

Olean City School District
Reopening Schools
April 2021

District Wide Forum

HUSKY

STRONG



District Wide Forum

- Objectives:
 - Review changes in reopening guidance from the NYS Department of Health and CDC.
 - Review local community's risk tolerance for moving to shorter physical distancing.
 - Gather community feedback to guide plans moving forward into next school year.

Questions

- Please send your questions to HuskyStrong@oleanschools.org



NYS DOH Guidance Document

NYS Department of Health: Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency



<https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools MasterGuidance.pdf>

CDC Indicators of Community Transmission

- Provided in the CDC's Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention
- Two Indicators:
 1. Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days.
 2. Percentage of nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs), including RT-PCR tests, that are positive during the past 7 days.
- Thresholds are provided for four transmission levels.



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>

Table 1. CDC Indicators and Thresholds for Community Transmission of COVID-19¹

Indicator	Low Transmission Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the past 7 days ²	0-9	10-49	50-99	≥100
Percentage of NAATs that are positive during the past 7 days ³	<5.0%	5.0%-7.9%	8.0%-9.9%	≥10.0%



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/operation-strategy.html>

Cattaraugus County

April 28, 2021

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>



Level of Community Transmission in Cattaraugus County, New York

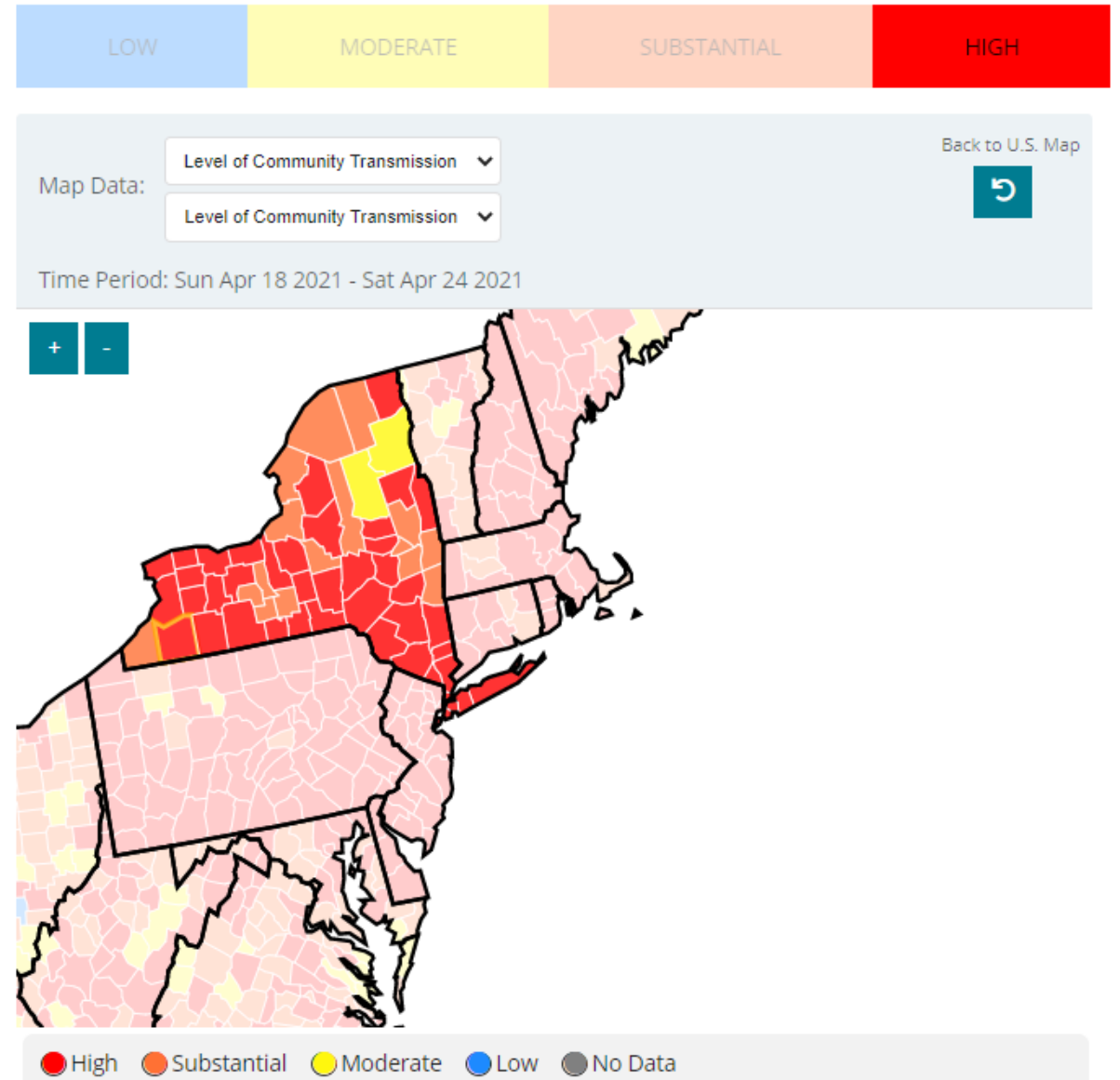


Table 2. Recommended Prevention Strategies for K-12 Schools and Levels of Community Transmission

Prevention Strategies: All Schools

All schools implement 5 key prevention strategies:

- Universal and correct use of masks required
- Physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine

Prevention Strategies by Level of Community Transmission			
