Frontier Central School District:

Reopening Plan   # FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

Communication

Where can I access information?

All communication regarding COVID-19 protocols will originate from the office of our Superintendent, Dr. Richard Hughes. Messages will be posted on platforms that allow for postings, or attachments, and also provide the basis for platforms that require a scripted version. Some platforms may provide the information in a timelier manner than others, but all platforms will be uniformly utilized to provide information.
DISTRICT - WIDE COMMUNICATIONS
will be issued via the following platforms (organized most to least timely):

- District Web Page
- FACEBOOK Postings
- Dr. Hughes's Twitter Account
- District Email Blast
- BLOOMZ
- FACEBOOK Live Events (schedule to be determined)
- US Mail Letter (to all stakeholders)

If implemented, the following may also be used for communicating District information:
District Text Blast, District Created PHONE hotline, All Call (Robo Call/BLOOMZ)

BUILDING – SPECIFIC COMMUNICATIONS
Will be issued via the following platforms (organized most to least timely):

- BLOOMZ
- Email
- PTA FACEBOOK PAGES
- FACEBOOK Live Events (schedule to be determined)

If adopted, other building-based apps may also be used as platforms for communicating information

"Are you going to take the results seriously or ignore them like the last survey I completed?"

The completion of each survey by the Frontier Community is very much appreciated. All surveys that are sent out give us very important information from which to plan. Sometimes a survey's results don't coincide with any given participant's answers as the survey data is analyzed in its totality across all questions. Please be assured that every participant's individual survey is a part of the cumulative whole.

Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement

Is Frontier offering a full virtual program that is supported by Frontier Faculty?

Yes.

What does the hybrid plan really mean?

This model applies to all our school buildings.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A A-K in-person	Group B L - Z in-person	**Remote Learning for All**	Group A A-K in-person	Group B L - Z in-person
Group B remote	Group A remote		Group B remote	Group A remote

In our model, students whose last name begins with A-K will attend school on Monday and Thursday and participate in remote instruction on Tuesday and Friday. Students whose last name begins with L-Z will attend in-person instruction on Tuesday and Friday and will participate in remote instruction on Monday and Thursday. Wednesday is designated as a remote learning day for all students and for teachers to set aside for whole group meetings, office hours, MTSS services, related services, grade level planning, and other professional development opportunities.

Hybrid Learning Models: https://www.frontiercsd.org/Page/9647

What is a learning coach?

A learning coach is the adult responsible as the primary contact.

Will instruction look the same as last year? What will be different?

Depending on your experience last year, you may notice some changes. Classroom sizes will be smaller and less interactive due to social distancing mandates. Under remote learning, you will notice increased student/teacher contact, compared to last year.

Remote Learning Plans: https://www.frontiercsd.org/Page/9646

(Schools are responsible for developing a mechanism to collect and report daily teacher/student engagement or attendance regardless of the instructional setting.
http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf (pg.81))

I was not happy with the instruction and how it was delivered at the end of last year. How will it look different?

You will notice increased student/teacher contact when under a remote learning situation.

Remote Learning Plans: https://www.frontiercsd.org/Page/9646

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You will notice a more varied approach to the instruction your child receives remotely. "Instructional experiences are not defined solely as a student's time spent in front of a teacher or in front of a screen, but time engaged in standards-based learning under the guidance and direction of a teacher. These experiences might include, but are not limited to: completing online modules or tasks; viewing instructional videos; responding to posts or instructor questions; engaging with other class participants in an online or phone discussion; conducting research; doing projects; or meeting with an instructor face to face, via an online platform or by phone. Schools must ensure that the learning is supported, and students have access to assistance from a qualified teacher when they need it."
http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf (pgs 97-98))

What do report cards look like?

To date (August 2020) parents will continue to access the parent portal via School Tool to receive information about their student's academic progress. Unlike during remote learning last spring, grades will be recorded for all students.

How long a time-frame am I committing to when I select the hybrid or all remote model for my child?

We are asking for a commitment of one semester. EX: If you choose remote learning all week, your commitment would be from September to the end of January.

