



105 Maplevue Road, Cheektowaga, NY 14225-1599  
 Phone: 716 836-7200 • Fax: 716 836-0675  
 ES Fax: 716 836-3700 MS Fax: 716 836-7741 • HS Fax: 716 836-5700

April 15, 2021

Dear Cleveland Hill Community;

I would like to begin by thanking you for the continued feedback that you have been providing over the past year on the District’s Learning Model through our various surveys. On our most recent March 22<sup>nd</sup> survey, approximately 2 out of 3 families indicated a preference for 5-days a week of in-person learning with a remote only option available for the remainder of this school year. Further, approximately 80 % of our students have elected to return to full in-person 5-days a week instruction, and we are excited to see them back!

With the recently updated guidance from the New York State Department of Health, the District is moving forward with re-opening our Elementary and Middle Schools to 5-days a week of in-person instruction with a remote only option. To better support a smooth transition, we are reopening with a **two-phase approach** (see below). Unfortunately, due the level of positivity rates within Erie County and the fact that High School students cannot be cohort based, the High School will remain in their current hybrid and remote Learning models, until the rates change.

**Two Phase Return to In-Person Instruction**

Grade Levels	Date of Return to Full Five-Day Instruction
Universal Pre - K	Monday, April 26 <sup>th</sup> – Phase 1
K, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> K-8 Self Contained	Monday, April 26 <sup>th</sup> – Phase 1
3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup>	Monday, May 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Phase 2
9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup>	A return to full in-person instruction will be considered when community rates of transmission allow.

With our goal to begin reopening on Monday, April 26th, next week’s Virtual Wednesday, April 21st will be a full asynchronous day for our elementary and middle school students. There will be no live instruction on this day. This will allow our teachers and support staff to adequately prepare for our students' return. This will also be the case on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> for middle school students (Grades 7 and 8) who will be transitioning back in Phase 2 on Monday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Our top priority has been and will continue to be the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty, staff and school community. Understanding that no meaningful teaching and learning occurs until everyone is comfortable with being back, we will also be prioritizing and supporting the social and emotional aspects of this transition for our students, faculty and staff.

Our initial COVID-19 Reopening Plan posted in July 2020 is still in effect with a few modifications. Those modifications are listed below:

**Health and Safety Practices**

- Face masks are required at all times, except for meals.
- Mask breaks will still be permitted when 6-foot of social distancing can be maintained.
- Reduction in Distancing
  - In Elementary and Middle School classrooms, physical distancing has been reduced from 6 feet to 3 feet.
  - Physical Education - 6-foot Physical distancing will remain in place
  - Music (Band/Chorus) - 6-foot Physical distancing will remain in place
  - Cafeteria - 6-foot Physical distancing will remain in place
- Elementary School Parent Pickup and Drop Off - The Elementary School will be communicating these changes directly with parents.

**Academic Schedules**

- Letter Day Rotation (A - F) -The letter day rotation that is currently in place will continue until the end of the school year. This schedule was sent to all families at the beginning of the year and is also available on the District website.
- Wednesday Schedules
  - **Wednesday, April 28th**
    - All students in Universal Pre-K, Kindergarten, Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 6 will be in FULL attendance.
    - All students in Grade 3, Grade 4 and Grade 5 will be receiving live synchronous instruction.
    - Grade 7 and Grade 8 will be involved in asynchronous learning at home.
    - While operating in the Hybrid Schedule, the High School operated under a modified remote schedule for all remote learners on Wednesdays. Beginning Wednesday, April 28th, while all students grades 9 - 12 are learning remotely, they will begin following the traditional schedule that students follow in-person (see below).

**High School (9th - 12th) Revised Remote Wednesday Schedule**

Block 1	Block 2	Block 3	Block 4	Block 5e	Block 5L	Block 6
8:05 am	9:05 am	10:05 am	11:05 am	12:05 pm	12:40 pm	1:40 pm

- **Wednesday, May 5th – and all following Wednesdays**
  - All Grades in the Elementary School will be in Full Attendance.
  - All grades in the Middle School will be in Full Attendance.
  - All grades in the High School will be operating under the revised Remote Schedule.

## Transportation

Based on recommended guidelines and to assist the district in reducing density on bus runs, we are again encouraging parents to drive their children to and from school. If developmentally appropriate, we also ask that you consider allowing your child to walk to school. Students who do take the bus will be required to wear acceptable masks at all times on school buses (e.g., entering, exiting and seated), and should maintain the maximum social distancing possible. No more than two students will be permitted per seat. When possible, students will be seated with members of the same household.

Meeting the needs of and supporting our students is our primary mission. We have several students and families who have struggled mightily over the past year. We will use these valuable last weeks of school to further identify and begin closing some of the gaps in learning that have resulted.

To present our plan in more detail and answer questions that you may have, we will be conducting a **virtual presentation on Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00.**

Below is a link that you can use to submit questions that will be answered during the presentation.

<http://www.clevehill.org/survey>

Secondly, we will be emailing out a link to the live presentation over the weekend. It will also be placed on our District website.

Thank you again for your ongoing trust and support of the Cleveland Hill UFSD.

Sincerely,

Jon MacSwan  
Superintendent