

The logo of Hudson City School District is a circular emblem with a compass rose design. It features a central eagle with its wings spread, perched on a globe. The words "HUDSON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT" are written in a circular path around the eagle. Inside the circle, the words "LEARNING" and "GROWING" are visible, along with a smaller circular seal containing the text "SCHOOL DISTRICT".

Hudson City School District

**2021-22 School Opening Plan
August 2021**

Dr. Maria Lagana Suttmeier

Priorities



- Return all students to in-person instruction five days a week - and keep them in school by following health and safety protocols.
- Health and safety protocols remain critically important for all of our students, faculty and staff.

Guidance

NYS Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker announced on August 5 that school districts may move forward with their planning in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance and in partnership with our county health department.

HCSD opening plan will align with guidance from the CDC, AAP, Columbia County DOH, as well recommendations from Questar III BOCES and Needham Risk Management Group.

[CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#)

[American Academy of Pediatrics COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools.](#)

CDC Recommended Health & Safety Protocols

- Universal indoor masking by all students, staff, teachers, and visitors, regardless of vaccination status.
 - Mask breaks a local decision.
- Masks not required (optional) outdoors on school grounds.
- At least 3 feet of social distancing in buildings to the extent possible.
- At least 6 feet of social distancing in PE, music and band classes to the extent possible.
- Layered prevention strategies, such as hand hygiene, daily cleaning and disinfecting, ventilation and testing.
- If a child/staff or anyone in the child's/staff's household is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, they must stay home and get tested.

CDC Recommended Health & Safety Protocols

- Proper building ventilation continues to be a priority.
 - Our current air filtration systems meet all required safety levels.
 - Use of our one-time American Rescue Plan funds to upgrade our air filtration systems throughout the district where necessary.
- Masks required for all students on buses.
 - We will return to regular capacity guidelines.
 - Windows open for ventilation as feasible.
 - Our transportation partners will continue to follow the cleaning and sanitization protocols that have been in place since the start of the pandemic.

CDC Recommended Health & Safety Protocols

- CDC recommends all teachers, staff and eligible students be vaccinated as soon as possible.
- Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine.
- Screening/testing strategies recommended by CCDOH dependent on level of community transmission of COVID-19 for those not fully vaccinated
 - also recommended for sports and other activities with elevated risk
- NOTE: Daily temperature checks and questionnaires not currently recommended by CDC.

Virtual Options?

- Questar III (BOCES) will offer limited remote options **for students with an approved medical exemption only.**
- Classes will be taught by a Questar III teacher - not be taught by a District teacher.
- Secondary offerings will provide the basics to give them what is required for the year - will not mimic in-district programming.
- More information forthcoming

Fall Sports

Awaiting guidance from NYSPHAA - forthcoming



What's Next?

- Continue to monitor guidance
- Tentative meeting August 24 6:30 - 8:00
- Opening plan finalized and communicated
- Updated signage in schools
- Inventory of PPE and cleaning supplies