

2021-22 SCHOOL OPENING PLAN

We believe in-person learning is vital for students' academic success and emotional well-being.

Having carefully evaluated the guidance released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Monroe County Department of Health and the New York State Education Department, we believe all Greece Central School District students can safely return to the classroom five days a week, with some additional safeguards in place.

Our opening plan was developed with four guiding principles in mind:

Safety

We will consider the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control, the Monroe County Department of Health, and the New York State Education Department to minimize risk and ensure a safe learning environment.

Support

We will prioritize access to academic, health, and social and emotional supports for all of our students, including those who have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Collaboration

We believe in the importance of the whole community being actively engaged in our schools and supporting student success. Throughout the year, we will solicit stakeholder feedback. We will be responsive to new data and make adjustments as needed.



Joy

We believe that joy is a powerful antidote to stress and a necessary part of child development. We commit to safely restoring the activities and interactions that make school a joyful place.

The following outlines our plans to keep students safe, academically engaged, emotionally supported, and joyful.


Instruction

Students will receive in-person instruction five days a week.

- Schools will follow a consistent schedule aligned with traditional school hours. 
- Special education programs and services will be delivered in-person and in accordance with each student's Individualized Education Program as recommended by the Committee on Special Education.
- Remote-only instruction was considered by application for students who met specific criteria including a COVID-related medical need. Those who were approved, will attend BOCES virtual school or receive individual tutoring.
- Teachers will receive an instructional handbook before the start of the school year. 


Masking

We will require universal masking indoors and on school buses regardless of vaccination status.


- Hourly mask breaks will be incorporated into school schedules. 
- Students who cannot medically tolerate a mask should complete [this exemption form](#).
- Masking requirements will be reviewed every 10 weeks or when community conditions change substantially.
- When outdoors, masks are strongly recommended, but not required

Physical Distancing, Visitors and Capacity Limits

Per CDC recommendations, we will maintain at least three feet of physical distancing indoors whenever possible.

- When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least three feet, schools will layer multiple prevention strategies including:
 - Frequent handwashing and/or sanitizing
 - Increased ventilation 
 - CDC recommended cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- There are no capacity limits on buses or for indoor gatherings, but everyone is required to wear a mask.
- Schools may allow visitors for specific purposes. When permitted, they will be required to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status. No visitors will be allowed during lunch.

Health Screening and Vaccination

Although not currently required, vaccination is strongly recommended for all those who are eligible. 

- Employees, families and visitors should screen for signs of illness before coming to school or work each day.
- Anyone with [COVID-19 symptoms](#) should stay home and contact their health care provider, regardless of vaccination status. Individuals who develop COVID-19 symptoms at school or work will be sent home. Monroe County requires students

and staff to present proof of a negative COVID test before returning to school or work.


- The Monroe County Department of Health has provided [protocols for addressing COVID-19 instances in the school community](#), including close contacts, symptomatic individuals and quarantine. The district will continue to partner with the county on these decisions.

Social-Emotional Well-Being

We will conduct universal screening to identify students' social-emotional needs and use this information to drive tiered responses based on the data.

- The district has designated time during the school day to support students' social-emotional needs and foster coping and resilience skills and build relationships.
- We listened to feedback from staff and families and added counselors, social workers, behavioral specialists, and interventionists to respond to student needs and support teachers and staff.



Instructional Technology

Students should bring their Chromebooks with them to and from school each day. 

- A district-issued Chromebook will be provided for all students in grades K-12.
- Families with insufficient Internet access should call 966-2911 for assistance.
- Tech support will be available at individual schools rather than one centralized hub.

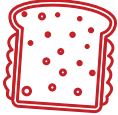
Athletics, Extracurricular Activities and Clubs

Sports and extracurricular activities at grade levels will resume this fall.

- In alignment with NYSPHSAA, athletics will continue with layered prevention strategies including masking indoors and on the sidelines and COVID-19 testing of athletes if necessary. 
- There is no limit on the number of spectators permitted, but all are encouraged to sit with the party they arrived with.
- [Read this letter](#) for more information on current athletic protocols.
- Student extracurricular clubs and activities will follow the same protocols as used during the school day. 
- Student athletes and performers may be required to certify that they will abide by activity-specific guidelines.

Meals

Meals are free throughout the 2021-22 school year for all students, regardless of household income.

- Students may be asked to eat in classrooms or other school spaces to maximize physical distancing. 

QUESTIONS ?

Call the Parent Helpline for answers at 966-2911.