

Syracuse Latin Pre-K-8



## AVID

Henninger's Quadrant



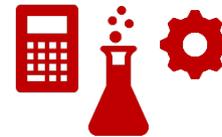
## EL Education

Brighton Academy  
ELMS



## STEAM

STEAM at Dr. King



## STEM

STEM at Blodgett



## Other

Oasis, McCarthy at  
Beard & PFLA

# International Baccalaureate® (IB)



## Corcoran High School

- Diploma Programme
- Middle Years Programme
- Career-Related Programme

## Clary

- Middle Years Programme

## Roberts

- Middle Years Programme



# Career & Technical Education (CTE)

## 27 Programs

Automotive Technology

Barbering

Construction Technology

Computer Forensics

Cosmetology

Culinary Arts

Cybersecurity

Electrical Trades

Emergency Medical  
Technician

Fire/Rescue

Forensic Sciences

Geospatial Technology

Health Professions

Law Enforcement

Medical Assisting

Media Communications

Natural Resources

NNDCC

Pre-Apprenticeship

Urban Teaching Preparation  
Program

Welding Technology

### P-TECH:

Electrical Technology

Mechanical Technology

Clinical Laboratory Technology

Computer Information  
Systems

Surgical/Health Information  
Technology

Remotely Piloted Aircraft  
Systems/Drone Tech





# Building Our Future

Strategic Plan 2018-2022



# Our Mission

To build, support and sustain school communities that provide all students with a high-quality education that prepares them to graduate as responsible, active citizens ready for success in college and careers and prepared to compete in a global economy.

# Our Vision

To prepare and inspire all of our students to innovate locally and contribute globally.



# Core Beliefs and Commitments

- all students can learn and achieve at high levels.
- that teaching and learning is our core business.
- that education is an essential to improve future life opportunities.
- that teachers have the greatest impact on student achievement.
- that effective leaders produce excellent results for our children.
- that a high-performing organization produces a legacy of enduring greatness.
- that the involvement of families and community partners is vital to improving student outcomes.
- positive, supportive cultures are created by the actions of each of us and are essential to teaching and learning.
- that the diversity of our students and families is a strength of our district.
- in discovering, valuing, and building on each child's gifts so that each child can reach his or her fullest potential.
- in evidence-based decision making to ensure continuous improvement at all levels.
- in the value of families as their children's first teachers.
- in equity and ensuring opportunities for all.



# Our Priorities

1. Engage families and communities
2. Implement culturally responsive practices
3. Recruit, develop, support and retain the most effective diverse staff
4. Personalize learning for students
5. Provide dynamic, rigorous curriculum and instruction





# Back to School 2021-22

Stronger Together

# Guiding Values for Reopening

## Safety



The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is a top priority. We are following the guidelines of the Onondaga County Health Department, the American Academy of Pediatrics, New York State Education Department, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## Equity



We believe in equity and ensuring opportunities for all students.

## Collaboration

We believe in the importance of the whole community in ensuring positive outcomes for our students. CoVideo Chats have been held with:

- Staff
- Administrators
- Unions
- Parents (English, Arabic, Burmese, Karen, Somali, Spanish, and Swahili)



# Guidance

The District  
Back-to-School  
Plan follows  
guidance from:



- **U.S Department of Education COVID-19 Handbook:** Roadmap to Reopening Safely and Meeting All Students' Needs
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools
- **American Academy for Pediatrics:** COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools
- **NYS Education Department:** Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-22 School Year
- **Onondaga County Health Department** Guidance for K-12 School Reopening: Getting kids safely back to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year
- **Upstate Medical University:** Back to School Masking Statement

# Goal

Our goal is to provide all PreK-12 grade students in-person instruction five days a week.

*Remote instruction will be provided to students with a documented immunocompromised system or mental health illness.*



# Key Components

## Academic

Support all the students

## Social-Emotional Learning (SEL)

Physical and social-emotional well-being of our students

## Well-Being & Culture

Of our staff and nurture the organizational culture needed to thrive

## Operations & Finance

Organize our people, time, and resources for success



# Vaccination - Staff

According to the CDC, vaccination is the leading public prevention strategy to end COVID-19.



