



**Port Byron CSD Reopening Plan
2021-2022
(UPDATED March 2, 2022)**

The goals of the Port Byron Central School District are to keep students and staff members healthy and safe, be responsive to student needs, and maximize in-person teaching and learning.

This is a dynamic plan. We can adjust protocols to be more/less restrictive based on the COVID-19 infectious rates in Cayuga County and in the communities that make up the Port Byron Central School District.

The protocols listed below are based on widely accepted recommendations from health and safety professionals, in addition to hours of conversations amongst different stakeholder groups.

The Cayuga County Health Department and the New York State Education Department based their recommendations from guidance shared by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC recommends a layered approach to mitigation strategies in schools. The layers of protection include:

- Physical distancing
- Screening testing
- Improved ventilation
- Proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Staying home when sick and getting tested
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine
- Routine cleaning and disinfection

Consistent and correct use of masks – Universal indoor masking is optional for all teachers, staff members, students, and visitors to our schools, regardless of vaccination status. The school district will provide masks to students, staff members, and visitors if they would like to wear a mask.

Physical distancing and cohorting – We will maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with masking. If less than 3 feet is not possible,

the school district will layer other prevention strategies, such as cohorting. Physical distancing is not required on buses.

Daily screenings – Students and staff members will complete daily screening before entering the building each day. Students and staff members who are not feeling well or exhibiting cold symptoms should not attend school. Students and staff members who come to school with visible symptoms will be sent home until symptoms subside. Students and staff members with mild symptoms can be tested for COVID-19, with parental consent, at school. The ability to test is based on availability.

Contact tracing – Formal contact tracing through the Cayuga County Health Department has ended. We will continue to review positive cases and communicate with families when we are made aware of a positive case. Asymptomatic individuals (students/staff members) who may have been in contact with a positive case can be tested at school with parental consent. If parents refuse to have their student tested, we will be required to follow the updated guidance for COVID-19 isolation and quarantine.

Facilities – The Port Byron CSD exceeds all CDC recommendations for ventilation and air filtration. Classrooms and school buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily. If we have a positive case in school, the spaces occupied by the infected individual will be cleaned and disinfected as soon as possible. Air purifiers have been added to every classroom.

Work with CCHD regarding vaccination – The Port Byron Central School District will continue to partner with the Cayuga County Health Department to communicate about upcoming opportunities for our community members aged 5 and older.

Follow NYS Guidance for Isolation/Quarantine – The most recent guidance for isolation and quarantine can be found on the NYS Department of Health Website.

Visitors/Large-scale indoor events – All visitors must report to the Lehn Office, complete digital health screening, and follow all reopening protocols. All large scale (multiple grade-level events) indoor events will be postponed until further notice.

Community Fitness Center - The community fitness center will continue to be open to **fully vaccinated** fitness center members. Fitness center hours are posted on the school website and in the fitness center.