



Frequently Asked Questions v.1

Last updated 8-5-2020

Please note: These are answers to many of the questions we have received from parents since the release of our draft reopening plan. It is not an exhaustive list of possible questions. We will continue to update this document regularly as more questions are sent and additional details are available.

School Schedule:

- 1- My child is entering 6th grade. I have heard that 6th grade students are coming into school every day, but will be on a hybrid schedule. Can I keep my child home on the remote days? **Yes. We are providing supervision for 6th grade students on their remote day, but parents can submit a form to agree to have them stay home on their remote day.**
- 2- If my 6th grade child attends school on remote days (in order to be supervised), what will my child be doing? **On the remote day, 6th graders will be supervised in the auditorium. There will be a schedule developed for those students so that they are not just sitting in their seat for the entire day. During much of the time they will be utilizing a district device to complete asynchronous assignments provided by their classroom teacher. The school will also provide mask breaks, bathroom breaks, trips outside to eat lunch, as well as social-emotional activities.**

- 3- I am concerned about my child's education due to the every other day "hybrid" model. Will my child receive the same education as in the past? Every attempt will be made to provide students with the same high quality education that parents have come to expect from the Levittown School District. Administrators and teachers have worked throughout the summer to make curricular changes so that teachers can successfully utilize a flipped classroom model on these hybrid days. Priority standards have been identified in subject areas so that teachers can revisit key concepts from last spring, and also focus instruction on the most critical skills and concepts for this year.
- 4- Why doesn't the district provide for synchronous instruction on hybrid days? Our current plan is to start the year with asynchronous assignments/lessons on the hybrid day that will either extend the previous in-person lesson or prepare students for the next in-person lesson. This will be evaluated on a two week basis. As time progressing, this model may change.
- 5- What will PE classes look like? Physical Education classes will take place outside as often as possible. When outside, students can take off their masks and participate in aerobic, low contact activities. During inclement weather when students are inside the gymnasium, students will participate in low impact, non-aerobic activities.
- 6- Will there be an open forum to ask questions? Yes. Each building principal will arrange a virtual forum to address questions prior to the start of the school year.
- 7- Will elementary students still have recess? Yes. Building principals are currently working on the protocols for recess that will allow classes to be outside, but not interacting with other classes.
- 8- Will students be able to use their lockers? No. Locker use is an area where students congregate closer than 6th.
- 9- Will students be receiving Chromebooks? The district has ordered Chromebooks for all students in grades K-8. We are still awaiting this shipment. Once they are received we will distribute them

to students. At that time families will be asked to return any devices they have borrowed from the district since the Spring.

10- Some districts are using desk shields. Will we be using them? We will be using desk shields in the elementary classes as another protective barrier. Although we will not be using them at the secondary level, students are permitted to wear face shields in addition to their masks if they so desire.

11- If the desks are all six feet apart why do we need desk shields and masks? The safety of our students and staff is our utmost concern at this time. We will continue to monitor and review our reopening protocols every two weeks and make adjustments as appropriate.

12- How will arrival work at the schools? The district has purchased walk-through temperature scanners (as well as hand held scanners as a back up) that should be able to keep the flow of students moving. At this time we do not believe we will need to change our arrival procedures, however, we will be monitoring the arrival process daily and will make adjustments as necessary.

13- How will temperature screenings effect drop off time for parents that need to drop off at multiple schools? We have purchased walk-through scanners for the schools which should increase our capacity to scan student temperatures. For the first two weeks of school, school hours and class periods will remain as they traditionally have been. During that time period we will evaluate if changes need to be made.

14- What will the dismissal procedure be at the larger elementary schools? Each building is finalizing their arrival and dismissal procedures to ensure that appropriate safety protocols are used. The principal of each building will communicate these procedures prior to the start of school.

15- Will there be staggered drop-off and pick-up times to accommodate all the students being driven to school and also to avoid crowding? We are working on that. This is one of the reasons

we are asking families about the remote option – to know how many students will be present at school. We have purchased walk-through scanners for the schools which should increase our capacity to scan student temperatures, leading to less crowding. For the first two weeks of school, school hours and class periods will remain as they traditionally have been (or close to that). During that time period we will evaluate if changes need to be made.

16- Are LAP (Levittown Afterschool Program) and LAMP (Levittown AM Program) still running? **Yes.**

The registration process is open online. Additional protocols are in place to maintain social distancing, prevent sharing of items, and keep students in smaller groups. Areas will be cleaned after the LAMP program ends, and before the LAP program begins.