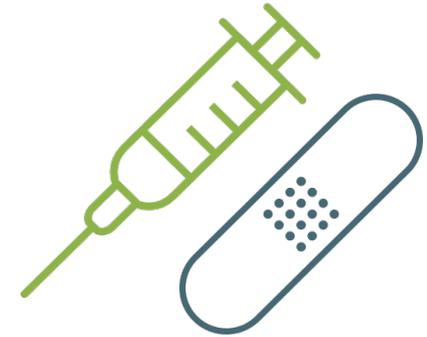
- We will continue to encourage staff to get vaccinated.
- Staff will have to provide documentation of vaccination or submit to weekly testing for COVID-19.
- County Executive has issued Local Emergency Order #22.
- Working on providing COVID-19 tests at schools.



# Vaccination - Students

## Children Ages 12+

- We will continue to encourage our families with children ages 12 and up to get vaccinated.



## Vaccine Clinics

- We will continue to partner with local pharmacies to hold Pfizer vaccination clinics in schools.

# Screening for COVID-19

We will continue to work with Onondaga County Health Department to do screening testing in the schools.

- Current OCHD plan is to conduct randomized saliva pool testing
- A consent form will be given to the students the first day of school for parent/guardian authorization for testing.



# Masking in Schools and District Buildings

The Center for Disease Control, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Onondaga County Health Department, and the CNY Pediatric Group **recommend indoor masking including teachers, staff, students and visitors regardless of vaccination status.**

- Masks will also be required on buses.
- Masks will be optional outside for recess.
- We will provide masks breaks during the day.
- Masks will be available for students and staff.



# Physical Distancing

We will follow the guidance from CDC to maintain 3 feet of social distance.

- We have polycarbonate dividers available and strongly encourage use in classrooms.
- We will continue to monitor the transmission rate in the county and city and adjust based on the Onondaga County Health Department recommendations.



# Mitigation Measures

We will continue to do temperature screenings daily for students, staff and visitors.

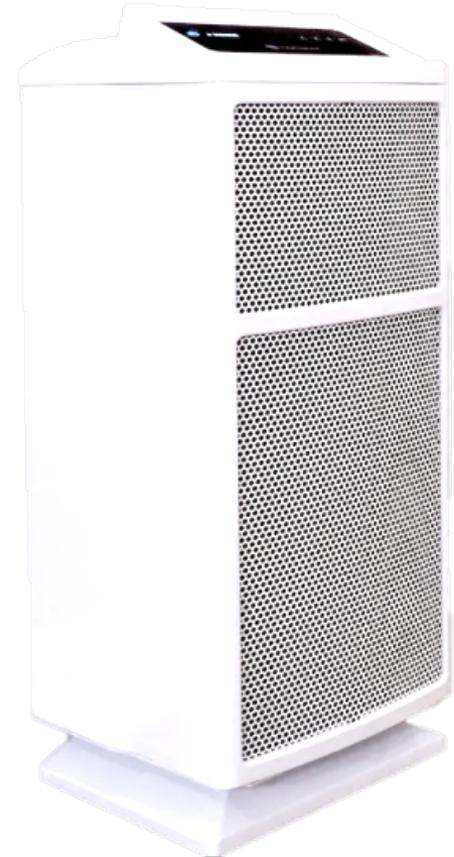
Continue to reinforce:

- proper use of masks
- proper hand washing
- physical distance



# Ventilation

- Installed 2 portable air purifiers in every classroom
- Acquired 1,000 more Air Purifier units for smaller instructional areas
- Purchased 250 larger Air Purifier units for cafeterias, libraries and large group rooms
- Updating HVAC control systems
- Running HVAC on occupied mode 24/7 to get more fresh air in the buildings
- Upgraded to the higher MERV filters
- Replaced carpet with tiles in 200 classrooms over the summer



# Stay Home When Sick and Get Tested

Any students or staff experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and be tested.

