



COMSEWOGUE SCHOOL DISTRICT

COVID-19 REOPENING PLAN

2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR

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The mission of the Comsewogue School District is to empower our students to become lifelong learners through clearly defined goals and personal connections in a collaborative and inclusive, equitable environment where all members of our community are partners in fostering well-rounded global citizens who celebrate diversity and are prepared to achieve their maximum potential.

All students will graduate from the Comsewogue School District with the opportunity to:

- Achieve his or her personal best
- Be a collaborative team player
- Belong to an interconnected community
- Exemplify responsible citizenship
- Engage in lifelong learning

The Brookhaven-Comsewogue School District (58020302000) developed a COVID-19 Reopening Plan based on the guidance of the NYS Department of Health and CDC guidelines. After review of the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH), the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Department of Education (NYSED) guidance, and the American Pediatric Association (APA); the Comsewogue School District presents the plan for reopening schools for the 2022-2023 school year.

The physical, social, emotional, and academic health of students and teachers were paramount in the development of the plan. Utilizing the above referenced guidance, the plan is divided into sections based on assurances made by the Comsewogue School District.

The plan includes various protocols to be followed regarding:

- Communication/Family and Community Engagement
- Health and Safety
- Facilities
- Child Nutrition
- Transportation
- Social-Emotional Well-Being
- School Schedules, Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism
- Special Education, Bilingual and World Languages
- Teacher and Principal Evaluation, Teacher Certification, and Substitute Teaching

Communication

- Comsewogue will continue to engage with school and community stakeholders including but not limited to BOE, administration, faculty, staff, parents, nurses, students, and community members. Guidance from the Department of Health, the CDC, and State Education Department of Education was used in the development of the plan
- Comsewogue will continue to implement a communications plan for students, parents/guardians, faculty, staff, and visitors with applicable instructions, training, signage presenting information and procedures
- Comsewogue will continue to provide communications in the language(s) spoken at home and in the community; written plans will be in said languages and accessible to those with visual and/or hearing impairments
- Comsewogue will continue to communicate with stakeholders via telephone, email, SchoolTool posts, Google Meets, Zoom, Google Classroom (3-12), Seesaw (K-2), Comsewogue Mobile App, Comsewogue Website, mailed letters, parental training, and social media posts. Translation services will be provided for all families.



Health & Safety

- All stakeholders have the option of using properly fitted masks as outlined in the CDC guidelines (Masks must completely cover the person's mouth and nose and must adhere to the specifications of the CDC and DOH.)
- A student who is exhibiting symptoms that could be contagious will wear masks entering the nurse's office
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/types-of-masks.html>
- Parents must complete an attestation digitally prior to the start of school. This attestation will remain for the year, pending any changes to the protocols
- Comsewogue will maintain a healthy nurse's office and an isolation room monitored by a nurse's aide
- Any student who exhibits symptoms of a contagious nature will be required to wear a mask in the nurse's office.



Comsewogue will adhere to the following protocols if a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 occurs:

- The nurse would assess the condition of the person while using proper PPE.
- If COVID-19 symptoms are apparent, the person enters the Isolation Room, awaiting transportation home or promptly exiting the building (if an adult).
- The parent/guardian of a student or faculty/staff member will be instructed to contact their health care provider or local clinic/urgent care center.
- Our Local health agencies will be contacted for guidance regarding any positive COVID-19 case.
- Comsewogue will provide procedures for returning to school after an illness using the guidelines of the DOH. Quarantine will be necessary for those who are COVID-19 positive.



- Comsewogue will require visitors, guests, contractors, and vendors to complete a health screening prior to entering any building
- If a student is positive for COVID-19, they will be asked to wear a well-fitting mask to return after a 5-day quarantine for days 6-10.
- Comsewogue will instruct parents/guardians to observe signs of illness that require a child to remain home from school
- Comsewogue will provide instruction on hand and respiratory hygiene including but not limited to, adequate facilities, touch-free dispensers, and additional time for protocols. It is recommended that faculty/staff wash hands after sharing objects or surfaces, before and after meals, after using the restroom, after sneezing, coughing, or blowing their nose, and any time hands become dirty. When washing stations are not available, hand sanitizer stations will be used. Students will be monitored when using the alcohol based hand sanitizers.



Facilities

- Comsewogue will run a before and after school day care program using BOCES
- Comsewogue designated a safety coordinator, Mr. Joseph Coniglione (jconiglione@comsewogue.k12.ny.us) whose responsibilities include continued compliance with all aspects of the district's reopening plan,
- Comsewogue will follow all DOH, CDC, NYSED, and APA guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting including, but not limited to, bathrooms, health offices, isolation rooms, frequently touched surfaces, breakrooms, kitchens, labs, classrooms, offices, busses, and large meeting areas. Disinfectants will be products approved by the State and meet EPA criteria for use against SARS-COV-2
- Comsewogue will comply with requirements of the 2021 NYS Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the State Energy Conservation Code and submit changes to the OFP
- Comsewogue will ensure compliance with the 2021 Building Condition Survey and Visual Inspection
- Comsewogue will provide provisions to conduct the Lead-in-Water Testing as required by NYS DOH regulation 67-4
- Comsewogue will ensure all alcohol-based hand sanitizer dispensers are installed in accordance with FCNYS 2021 Section 5705.5
- Comsewogue will ensure all new building construction and temporary quarter projects will be submitted to OFP for a full code review
- Comsewogue will ensure all toilet and sink features meet the minimum standards of the BCNYS
- Comsewogue will maintain adequate, code required ventilation (natural or mechanical) as designed
- Visitors/Vendors entering any building will follow this protocol: sign in/out at security desk and complete a COVID-19 Screening.
- Comsewogue will continue to clean high traffic area surfaces, including but not limited to, copy machines, office spaces, door knobs, water filling stations and stairwells
- Comsewogue will continue to update all HVAC systems with the highest possible MERV rated recommended filters. Filter replacements and system maintenance will be scheduled more frequently throughout the year. Fresh air is encouraged.