17- If you currently won't need LAP/LAMP, but a few months later you do, can you sign up? **Yes,** that has always been the case.

18- Will the Levittown Dance and Gymnastics Program run this year? **At this time, the Dance and Gymnastics program is on hold. The program will not begin this fall as usual. We will continue to evaluate the viability of starting the program later this year.**

19- Will Drivers Education resume? **This is a decision we are waiting from the Department of Motor Vehicles and State Ed. Once we get clearance, we will resume our program.**

20- Will Adult Education resume? **No. We will evaluate the viability of running this program later in the year.**

21- Will there be winter concerts? **We are not planning on any large scale events at the moment.**

22- Will there be ensemble music? **This is still being developed. Music classes (both at the elementary and secondary level) are still scheduled to occur, just in a modified fashion.**

- 23- Will there still be Back to School Night? **Back to School Nights will be virtual. More information will be forthcoming on these events.**
- 24- How will parent-teacher conferences occur? **These will occur virtually. More information on this will be forthcoming.**
- 25- How will students attending BOCES be affected? Will they have remote options? **We have not received the information about BOCES schools yet. Once we receive it we will share it out with our parents.**
- 26- Is it possible to formulate a plan for all sixth grade students to remain in their classrooms while the teachers travel from one classroom to the next if they teach on teams or according to discipline? **Each middle school has a sixth grade hallway.**
- 27- How will specials be handled at the elementary level? **Specials are a push in to the students' classes and will be delivered on a cart. The carts will be disinfected prior to the next classes' use. As much as possible, classes will have their own supplies which will remain in the classroom. Physical Education class is the only exception at this time, as our expectation is that these classes will take place outside as often as possible. During inclement weather Physical Education will take place in the gymnasium.**
- 28- Will the students in elementary schools have recess, if so what would it be? **They will go outside and will be socially distanced. One class in an area at a time.**
- 29- Can twins be in the same class? **This is a building level decision that should be discussed with the building principal.**
- 30- Parents are considering carpooling. Can arrangements be made that those students to have the same schedule? **Unfortunately we are not able to accommodate this. We have been able to**

ensure that students from 6-12 are in cohorts by last name so that as often as possible children in the same households attend school on the same days.

31- For blended households that have last names in different parts of the alphabet is it possible to have them have the same schedule? **This is under consideration, but depends upon the availability of space.**

32- My understanding is that my 6th grader will be going in every day and will mostly spend his time in the auditorium. **This is not accurate. The students will spend every other day in the Auditorium under supervision. Parents will have the option to keep their 6th grade student home on the remote day.**

33- On the days my 6th grader will be in the auditorium, can I have him work remotely from home on those day? **Yes, the district is providing supervision for 6th grade students on their remote day, but a family can decide to keep them home instead on those days.**

34- What is the estimated amount of students in the Auditorium on 6th grade non-live instruction days? **There are approximately 300 students in 6th grade at each school. Since they are divided roughly evenly, this would potentially lead to 150 students in the auditorium. We do expect some students to enroll in the full remote option which should lessen this number. Parents also have the option to keep their child home on the remote day, which may also lessen this number.**

35- What is the estimated amount of students in each 6th grade cohort? **See previous question.**

36- What does the auditorium look like? Is it a theatre set-up? **Yes.**

37- Is there AC in the auditoriums? **Yes.**

- 38- Will the 6th grade student be kept in small classes as they learn throughout the day or will they be in larger group settings such as auditorium or APR rooms? **On their in-person instruction day, 6th grade students will be in their regular classroom, 6 feet apart. Students on their remote day will be in the auditorium unless a parent chooses to keep them home.**
- 39- At the elementary level, will it be detrimental to the students to only see masked faces? **There will be times during the day (mask breaks, lunch, recess, PE) where students will see unmasked faces.**
- 40- What programs specifically are being used to provide remedial services in reading and math for children who have fallen behind? **The district will utilize both in-class supports and pull-out supports for our students. The district utilizes dozens of support programs and will continue to do so to ensure our students receive interventions that are successful. Some of these programs include iReady, LLI, Wilson, Read 180, System 44.**
- 41- Will desks have plexiglass type privacy shields? **At the elementary level yes (one approved for use in schools).**
- 42- How is East Broadway going to function with 900+ students in the building at one time? **Each building is finalizing their arrival and dismissal procedures to ensure that appropriate safety protocols are used. The principal of each building will communicate these procedures prior to the start of school.**

The Full Remote Option:

- 1- I am unsure if I should sign up for the full remote option but I know there is a deadline. Can the deadline be extended? **The deadline may be extended by a few days, but please understand that we need to know who is requesting the full remote option in order to appropriately staff. This**

not only impacts students choosing the remote option, but also the student who opt for in-person instruction.

