

NYC Museum School

Fall 2020 Reopening Plan
as of July 29, 2020



Agenda

- Welcome
 - D. Fontanez, Principal Assigned
 - J. Lowy, Assistant Principal
 - L. Hindelong, Assistant Principal
- Guiding Principles for Reopening
 - Instruction
 - Building Space
 - Additional Regulations and Expectations
- Selected Program Model
- What is Still to be Determined
- Answers to Submitted Questions
- Important Dates

Instructional Considerations

- Teachers and students given a regular schedule.
- Students attend classes either in person or remotely at assigned times.
- Classes are “live streamed” (synchronous instruction) and recorded/mounted for students not in attendance.
- Teachers will continue to use Google Classroom and Google Meet
- Social-Emotional Learning and Trauma Support will be a part of the back-to-school experience in September, either embedded in curricula, as separate student experiences, or both.

Building Space and Capacity Considerations

- Based on our Social Distancing Room Capacity Report, most classrooms can hold 11 students with social distancing. Our goal is to have fewer than 11 in each room.
- Based on our specific school survey results, we anticipate approximately 20% of our students will opt for remote-only instruction.
- We may consider the gym, cafeteria, and auditorium as potential “spill over” spaces if necessary. This is an ongoing discussion with the other two schools in the building.
- The building will not be leased to any outside organizations for weekend or after school use.
- Custodial staff will follow strict cleaning protocols throughout the day and after school hours, as per DOE guidelines.

Additional Regulations and Expectations

- The school will be provided with PPE from the DOE, which must be worn at all times.
- Each school in the building will have a separate entrance and exit.
- Students will move in one direction only through the halls (counterclockwise) and class change time will be staggered.
- Students will eat lunch in classrooms and will not be allowed to leave to get outside lunch.
- There will be no unnecessary visitors to the school, and most parent meetings will be conducted virtually.

Additional Regulations and Expectations

- Water fountain use will be restricted.
- Bathrooms will be monitored to ensure only 1-2 people are in at a time.
- All spaces will have sufficient air circulation: windows will be open and air conditioners will be on (cleaned and new filters installed).
- The nurse's office will be our "holding area" for sick or potentially sick students.

Selected Program Model: 3A

- 3 in-person cohorts and 1 remote-only cohort
- Fewer students in the building at a time
- Greater program flexibility and safer movement
- Rotating schedule: 1 in-person day followed by 2 remote days
- Consistency of in-person interaction frequency

Model 3A

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Mon.
Group D (Remote)					Group D
Group A	Group B	Group C	Group A	Group B	Group C

6-Day Rotation

What is Still to be Determined

- Governor Cuomo is expected to announce the official New York State reopening decision in the first week of August; this plan could change drastically.
- We do not know if/when students will be allowed into school buildings prior to reopening to retrieve belongings in lockers or to return equipment or books.
- We do not know about if/when/how temperature checks will be conducted upon student and staff entry, though hand sanitizer will be provided upon entry.
- We do not know when clubs or sports teams will be able to resume in-person activities, but for now they cannot meet in person and sports teams' seasons have been suspended indefinitely.
- We do not know the DOE protocols yet in the event that a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. These are still in development and will be shared once known.

Questions from the Community

- When a teacher is in class with ~10 students, are they teaching solely those kids, or do they also need to accommodate for the other 20 watching the class from home?
 - *The Chancellor has committed that all students have a live experience with each teacher every day. We will do our best to maximize the ability of teachers to interact with all students in class without losing the effectiveness of both in-class and remote instruction.*
- How will 9th graders be placed in math/science when they didn't have the opportunity to take the Living Environment or Algebra Regents exams?
 - *Programming is still underway, but we expect to place all students who took Living Environment into Marine Biology. We will likely give our own internal math assessment to determine whether students should be placed in Algebra or Geometry.*

Questions from the Community

- What will happen with the sailing program and museum module parts of the curriculum that made your school special?
 - *We expect the Hudson River Community Sailing program to continue virtually as it did in the spring, until further notice. We expect that museum modules will be conducted virtually as well, at least throughout the fall. Students will continue their A,B,C rotation.*
- What is the plan for gym class?
 - *At this time, New York State has not changed its expectation for physical education. However, students will not be engaged in physical activity that would put them at risk of close contact with other students. We are planning for PE to consist of wellness-related activities that can be conducted safely.*

Questions from the Community

- When creating groups A, B, and C, can we request being with specific friends? This would help tremendously with safely commuting together and maintain existing small study groups.
 - *While it will be difficult to accommodate all such requests, we will do our best to schedule siblings similarly and to proactively schedule students together who live in similar areas.*
- If children will be attending school part time on a schedule, will we be able to align their schedule with that of a sibling in a different school?
 - *We will address these concerns on a case by case basis if possible, understanding that this type of scheduling may prove impossible.*

Important Dates

- August 7th – parents complete their Learning Preference Survey to opt for remote-only instruction
- August 14th – schools submit final reopening plan for approval
- August 20th – next Parent Engagement Town Hall
- September 10th – first day of school
- Early November – parents can resubmit Learning Preference Survey to opt in or out of in-person learning (quarterly)



Thank you for
spending your
evening with us!