Child Nutrition

- Comsewogue will adhere to all applicable health and safety guidelines regarding Child Nutrition
- Comsewogue will include measures to protect students with food allergies when providing meals outside the cafeteria
- Comsewogue will include protocols and procedures for hand hygiene before and after eating and will discouraged shared food/beverages
- Comsewogue will uphold protocols and procedures for required cleaning and disinfecting prior to the next group of students
- Comsewogue will ensure compliance with the Children Nutrition Program requirements and clean all kitchen spaces in accordance with all Food and Nutrition Guidelines
- Comsewogue will provide protocols through multiple languages
- Comsewogue will require students to remain socially distanced when consuming meals
- Comsewogue will train faculty/staff on food safety and food allergies



Transportation

- Comsewogue will ensure all busses are cleaned throughout the day
- Comsewogue will ensure high-contact spots will be wiped down routinely throughout the day
- Comsewogue will ensure busses are not equipped with hand sanitizer stations due to their combustibility and potential liability. Additional transportation personnel may not carry hand sanitizers on busses



Social-Emotional Well-Being

- Comsewogue will ensure our comprehensive school counseling program, created by certified school counselors will be updated to meet current needs
- Comsewogue will use various stakeholders including but not limited to the BOE, administration, faculty, staff, parents, students, community providers, physical and mental health providers to inform the comprehensive developmental school counseling plan.
- Comsewogue will provide resources and referrals to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional support services and programs
- Comsewogue will provide professional development to faculty and staff regarding working with students on the COVID-19 health emergency, as well as provide supports for developing coping and resilience skills for students, faculty, and staff



School Schedules, Attendance & Chronic Absenteeism

- Comsewogue will follow District Board of Education Policies and use SchoolTool as a means to report student attendance
- Comsewogue will provide 1:1 devices for all students and teachers and will address the need to provide Internet access to students and teachers who currently do not have sufficient access
- Comsewogue will ensure all educational programs are aligned to the New York State Learning Standards
- Comsewogue will provide regular, substantive interactions between teachers and students
- Comsewogue will address chronic absenteeism by maintaining a clear policy, communicating with parents/students through mental health providers and administrations, tracking daily attendance, and establishing intervention plans as needed
- Comsewogue will provide parents and students with contact information for the school and teachers regarding questions about instruction and technology; available in multiple languages
- Comsewogue will ensure that the SCOPE PRE-K program maintains health and safety guidelines outlined in NYSED guidance and required by the NYSDOH. SCOPE must maintain a continuity of learning plan



Special Education, Bilingual & World Language Students

- Comsewogue will provide a free appropriate public education consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those providing special education services
- Comsewogue will document the programs and services offered and provided to students with disabilities as well as communication with parents
- Comsewogue will follow all IEPs to the greatest extent possible in terms of mandates. All services will be provided either in-person or remotely.
- Comsewogue will ensure collaboration between CPSE, CSE, and program providers regarding IEPs and plans for monitoring and communicating students' progress, and commitment to sharing resources
- Comsewogue will ensure access to the necessary accommodations, modification, supplementary aids and services, and technology (including assistive technology) to meet the unique disability related to the student
- Comsewogue will complete the ELL identification process within 30 school days of the start of the school year for all students enrolled during the COVID-19 closure, as well as any students enrolled in the summer of 2022 and during the first 20 school days. Education of ELL's will resume for all students within the required 10 school days of initial enrollment as required by the Commissioner's Regulations Part 154
- Comsewogue will provide instructional Units of Study to all ELL's based on their most recently measured NYSESLAT level
- Comsewogue will maintain regular communication with parents/guardians of ELL's to ensure they are engaged in their child's education during the reopening process, and provide all communication for parents/guardians of ELL's in their preferred language and mode of communication



Teacher & Principal Evaluation; Teacher Certification

- Comsewogue will ensure all teachers and principals are evaluated pursuant to our APPR Plan
- Comsewogue will ensure all teachers hold valid and appropriate certificates for their teaching assignments except where otherwise allowable under the Commission's regulations or Educational Law. Comsewogue will continue to hire certified teachers and substitutes

Flexibility of Plan

The plan detailed in this report is subject to change and shift between various learning methods based on a multitude of factors, including, but not limited to guidance from the local health agencies or a return to virtual learning/stay at home order from the State of New York. Due to recommendations from the DOH regarding specific cases of COVID-19 positive students or faculty/staff, a short-term change from in-person or hybrid learning may transition to virtual learning. Additionally, protocols may be modified based on the most up-to-date recommendations from the New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control.