

Barker Central School District

Reopening Plan



July 31, 2020

Amended 4/19/2021

At the time of publishing this revised document to the district website on April 19, 2021, it is the intention of the Barker Central School District to open the school to elementary students on April 26, 2021 for 4 day per week instruction with students attending Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (Wednesdays will remain fully remote for all students) or fully remotely, depending on the desire of each family. All Jr. Sr. High School Students will continue to remain attending in either a hybrid (In-person Monday and Tuesday/Remote Wednesday, Thursday and Friday or Remote Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday/In-

We realize this approach to continuing our learning here in the Barker Central School District may not meet every family's needs perfectly. However, it is clear through the community input received to date that there is a diverse belief in the direction we need to move going forward as it relates to instruction. The approach we have outlined here allows us to provide instruction to all of our learning community in the best way we can at this time and it provides options for families that best meet their needs.

It is also important to note that as of the date of this document, extracurricular and athletic activities will continue to be allowed to commence as per guidance set forth by the New

surveyed faculty and staff to gather information on their feelings of returning to school. Once guidance was released from the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Barker Central School District surveyed community members to gather parent input on various reopening concepts.

Again in April of 2021, the District surveyed faculty and staff to gather information on their feelings of returning to school for greater in-person instruction. Once guidance was released from the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Barker Central School District surveyed community members to gather parent input on various reopening concepts.

Stakeholder Involvement

The Barker Central School District has surveyed faculty, staff, and parents/guardians to develop our reopening plan. Input received from all stakeholders has been reviewed and analyzed and directly influenced the decisions in determining the methodology of instruction as well as the numbers of students receiving in-person instruction at one time to ensure the district maintains CDC, DOH, and the New York State Department of Education guidelines for safety and instruction. Survey information will be retained by the district and viewable upon request.

Communication Plans

The Barker Central School District will post its reopening plan and any other updates on the district website and alert parents to the postings as appropriate. The plan will also be posted in Spanish. In the event that changes need to be made to instruction or services offered due to a change in New York State issued guidance, families will be notified through the mass notification system as well as through the district website and social media platforms.

Signs of Illness Protocols

The Barker Central School District will provide resources to educate faculty, staff, parents, and guardians regarding the careful observation of symptoms of COVID-19 and health screening that must be conducted each morning before coming to school.

Below are links to some, but not all, of the informational videos, training, and signage that will be used by the district and communicated to District families.

[Know the Signs of Covid-19](#)

[Stop the Spread of Germs](#)

[How to Practice Social Distancing](#)

[Key Times to Wear a Face Covering](#)

[Key Times to Wash Your Hands](#)

[CDC Recommended Signage](#)

Daily Temperature Screenings/Questionnaire

Faculty and staff will be required to complete a daily screening questionnaire that meets state guidelines related to their contact with others who may have had Covid-19 or their own personal signs of Covid-19. This questionnaire will be digital in nature.

Families are asked to check their child's temperature and go through the established list of other symptoms before sending their child to school each day. Families will also be required to complete a paper form periodically verifying their child does not have any symptoms.

If staff is unable to verify that a student's temperature had been checked prior to arrival

Isolation Area

A separate space has been established for individuals who are suspected of being sick with Covid-19. The person will remain in this space until a parent can pick up a student (in the case of a child) or the person can safely leave campus.

The isolation area will be supervised at all times while ill students or staff are present. The most current CDC and NYSDOH guidelines for PPE will be followed by the supervising

When to Stay Home

Faculty, staff, and students are strongly recommended to stay home when any of the most common symptoms of COVID-19 are observed.

Students, staff, and the community will be educated regarding COVID-19 symptoms in their home language. There will be signs overtly displayed throughout the building. Such signage will include but not be limited to that found at the [CDC website](#) (click on the hyperlink for example signage). Additional information and resources may also be mailed to families as well. There will be links to the CDC and Niagara County Department of Health accessible through the District and health office web pages.

Proper Hygiene

The Barker Central School District will follow CDC and NYSDOH guidelines for both students and staff for proper hygiene which includes, but is not limited to; frequent, proper handwashing, when to stay home if they feel sick, adhere to social distancing, report symptoms, or exposure to COVID-19 and proper respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Such guidelines will be provided to staff before school begins and also throughout the first weeks of school for students who attend in-

distanced six feet or more from others. If social distancing is maintained students may, at times designated by the teacher or supervisor, be allowed to take masks off while in instructional spaces or the cafeteria during instructional or meal times respectively.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in School and the return to School

The school nurse, upon notification of a positive case, will immediately contact the Superintendent of Schools. Upon notification, the Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with the School Nurse, will contact the Niagara County Department of Health to determine the next steps for the district, which could include the closure of the building(s) or other responses as directed by the Niagara County Department of Health.

CDC guidelines as well as NCDOH directive.7 (e)-8.7 (d CO)-3.4 dn-11.24s5.56/ 25.37 /TT0 1 Tf-0.002 2

before activities return normal or “new normal” levels. The Superintendent and School Nurse will act jointly in this role.