Low Transmission ¹ Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Elementary Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet between students in classrooms		Elementary Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet of distance between students in classrooms Cohorting ² recommended when possible	
Middle and High Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet between students in classrooms		Middle and High Schools Physical distancing: at least 3 feet of distance between students in classrooms Cohorting recommended when possible	Middle and High Schools Schools that can use cohorting: at least 3 feet of distance Schools that cannot use cohorting: at least 6 feet distance between students in classrooms ²

Cohorting Definition

NYS Department of Health:

Cohorts

- Responsible Parties are recommended to cohort students to the extent practicable to limit potential exposure. Refer to Section IA for cohorting recommendations if three feet of physical distance is permitted consistent with this guidance. "Cohorts," particularly for younger students, are self-contained, pre-assigned groups of students with reasonable group size limits set forth by the school in their plan. Responsible Parties should enact measures to prevent intermingling across cohorts, to the greatest extent possible (e.g., separation by appropriate physical distancing, particular if there are multiple cohorts in one area). Responsible Parties should make reasonable efforts to ensure that cohorts are fixed – meaning contain the same students – for the duration of the school year. Faculty may instruct more than one cohort so long as appropriate physical distancing is maintained.

CDC Definition:

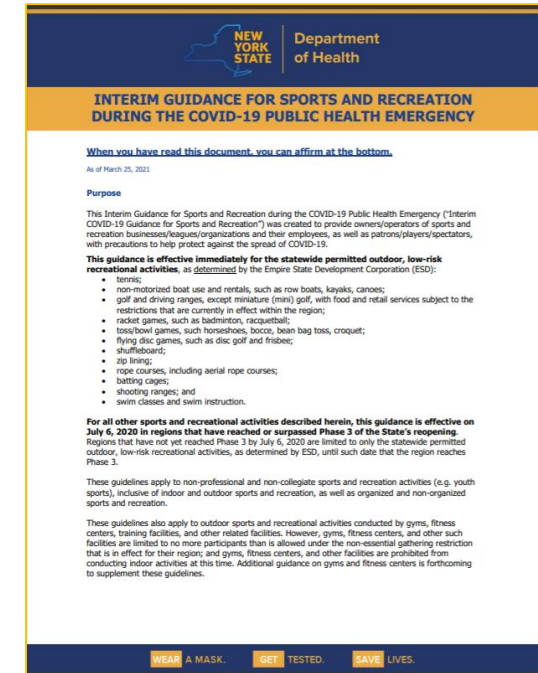
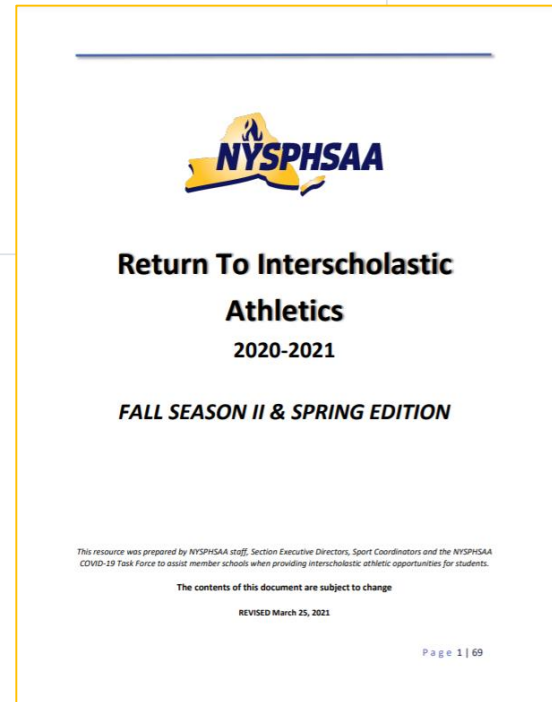
A cohort is a distinct group that stays together throughout the entire school day during in-person learning, or over the course of any pre-determined period of time, so that there is minimal or no interaction between groups.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/transmission_k_12_schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fmore%2Fscience-and-research%2Ftransmission_k_12_schools.html