Will my child change for physical education?

No. Students will not use the locker rooms and will not change for phys. ed.

Food Service

Are students eating in the cafeteria or in the classroom?

Students at every grade level will receive lunch while they are in school. Meals and the set-up within buildings is to be determined; however, in any configuration social distancing guidelines will be adhered to. Students with severe food allergies will eat and be supervised in a separate location.

Health and Wellness

What happens when someone tests positive?

CDC GUIDANCE:
Did a student or staff member test positive for SARS-CoV-2? If someone within the school community (e.g., student, teacher, staff) tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, assessing the level of risk is important to determine if, when, and for how long part or all of a school should be closed. K-12 administrators can also refer to CDC's Interim Considerations for K-12 for School Administrators for SARS-CoV-2 Testing, which provides additional information about viral diagnostic testing. A single case of COVID-19 in a school would not likely warrant closing the entire school, especially if levels of community transmission are not high. The levels of community transmission described above and the extent of close contacts of the individual who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 should all be considered before closing. These variables should also be considered when determining how long a school, or part of the school, stays closed. If the transmission of the virus within a school is higher than that of the community, or if the school is the source of an outbreak, administrators should work collaboratively with local health officials to determine if temporary school closure is necessary. Students, teachers, and staff who test positive or had close contact with the individual who tested positive should be provided with guidance for when it is safe to discontinue self-isolation or end quarantine.
Source: CDC: Preparing K-12 School Administrators for a Safe Return to School in Fall 2020; Updated Aug. 1, 2020 https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/prepare-safe-return.html

INDIVIDUAL MAY RETURN WHEN:

A.) MD/DO/NP provides school with 2 negative acute COVID-19 test results BOTH taken since symptoms first appeared and are at LEAST 24 hours apart - or -

B.) Follow CDC, State and Local health guidelines for symptom-based return
        (see, also, Negative test criteria)

STUDENT MAY RETURN TO SCHOOL WHEN CONFIRMED IN WRITING BY PARENT:
- 3 days fever-free without medication **AND**
- Respiratory and presenting symptoms have improved **AND**
- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **OR** since tested (unless there is also a known exposure, then 14 days from that exposure.

How will the school or District communicate to parents and teachers when a student or an employee tests positive for COVID-19?

The Erie County Department of Health is responsible for contact tracing. They will provide a notice to the school of a positive test. While the individual's name must be kept confidential, parents of students in that building will be notified by the building principal.

Will the school be able to support contact tracing if someone becomes infected?

For COVID-19 positive individuals, a Case Investigator from the Health Department will conduct an investigation and will determine if any other significant exposures have occurred, based upon a determination of close contacts to the original case. The child with COVID-19 will be removed from the school setting and isolated at home until released by the Health Department. All identified close contacts (inside and outside the classroom) will be quarantined at home for the appropriate period of time (typically 14 days past the last day of exposure). At the current time, the Health Department does not require that a COVID-19 test be performed on most close contacts; in fact, a negative test would not change the management of a quarantined close contact.

Will my child need to wear a mask all day?

Yes. Students will be required to wear a mask on the school bus, in hallways, in their classrooms, and in the cafeteria until they are seated to eat. Specials consideration for students with medical documentation who are unable to wear a mask, will be accommodated. Students will receive a 5-minute break each hour/period during the day.

Instructional Technology

Can I still get a chromebook from the District to use at home?

Yes. Our Technology Department will communicate the plan for the deployment of devices.

Operations, Facilities, and Safety

Why can't my children attend school for the full week?

Some students will attend, in-person, daily. Cohort 4, consisting of special education students in self-contained settings, and ELL's will have the opportunity to attend in-person instruction 4 days a week. Spacing, due to social distancing mandates, will determine how many students are in Cohort 4.

Our facilities, enrollment, and staffing do not afford us the opportunity to welcome all students back into our buildings because we can't adhere to the social distancing guidelines set forth by the New York State Department of Health Social Distancing.
There is not enough physical space and faculty (teachers) to accommodate the return of 100% of the student population.

