Continuity of Learning Update

The Holland Patent Central School District reopening plan includes a continuity of learning plan for the 2020-2021 school year. The reopening plan prepares the district for in-person, remote, and hybrid models of instruction.

- In-person learning is an approach where all students physically return to school in September following health and safety guidelines provided by New York State Education Department and Department of Health. This platform will be utilized when there has been successful virus containment or low-levels of COVID-19 transmission.

- Remote learning is an approach where students do not physically attend school but learn through synchronous and asynchronous instruction using a remote platform providing an opportunity for students and teachers to remain connected and engaged with instruction while learning from their homes. This platform will be utilized when there are high levels of virus spread and widespread transmission of COVID-19.

- Hybrid learning is an approach where students engage in a combination of in-person and remote learning utilizing a cohort approach. This platform will be utilized when there is moderate virus spread and higher levels of COVID-19 transmission.

Regardless of the mode of instruction, the Holland Patent Central School District assures that the educational program offered is aligned to the New York State Learning Standards in every subject area. Instruction will be driven by the current prioritized curriculum maps, pacing charts and calendars, as well as curricular units and materials. There will be direct, live interaction between teachers and students daily whether in-person or utilizing technology platforms such as Google Classroom, Zoom, BUZZ, Seesaw to monitor student work, optimize social interaction, conduct small groups, check for understanding, monitor completion of assigned tasks and listen to feedback from the students about their learning. In addition, teachers will provide daily office hours to students to further monitor student progress and ensure students are learning the current material.

When a student is not attending live session and/or completing assignments, the teacher will contact the student and/or parent/guardian to discuss the reason for not participating and work with stakeholders to help the student. Teachers will follow the Holland Patent Central School District tiered approach, as well as collaborate with administrators, counselors, and social workers for additional support to solve attendance and chronic absenteeism issues.

The Holland Patent Central School District will ensure that all students have equitable access to instruction whether the delivery is in-person, remote or through the hybrid model. All designated student groups will be following the same daily class schedule and structure. Students who receive support services will continue to receive those services either in-person or remotely. In addition, students will have daily access to individual teachers so they can interact and receive feedback, as well as be given support via designated office hours. Equity is also afforded to every student in the Holland Patent Central School District, as they will each be assigned their own technology device and the district will make internet access available to families who require it. The district will continually monitor all students ability to connect to the internet.

Methods for contacting schools and teachers will be communicated in several ways:

- District website
- District and school newsletters (printed and mailed to each home)
- Teachers’ Google and SeeSaw Classrooms
- School voicemail system which is accessible to teachers and administrators remotely
- School email
- School Messenger
Hybrid Model (In-person and Remote Learning)
The Holland Patent Central School District is operating a hybrid model that will allow all students to receive in-person and remote instruction, allowing students to receive as much in-person, live instruction as possible. All students will receive instruction that is aligned with the New York State Learning Standards in every subject area. Delivering the hybrid model will ensure students receive equitable, high quality standards based instruction which includes daily interaction with teachers in order to meet their academic needs.

The General William Floyd/Holland Patent Elementary Hybrid Model will allow all students to receive in-person and remote instruction while operating on a 5-day schedule minimizing the amount of screen time. The capacity at General William Floyd Elementary/Holland Patent Elementary allows for 50% of the Pre-K – 5 population to attend at one time based on the current safety guidelines of social distancing and face coverings, therefore students will be divided into two groups, Group A and Group B. Students who opt to attend school remotely will be assigned to one of the aforementioned groups in case they change their minds and decide to attend the hybrid model.

The Holland Patent Middle School/Holland Patent High School Hybrid Model will allow all students to receive in-person and remote instruction while operating on a 4-day block schedule consisting of Day 1A, Day 1B, Day 2A and Day 2B. This schedule allows all students to receive instruction in-person for every subject on their schedule including labs, Physical Education, etc. The capacity at the aforementioned schools allows for 33% of the grade 6 - 12 population to attend at one time based on the current safety guidelines of social distancing and face coverings, therefore students will be divided into four groups, Group A, Group B and Group C. Students who opt to attend school remotely will be assigned to one of the aforementioned groups in case they change their minds and decide to attend the hybrid model. These hybrid models allow the District the ability to pivot from hybrid to remote keeping the same schedule without disrupting parent/student schedules.

Technology Access
In support of a hybrid (in-person and remote) model of learning, high-speed internet access and computing devices for each student and staff member’s exclusive use are critical. HPCSD conducted a survey including questions regarding internet and device access for students. The results of the survey facilitate the identification of all cases in which students do not have high-speed internet access and/or exclusive access to a computing device. The District’s 1:1 student device initiative ensures every student has access to a device (Chromebook, iPad) to utilize in school. In support of this initiative, we are able to provide a device for all students in need have access to a device at home. All staff are provided a District-issued Chromebook to support their work in and out of classroom.

Students and staff, who are in need of student high-speed internet access at their place of residence, will continue to provide district-assigned 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspots. These devices are configured to route all traffic through the District’s internet filtering infrastructure, as well as to limit connections to only those devices provided by the school district; connection of personally owned devices is not facilitated.

HPCSD will continue to implement our 1:1 device program for students for the 2020-2021 school year and ensure all students have high-speed internet access with district-assigned 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspots. In support of this initiative, all students are able to participate in learning and demonstrate mastery of Learning Standards in hybrid (in-person and remote) and/or remote learning models. In the event students are not able to be provided district-assigned devices and/or 4G LTE Wi-Fi hotspots due to parent/guardian demand and/or other circumstances beyond the District’s control, participation in learning and demonstration of mastery of Learning Standards will be facilitated through paper learning materials and/or assessments.

All HPCSD students are provided with District issued-devices to ensure equitable access. Devices were issued to those in need in March. Those students who do not have District-issued devices will be provided devices in August.