- Symptoms:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or running nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea

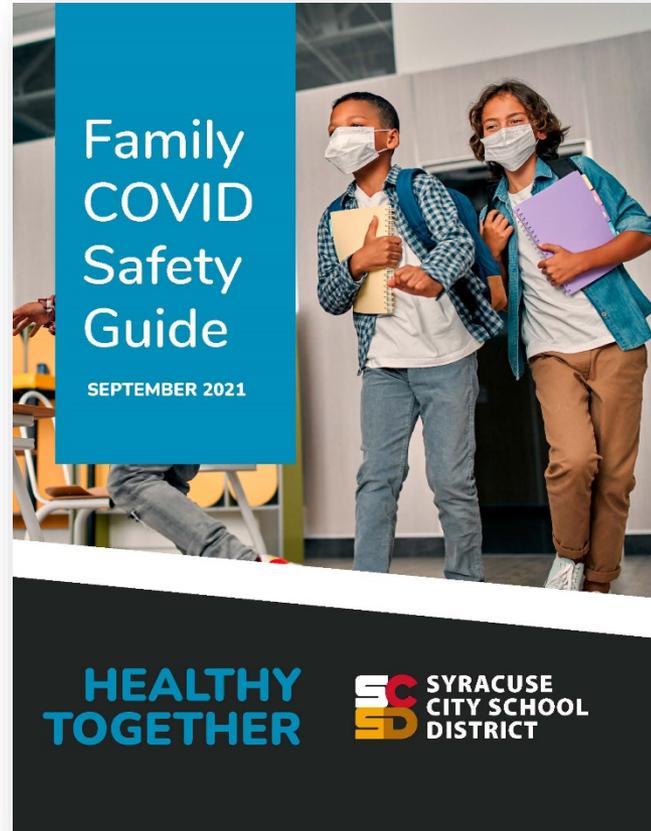
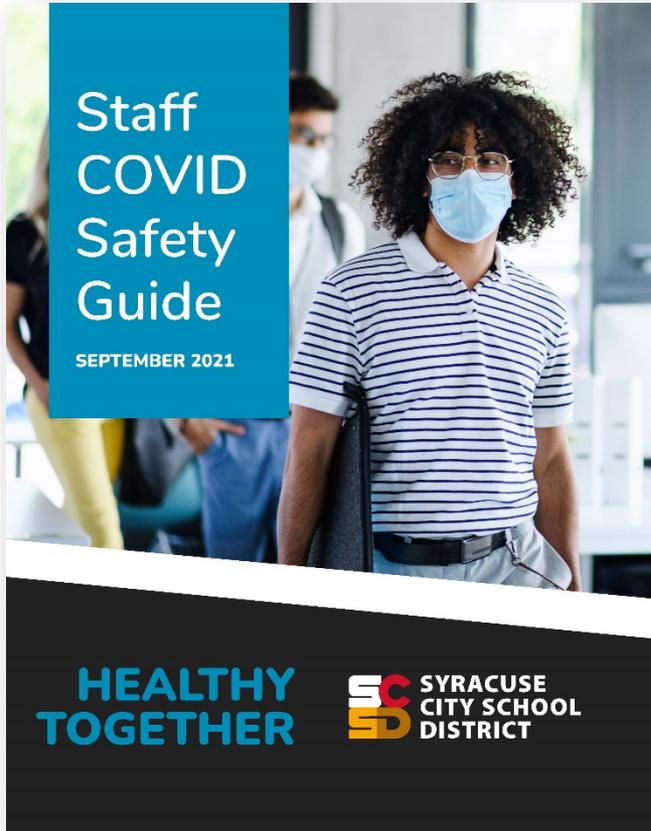


# Contact Tracing

We ask any staff member or parent/guardian of a student who tests positive for COVID-19 to notify the principal, school nurse, health services or immediate supervisor so contact tracing can be conducted.



# Guides coming soon!



# Challenges vs. Opportunities





Thank you!