



# SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent of Schools

Huntington PK8 School

Joanne M. Harlow, Principal

September 27, 2020

Dear Huntington Families,

**Beginning Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** students will either return in person two days a week, or choose to continue to learn remotely, at home. Students who are choosing to return to **in-person learning** have been assigned Monday/Tuesday **or** Thursday/Friday (some students have been assigned 4 days/week), and will engage in virtual learning on Wednesdays. Also, teachers will be assigning work for students to complete online. For students who are choosing to continue **all remote learning**, their teachers will continue to schedule live instruction, as well as assign tasks and video lessons (including WCNY lessons), Monday through Friday. Please remember that this 'hybrid' model and 'full remote' model is in place until mid-January; if you requested full remote learning for your child, in-person learning will not be an option until then, unless (hopefully!) we all return to in-person learning. On the other hand, please know that if the COVID-19 infection rate continues to increase, and case numbers rise, families **may** choose to move from in-person to full remote learning at any time. (Please see the attached chart to follow in the event of a confirmed positive COVID case.)

Families who have requested laptops have been contacted, and currently we have disseminated almost 800 laptops to our students! We still have supplies and instructional materials to disseminate to families, including paper packets, and more information about pick-up of those materials will be shared soon. In addition, families should be receiving communication from the District regarding your child's schedule as well as transportation.

Please note that when school re-opens for **in-person learning**, our school start and end times will have changed. Our **elementary hours are 8:00-2:00**, and our **middle school hours are 8:40-1:00**. Please note that all adults will be asked to drop students off outside of the front doors, including PK. All students will enter through the front doors. For the safety of all children and adults the following procedures are in place:

- Parents/Guardians will be asked to drop off their children outside. Staff will greet your child and escort them to the 'temperature station'.
- All students will have their temperatures taken before/as they enter the building. If a student has a temperature above 100 degrees, they will be asked to wait 15 minutes and have their temperature taken again. If the temperature remains above 100 degrees, they will be escorted to our "Waiting Room", where he/she will be checked by our Nurse Tammy Lowe, and where they will wait until a parent comes to pick the child up. At that time, the parent will be advised as to the next steps (i.e. call their doctor, get tested, stay home, etc.)
- All students (bussers, walkers, and parent pick-ups) will be escorted out of the building by staff at dismissal. Important, PK and Kindergarten students will be dismissed/escorted outside of the Pool door, same as last year. All other students will be dismissed through the front doors.
- All visitors will be required to attest that they have taken their temperature and do not have a fever (above 100).
- All visitors and staff are expected to wear face masks on school grounds at all times.
- All students will be required to wear masks throughout the day, but will have mask breaks, during lunch, and if needed and if safe, during recess.

- All families must practice social distancing from other families while on the sidewalk.
- If a child needs to be pickup early from school, please call the school ahead of time. We will try to have your child waiting near the main office. Parents must sign their child out.

### **Food Service (In-Person)**

We will continue to be a feeding site for all families, offering food every day from 10:00-1:00 p.m. On October 5<sup>th</sup>, we are moving our feeding area to the east side of the building, known as the “pool door”. Our elementary students who are in-person will eat breakfast and lunch in the classroom, and our middle school students will eat breakfast in the classroom as well. Lunch for middle school students will be “grab-and-go” as they are dismissed at 1:00 p.m. Students will be expected to wash their hands before and after they consume food, after using the restroom, etc. Students MAY bring in their own lunch or snack (in a paper or plastic disposable bag).

### **Learning Environment/Safety Protocols (In-Person)**

In the classrooms we have arranged students’ desks so they are 6 feet apart, and the average number of students in any classroom is 12. Each desk has a plastic shield. We have individual bins for students’ materials and supplies, and everything that a student touches will be kept in their individual bin. Students may be bringing work home, but will **not** be bringing anything into school. All work done at home should be done on the computer.

Backpacks are not permitted in the building, as we will not be assigning lockers, and students will not be bringing their laptop back and forth. Laptops are to be kept safe at home for when students are at home learning.

During the school day there is limited movement in the hallways. Elementary and middle school students will remain in their homerooms throughout the day, adhering to a daily instructional schedule. Each day all students (whether they are in-person or fully remote and learning at home) receive instruction in all content areas. Teachers are still required to take attendance every single day.

Homeroom teachers will rotate to classrooms during the day. Elementary specials teachers (music, physical education), ENL, and special education teachers will also push into classrooms. Students who need additional academic support will be pulled out by our Interventionists for small group (no more than 2 or 3 students) instruction. All middle school specials (and elementary art) will remain virtual.

We appreciate your patience as we adjust our learning environment to meet such strict safety protocols, and we look forward to working with you and your child(ren). Since things have been changing so rapidly during the past few weeks, please watch and listen for any updates between now and Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, especially as the situation regarding COVID-19 continues to evolve. In the meantime, please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Joanne Harlow  
Principal

Dan Evans  
Vice Principal

Leanna Kirch  
Vice Principal

Dr. Jerome Watts  
Vice Principal

