



Hamburg Central School District

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

Administration Building

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August 7, 2020

Dear Hamburg Central School District Staff and Families,

I hope everyone remains safe and well. The purpose of this letter is to acknowledge the announcement today made by Governor Andrew Cuomo that school districts in Western New York can allow in-person instruction. Consistent with his announcement, and according to the HCSD Reopening Guide, the Hamburg Central School District will open with a Hybrid Instructional Model. We are thrilled to welcome students back on first day of school, which will be Thursday, September 10.

Principals in each school are in the process of working out the details of establishing the cohorts. Every effort will be made to assure that all children in a household will be assigned to the same cohort, even if the children attend different district schools.

Please note the following important information:

Vulnerable Populations: Families who feel that a student, *or a member of the student's household*, is “vulnerable” according to the HCSD Reopening Guide and that their school program should be fully off-campus, must use this [form](#) to begin the process of enrolling in our off-campus instructional program, which is different than Homebound Instruction or being home taught according to an IHIP.

Safety: You can count on our commitment to painstakingly follow every health and safety related requirement to the letter, so that our families can send their child(ren) to school with confidence in our ability to minimize to the greatest extent possible the risk of COVID exposure to their child(ren) and to staff. Among them are:

- Density reduction on buses and in buildings
- Mask wearing
- Physical distancing
- Hand hygiene
- Health checks
- Remaining home when sick

In addition to these measures, which are a collective responsibility, there are efforts associated with ensuring that our buildings are clean and sanitized that are very clearly the responsibility of the school district. Included among them are:

- Hiring additional cleaning staff
- Following enhanced cleaning protocols
- Completing cleaning logs for classrooms and high touch areas
- Providing hand sanitizer and wipes for individual use

Families who aren't comfortable sending their child to school: Despite our efforts to help families feel confident that sending their student(s) to school is safe, we are aware that there may be families who just don't feel comfortable doing so. Families who prefer that their child's school experience at this time be fully off-campus can also enroll their child(ren) in our off-campus instructional program by completing this [form](#).

The Governor has requested that districts conduct three parent forums and one forum for employees, and also that we separately post our detailed remote learning plan and our testing and tracing plan. Information about all of these will be available by the end of next week.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Cornell
Superintendent of Schools