- 2- I am not sure I want to commit to the full remote option for the entire ½ year. Can I change my mind later? Once we staff for students on full remote instruction, it will be very difficult to change on a regular basis. Some teachers who would normally teach in the building will have to be assigned to these classes, which will lead to the closure of some sections that are occurring in the building. Once those changes are made, student on full remote instruction may not be able to transfer back to in-person schooling until the middle of the year.

- 3- What does the full remote option look like? The full remote option will mirror the different plans at the elementary and secondary level.
 - a. For students in the elementary level, they will receive live, synchronous instruction from a certified teacher. This will vary between whole group and small group instruction. It will also include instruction from special areas. A similar curriculum will be followed. The schedule will be similar to the school day schedule, but during small group instructional time, students will alternate between synchronous instruction and independent activities. Here is a sample schedule:
 - i. Period 1 – Whole Group Instruction Reading/Math
 - ii. Period 2- Small Group Instruction for Group A (Students in groups B,C,D work on independent activities)
 - iii. Period 3- Small Group Instruction for Group B (Students in groups A,C,D work on independent activities)
 - iv. Period 4- Specials (Rotates between PE, Art, Music, Literacy)
 - v. Period 5- Small Group Instruction for Group C (Students in groups A,B,D work on independent activities)
 - vi. Period 6- Lunch
 - vii. Period 7- Small Group Instruction for Group D (Students in groups A,B,C work on independent activities)
 - viii. Period 8- Whole Group Instruction- SS/Science

b. For students at the secondary level, it will mirror the hybrid situation in the schools. Depending on the cohort the student is in (based on last name), students will receive live, remote instruction on one day, and then asynchronous activities the next day that either extend the previous lesson or prepare for the next lesson. This would also keep the student on the full remote option at the same place as students in the building. A sample schedule would look like this:

i. DAY A	DAY B
ii. Period 1- Live Class	Period 1- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
iii. Period 2- Live Class	Period 2- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
iv. Period 3- Live Class	Period 3- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
v. Period 4- Live Class	Period 4- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
vi. Period 5- Live Class	Period 5- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
vii. Period 6- Lunch	
viii. Period 7- Live Class	Period 7- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
ix. Period 8- Live Class	Period 8- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson
x. Period 9- Live Class	Period 9- Asynchronous assignment/Lesson

4- Will all the same classes offered in school be offered in the remote option? **Not necessarily. We will attempt to provide as many classes as we can offer in the remote option, however this is completely dependent on our ability to staff these classes with certified teachers.**

5- If I choose the remote option for my child, will it affect his/her class rank or class average?
Generally no. Classes taken in the remote option will use the same grading scale that is used for in-person classes. They will also be weighted the same. However, if not all classes are available in the remote option, it is possible that it could have a slight impact on class ranking.

6- How long will each remote class be? **The period lengths in the remote option will be similar in length to the in-person classes.**

- 7- How many student per remote class? This is still being determined, but should not be higher than the board of education guidelines: For grades K-2, 24 for grades 3-5, 26. Classes in the secondary level can be up to 35.
- 8- How will students be assessed for remote classes? Assessments utilized by teachers in the remote environment will be similar to assessments used for in-person classes, they will just be done remotely.
- 9- When will students know their teacher? The release of schedules is delayed until the district adjusts staffing based on offering the remote option. Schedules will be released prior to the start of school.
- 10- Will extra help be offered through remote learning? Yes.
- 11- Will remote classes have students from other schools in district? Yes.
- 12- Would a 7th grade middle school remote student (honors class) receive the same lesson plan as the in-person class? Students on remote leaning in the Middle Schools will receive synchronous learning on par with their classmates who will be in school.
- 13- Will remote learning take into consideration students who are in accelerated classes? We are endeavoring to provide the same classes to students who choose the remote option as we provide to students who choose in-person instruction. Some classes may not be available in the remote option.
- 14- Will remote learning give students access to participation in band? Or other specials? Students enrolled in the remote option will have access to special, including music. At this time we are still determining if students would have access to ensemble music as the guidance prohibits less than 12' apart for band and chorus.