Special Education

Will my child still have access to special services.

Yes. Students who receive occupational therapy, speech therapy, and speech, will receive services outlined on an IEP, a 504 Accommodation Plan, or a building based plan.

Transportation

Once I commit to a transportation option, will I have the opportunity to switch.

We are asking for a commitment that lasts one semester; however, if circumstances change and you require a different transportation model, please contact the Transportation Department at 926-1705.

Additional Concerns:

What about child care?

Some families are choosing to utilize the Expanded FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) which covers caring for your child whose school or place of care is closed or unavailable for COVID-19 related reasons. You are eligible for up to 12 weeks of paid leave/expanded family and medical leave, capped at $200 per day. During this time your health insurance is continued and your job is protected. You will have to provide documentation that your planned care or schooling is unavailable due to COVID-19. Be sure to check with your employer to clarify if intermittent days may be taken or if they require your days to be sequential as well as other stipulations.
(https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/WHD/posters/FFCRA_Poster_WH1422_Non-Federal.pdf)

Parents may utilize child care through the District's provider, Right at School.
https://rightatschool.com/districts/frontier-ny/

What does athletics for high school students look like?

Per the NYDOH Guidance Interscholastic sports are not permitted at the time of publication of this (NYSED) guidance, and additional information on athletic activities is forthcoming.

Additionally:
The New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYPSPHSAA) has established a COVID-19 Task Force comprised of NYSPHSAA member superintendents, principals, athletic directors and executive directors in addition to representatives from New York State Athletic Administrators Association and State Education Department. The Task Force will provide guidance when New York high school student-athletes are allowed to return to athletics. The task force is reviewing State and local health guidelines, as well as NYSED guidance, regarding the 2020-2021 school year to determine, among other things, the extent to which

changes may be needed for each interscholastic sports season. The COVID-19 Task Force will continue to review all aspects of the fall 2020 season and the 2020-2021 school year related to the COVID-19 crisis, such as practice requirements; fan attendance; resocialization efforts; protocol; procedures; transportation; etc. As more information becomes available it will be shared on the NYSPHSAA website http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf (page 111)

Glossary of Terms:

Asynchronous instruction: instruction that happens at different times for different students, usually in an on-line setting, depending on when students choose to (sign on and) complete the assignments provided

CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Website: https://www.cdc.gov/

Cohort: "...self-contained, pre-assigned groups of students with reasonable size limits set forth by the Responsible Parties (District Plan Administrators) in their plans. Responsible Parties should enact measures to prevent intermingling between cohorts...and make reasonable efforts to ensure that cohorts are fixed - meaning the same students - for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency." DOH; p. 2; https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/Pre-K_to_Grade_12_Schools_MasterGuidence.pdf

DOH: New York State Department of Health - Website: https://health.ny.gov/

ECDOH: Erie County Department of Health

Home-School
Home-Schooling: Parents of, or persons in parental relation to, compulsory school age children have the legal right to instruct their children at home. If a child is being educated at home, the local school district must be assured that the child is receiving instruction in certain required courses/subjects.

Parents who wish to home school their children must provide written notice of intent to the school district superintendent. The school district must then respond to the family and provide a copy of the home instruction regulations as well as an individualized home

(Home School continued): instruction plan (IHIP) form to complete. Parents are responsible for identifying the curriculum materials that they will use to instruct their children in the required subject areas.
http://www.nysed.gov/nonpublic-schools/home-instruction

In-school instruction : traditional instruction where the student goes to a school to receive instruction in-person by a teacher

NYSED: New York State Department of Education - Website: http://www.nysed.gov/

OSHA: Occupational Safety and Health Administration - Website: https://www.osha.gov/

Virtual Option: Synonymous with Remote Learning. The student works electronically from home, taught by a Frontier teacher either on an every-other day basis (Hybrid Plan) or everyday basis (Totally Virtual Option).

special needs: requirements in excess of what the general population would call for

Synchronous instruction: instruction that happens at the same time for all students

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