

# Wells Central School

## Redefining Ready- Reopening Fact Sheet

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- On July 13, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that school districts in New York can follow plans to reopen for in-person schooling in September if COVID-19 infection rates stay at 5% or lower in a given region.
- To begin the 2020-21 school year, the district plans to run the same schedule as last year. Arrival and dismissal times will remain similar if not the same as last year. The district may need some extra time in the morning to conduct health screenings and provide breakfast under the safety protocols. The district may adjust the homeroom/period schedules to accommodate for these changes. Should the district find it necessary to make adjustments to the pickup/dropoff times, parents/guardians will be notified far enough in advance as possible.
- The district is committed to creating a learning environment that protects student and staff health, safety and privacy. Our district will operate under a standard procedure for addressing situations in which an individual has tested positive for COVID-19 or appears symptomatic. These procedures are outlined in the Health & Safety section of our reopening plan.
- The health and safety of our students, our staff and their families is our top priority. We want students and employees to feel comfortable and safe returning to the school campus. Our reopening plan incorporates recommendations and guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), the [New York State Department of Health \(NYSDOH\)](#) and the [New York State Education Department \(NYSED\)](#).
- The district has developed a plan with policies and procedures for maintaining social distancing of all students, faculty, and staff when on school facilities, grounds and transportation. Signage will be posted in hallways and on floors, capacity signage will be posted in classrooms or common areas e.g., cafeteria, library. If social distancing of six (6) feet cannot be maintained, proper face coverings must be worn.
- A closure refers to contingency plans, protocols, and procedures for decreasing the scale or scope of in-person education and/or closing the school. The district will collaborate with the local health department to determine the parameters, conditions or metrics (e.g., increased absenteeism or increased illness in the school community) that will serve as early warning signs that positive COVID-19 cases may be increasing.
- The district will emphasize healthy hygiene practices for students and staff by providing initial and refresher education in hand and respiratory hygiene, along with providing adequate supplies and time for frequent hand hygiene. Signs will be posted throughout the school (e.g., entrances, restrooms, cafeteria, classrooms, gymnasium, staff areas) and regular messaging will be shared with the school community. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection in the district, facilities operations will be geared toward meeting social distancing requirements and cleaning frequently touched spaces regularly.