Prevention Strategies by Level of Community Transmission			
Low Transmission ¹ Blue	Moderate Transmission Yellow	Substantial Transmission Orange	High Transmission Red
Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur with at least 6 feet of physical distance to the greatest extent possible ⁶	Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur with at least 6 feet of physical distance required ⁶	Sports and extracurricular activities Sports and extracurricular activities occur only if they can be held outdoors, with more than 6 feet of physical distancing ⁶	

NYSPHSAA Return to Interscholastic Athletics 2020-2021
March 25, 2021



Interim Guidance for Sports and Recreation During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency
March 25, 2021

Practices and Expectations

- Many protocols remain the same:
 - Stay home if you are sick or symptomatic or have had a known exposure.
 - All students will have temperatures taken prior to entry every day.
 - All staff will complete self-monitoring health screening every day.
 - Visitors may not come into school buildings.
 - Monitoring and contact tracing occurs immediately under the direction of the Cattaraugus County Health Department.
 - All positive cases are reported to the state as part of the NYS COVID-19 report card (see link on website).

Practices and Expectations

- New protocols:
 - Face masks are required at all times except for meals.
 - Physical barriers are no longer recommended by the CDC.
 - Physical distancing for singing and playing a wind instrument has been reduced to 6 feet; there must be six feet of distance between performers and the audience.
 - Asymptomatic fully vaccinated individuals and asymptomatic individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 infection during the prior 3 months do not need to quarantine if exposed to COVID-19.

Reopening Plan: Elementary School (P-5)

We will adhere to the following protocols to the greatest extent possible. Please be aware that there will be times when the educational setting must be altered to accommodate required physical distancing.

- Class sizes: PK-1: up to 18 Gr. 2-3: 14 to 21 Gr. 4-5: 18 to 27
- Students will remain 3 feet apart from one another.
- Adults will remain 6 feet from students and other adults.
- Meals will be in the cafeteria and/or classrooms with students 6 feet apart.
- Masks will be on at all times except for meals for all individuals.
- Bus schedules will change to accommodate a staggered schedule.
- Wednesdays will remain a remote learning day for all students with synchronous instruction scheduled.
- **Currently, we can return all of our elementary students with a minimum of 3 feet between students to four days/week of in-person instruction.**

Reopening Plan: Middle and High School (6-12)

Currently, due to the high level of community transmission in Cattaraugus County, the middle and high school cannot return with less than 6 feet of physical distancing. Students in grades 6-7 will begin attending alternate Wednesdays on May 12th. Students in grades 8-12 will remain in the current hybrid or remote model for the rest of the school year.

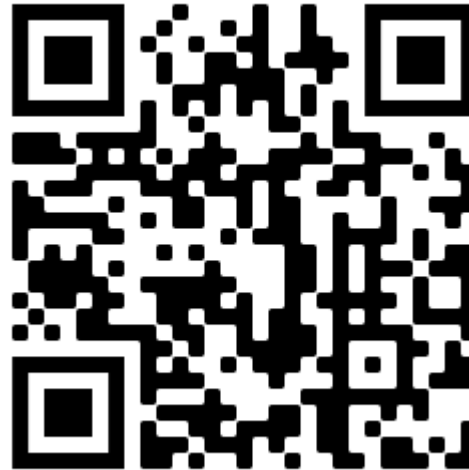
Remainder of the School Year

- East View Elementary, Washington West Elementary, and students in Grades 4-5 at the Olean Intermediate-Middle School will return to four days of in-person instruction beginning Monday, May 10, 2021. Fully remote students will continue their virtual instruction for the remainder of the school year.
- Olean High School and students in Grades 6-7 at the Olean Intermediate-Middle School will remain in their current learning model for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. Students in the Red and Gold cohorts in Grades 6-12 will alternate in-person learning on Wednesdays. Fully remote students will continue with virtual instruction.

Discussion & Questions

Questions

- Please send your questions to HuskyStrong@oleanschools.org





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