



## **Port Byron CSD Reopening Plan 2021-2022**

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:

- Promoting vaccination
- Consistent and correct use of masks
- 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

**Promoting vaccination** – The Port Byron Central School District will continue to partner with the Cayuga County Health Department to offer vaccination clinics for our community members aged 12 and older.

**Consistent and correct use of masks** – Universal indoor masking is required for all teachers, staff members, students, and visitors to our schools, regardless of vaccination status. Students

will be provided mask breaks throughout the day. Masks must be worn on buses at all times. The school district will provide masks to students, staff members, and visitors when they forget their mask or need a replacement.

**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 experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should be tested for COVID-19 and should stay home. Students and staff members who come to school with visible symptoms will be sent home for testing, and until symptoms subside.

**Contact tracing** – The Cayuga County Health Department will continue to complete contact tracing when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. Students and staff members considered to have close contact with the infected individual, will be placed in quarantine by the Cayuga County Health Department. **(EXCEPTION: In the UPK-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor setting)** In addition, fully vaccinated individuals will not need to quarantine after close contact, unless they have symptoms.

**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.

**Athletics and extracurricular activities** – Fall sports (beginning 8/23) and extracurricular activities will begin as planned. Coaches, advisors, and participating students must follow all school reopening protocols. All athletic practices must be outdoors. Locker room usage is limited to 15 minutes or less.

**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.