- 15- If you chose in person learning, but a week or so into it the child doesn't feel safe, can you switch to remote learning? **This is still under discussion.**
- 16- Are the certified teachers for remote learning Levittown teachers? **Our goal is to have Levittown teachers provide the remote instruction, but depending on how many students enroll in the remote option, we may need to utilize additional teachers. All teachers will be NYS certified.**
- 17- Will the students have the same teachers throughout the entire remote learning? **That is our intention.**
- 18- Will the remote teaching and in person teaching be done simultaneously? **This is our intention, but we are still working on the logistics.**

Health Protocols:

- 1- Will temperatures be checked upon arrival? **Yes.**
- 2- Will my child be required to wear a mask all day long? **Students and staff who are medically able to wear a mask will be required to wear during the day. Mask breaks will be scheduled during the day at all levels.**
- 3- What do mask breaks look like? **A schedule for mask breaks will be forthcoming, but will happen throughout the day.**
- 4- How long will mask breaks be and will they take place in classroom? **Students will go outside and will be able to take their masks off. Additionally, because of the desk barriers at the elementary level, we will be able to have the kids take them off every hour or so.**

- 5- How will handwashing breaks be handled? Protocol is being developed. As of now upon arrival and dismissal, prior to and after lunch, prior to and after recess.
- 6- Will all desks be six feet apart with dividers? All desks will be 6 feet apart with desk barriers at the elementary level. Desks in the secondary level will be six feet apart.
- 7- Will classes have air purifiers? CDC Guidelines advises that opening the windows is far more effective and we will do that.
- 8- Can students bring extra masks and hand sanitizers with them to school? Yes
- 9- Are students with allergies/health conditions being excused from wearing masks? If so how will it affect others? Parents will need to provide medical documentation that their child is not medically able to wear a mask. We have implemented additional protocols such as 6 feet of social distance and desk shields at the elementary level in order to address this situation.
- 10- Will temperature be taken at the entrance of school for all students/teachers? Yes.
- 11- Will teachers be accountable for students' wearing their masks? This is a building-wide responsibility that all staff members will be actively engaged in.
- 12- What are the plans for school bathrooms? One child in the bathroom at a time. They will be sanitized periodically throughout the day.
- 13- How is the district going to handle the air flow and circulation in the buildings? Each classroom space has a univent, which brings in outside air. Windows will also be opened to allow for fresh air. All building air vents have been inspected over the summer to ensure they are in working order.

- 14- Does Levittown has a plan for COVID testing in the schools? **No. COVID19 testing was not referenced in the guidance document.**
- 15- Will desks have plexiglass type privacy shields? **At the elementary level yes (specific shields approved for use in schools).**
- 16- Can a face shield be worn without a mask? **CDC guidance requires a mask with a face shield.**
- 17- Eating lunch in classrooms, how will allergies be handled now that everyone is eating in their rooms? Will they be allowed to purchase snacks? **Rooms that are allergy sensitive rooms will remain that way. There will not be sharing of foods between students, and students will be separated by 6 feet and desk shields during lunch.**
- 18- Fire drills, lockdown, evacuation drills, how will these be handled? **We will be following the reopening guidance document in regards to allowable modifications to these drills. Please see pages 45-46 of the guidance document for more information on these modifications.**

Special Education:

- 1- My child has an IEP and is mainstreamed for specials in the elementary level. Will that still happen? **To the greatest extent possible.**
- 2- If I choose the remote option for my child, will my child still receive all of his/her special education services? **Yes. These services will be delivered remotely to the same degree that they would be provided in the school.**
- 3- For 6th grade students with an IEP will there be special education teachers available in the auditorium to keep students on task? **This is still being addressed.**

Extracurricular Activities and Sports:

- 1- Will there be extracurricular activities? We are discussing the possibility of running extracurricular activities as long as they can still occur using the health protocols the district is required to use.
- 2- What happens if a school is shut down? If a school is shut down due to COVID19, the next school day (if still shut) teachers and students will log in to Google Classroom for synchronous instruction using the school schedule.
- 3- Will we still have a fall sports season? Interscholastic sports are governed by Section VIII of the New York State Public High Schools Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA). The start of the fall season has been delayed until at least September 21. Regional and State Championships have been canceled.

Attendance:

- 1- Will there be less restrictions on the attendance policy this year? While we do anticipate that students may be out of school more often this school year, at this time we have not made adjustments to our attendance policy. As always, we have an attendance appeal process at the secondary level can that be used to address attendance policy issues.
- 2- Will attendance be taken on remote days in the Hybrid model at the secondary level? Will it count towards the attendance policy? Yes