

# SOLVAY SCHOOLS

Solvay Union Free School District  
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Dear Solvay Community,

We would like to share more information with you with regards to welcoming students back for more in-person learning on April 12th as follows:

- **PreK-4** students will attend in-person school **5 days per week**; and
- **Grades 5-12** students will attend in-person school on **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday** with Wednesdays being a fully remote learning day.

The current hybrid schedule for in-person learning will continue until April 12. The full distance learning option will remain for those that choose it for the remainder of the school year.

The information included herein is intended to be an addendum to [Solvay UFSD's COVID-19 reopening plan](#). This addendum reflects the inclusion of [updated COVID-19 school guidance released](#) by the Onondaga County Health Department (OCHD) in March. All aspects of the district's 2020-2021 COVID-19 Reopening stays in place with the exception of the items identified below.

## Physical Distancing

The OCHD's updated COVID-19 guidance for schools reduced the required physical distance in classrooms from 6 feet to 3 feet. Classroom desks and other communal learning spaces in all three buildings will be configured to maintain a minimum physical distancing of 3 feet. Students and staff must wear face coverings at all times, except for short organized mask breaks. Six feet distancing will be required for mask breaks.

In cafeterias or other locations in which students are eating and not wearing a mask, 6 feet of physical distancing will be maintained whenever possible. In spaces where 6 feet physical distancing can not be maintained, and masks are not worn, plastic barriers will be used. All desks and surfaces in cafeterias or other shared spaces will be disinfected between uses.

Physical distancing of at least 6 feet will be maintained whenever possible during activities that have increased respiration, such as physical education, singing, and playing an instrument. Additional, mitigating factors such as, masks, instrument covers, and/or moving activities outside when possible will also be instituted.

## COVID-19 Health Screening

We would like to thank the community for your diligence in monitoring the [COVID-19 symptoms](#) of children and adults in your household. Continuing this vigilance and keeping children home when they have symptoms is vital to minimizing the potential risk of COVID-19 in our schools. The increase in in-person learning days results in more students attending school each day. Thus, it is even more critical that adults monitor children for COVID-19 symptoms and keep any child with symptoms home rather than sending him/her to school. Additionally, **it is expected that parents/guardians will continue to complete the COVID-19 symptom screening each day via ParentSquare**. If you have not used the COVID-19 symptom screener via ParentSquare please reach out to your child's building for more information.

KAREN HENRY, District Clerk  
JOSEPH BARNELLO, Assistant Clerk

KRISTIN SUNSER-KING, President  
KEVIN DWYER, Vice President

LENA ROSE ORLANDO, Member  
STEPHEN P. ZALEWSKI, Member

Students whose COVID-19 symptom screener has not been entered by a parent/guardian via ParentSquare will be screened at the door prior to entering the school buildings. Depending on the number of students that arrive without proof of prior COVID-19 symptom screening, students may end up being late for the start of their first class. Please continue to make every effort to screen each child for COVID-19 symptoms and enter that screening into ParentSquare each day.

If your child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms and is being kept home please contact your child's school nurse to report the symptoms. If you have any questions regarding if your child may come to school or not in relation to COVID-19 symptoms or potential COVID-19 exposure please consult the [New York State Department of Health's Pre-K to Gr 12 COVID-19 Toolkit](#) or reach out to the building nurse.

### **Transportation**

While the physical distancing requirements in schools were altered by OCHD the prior requirements for bussing have stayed the same. The transportation department has been working diligently to reconfigure bus routes to facilitate the achievement of the guidance while also transporting more students each day. If your child will be taking the bus to and from school you should have already received an updated transportation schedule or you would receive one in the next few days.

At this time because of the strict and limiting COVID-19 safety requirements for school bussing the addition of students to bus routes is extremely difficult. Considering the one student per seat requirement for bus rides greater than 15 minutes the capacity of a bus is significantly limited. Thus, adding any additional students to the transportation schedule at this time will be difficult and would likely require reconstructing bus routes. If you have not yet indicated that your child needs transportation to and from school please be prepared to transport him/her.

### **Food Delivery Service**

For fully remote students that have selected to participate in our free weekly food delivery program, this will continue on Wednesdays. However, the delivery time may shift slightly, please watch for more information to be delivered this week with your regular food delivery.

Students attending in-person learning will be doing so either 4 or 5 days a week and will be receiving breakfast and lunch on those days in school. Thus, the food delivery is only available to fully remote students. If you have building specific questions please reach out to the building principal for more information.

Solvay Elementary School - Ms. Miczan, principal ([cmiczan@solvayschools.org](mailto:cmiczan@solvayschools.org) or 488-5422)

Solvay Middle School - Mr. Graves, principal ([cgraves@solvayschools.org](mailto:cgraves@solvayschools.org) or 487-7061)

Solvay High School - Ms. Hagemann ([dhagemann@solvayschools.org](mailto:dhagemann@solvayschools.org) or 468-2551)

If you have general questions please call the District's COVID-19 hotline (315-468-7058) or email [covid19@solvayschools.org](mailto:covid19@solvayschools.org), or contact the main office of any of our buildings.

Sincerely,



Jay Tinklepaugh  
Superintendent of Schools

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