Facilities

Fire Prevention and Building Codes

The Barker Central School District will adhere to all Office of Facilities Planning (OFP) requirements and submit any projects for approval, as well as meeting the requirements of the 2020 New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (BC) and the State Energy Conservation Code in an event that changes or additions need to be made to accommodate for COVID-19 reopening.

Building Condition Survey and Visual Inspection

The Barker Central School District will meet all current deadlines for the Building Condition Survey or Visual Inspections.

Lead in Water Testing

The Barker Central School District will comply with the DOH lead-in-water testing to the extent possible due to COVID-19 restrictions to provide clean and safe drinking water upon reopening.

Hand-Rub Dispensers

The Barker Central School District will provide adequate handwashing facilities and alcohol-based hand rub dispensers in accordance with FCNYS 2020 Section 5705. Sanitizing stations will be present in every instructional space as well as throughout the buildings in public areas such as corridors and other spaces.

Drinking Fountains

The Barker Central School District ensures that each building is able to provide one drinking fountain per one hundred occupants. Additionally, the district installed 3 additional touchless water bottle filling stations, for a total of 6, throughout the district for students and staff to use during the school day.

Ventilation

The Barker Central School District will continue to maintain proper ventilation that meets current building and safety standards and codes.

Plastic Separators

The district plans to use plastic separators in Speech-Language Therapy sessions and individual testing situations such as testing for reevaluations or elementary benchmarking. The plastic separators will also be used to provide protection during lunch. The District will follow all CDC and DOH guidelines regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of these barriers.

Child Nutrition

School Meals Every School Day

situation our Food Service staff will be ready to provide both breakfast and lunch to all of our students daily.

The Barker Central School District will comply with the Child Nutrition Program requirements and provide all students enrolled in the SFA with access to school meals each day for students in attendance at school or learning remotely.

Health and Safety Guidelines

The BCS reopening plan addresses all applicable health and safety guidelines as outlined by the Niagara County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Child Nutrition, and all Federal Guidelines.

All staff involved in the preparation, set up, service, and clean up will work together to ensure that all meals served are safe to eat and that appropriate food safety measures are followed.

Staff will wear face masks, follow all proper handwashing procedures, disposable gloves, and will be instructed to not come to work sick.

Food Allergies

The BCS reopening plan includes measures to protect students with food allergies when providing meals in spaces outside the cafeteria. These spaces may include classrooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, or outdoors to allow for the distancing of students and maintaining cohort populations in one location, which will depend on the logistics of class sizes and available space to be determined once class schedules are finalized.

Meal Services will be completed as follows for the different scenarios.

Full Return of Students on Campus

Eating socially distanced in the Cafe/ or accommodating spaces to allow social distancing.

Students will have social distance (six feet separation) while consuming meals in school. Hand

sanitizer will be provided near the entrance to the school cafeteria or multi-purpose room dining areas. Everyone who enters the dining area must be required to wash hands and/or apply hand sanitizer before entering the serving line or eating. Cafeteria entrance and exit doors will remain open to reduce students and staff repeatedly touching the same doorknobs and/or handles. We will implement a "One Way In/ One Way Out" procedure. Where lines are necessary they will flow in a single direction and floor markings or signage will be considered to encourage proper distancing. BCS food service is in full compliance with Child Nutrition Program requirements for every meal served. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the health and safety of individuals with food allergies, while the cafe staff will be able to make sure a student is not getting any foods they are allergic to by coming to the line and using the register/computer, the safety in the classroom will be under the guidance of the class monitor who will be trained in food allergen safety and prevention of cross-contact with potential allergens. Procedures such as proper handwashing with soap and water after food allergen contact, proper cleaning and disinfection of surfaces after food allergen contact, along with a very strict policy regarding "No Food Sharing" will be implemented for classroom or any space used in addition to the cafe. BCS will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as the serving line, between every class or group entering, using a properly mixed germicidal/disinfectant cleaner.

Blended Hybrid of Students on Campus & Students Learning Remotely

For all students on campus, we will follow all procedures mentioned above for on-site feeding.

For all students distance learning remotely - we will offer meals to be delivered to families.

Notification of meal services will be provided as appropriate. We will follow all Child Nutrition guidelines for reimbursable meals and every student in the district will be able to receive breakfast and lunch daily.

Distance Learning Only

We have already proven successful in our ability to provide meals to students at home. We served emergency meals for 3 ½ months and our community is well versed in the process and we will continue to provide pick up meal services for all families.

Hand Hygiene

The Barker Central School District will teach students protocols and procedures for performing hand hygiene before and after eating. Sharing food and beverages will be strongly discouraged.

Hands will be washed and/or sanitized prior to going into the cafeteria or at the hand sanitizer station at the cafe door. Handwashing will include the following:

- a. Wet hands and apply a single pump of hand soap
- b. Wash normally for at least 20 seconds
- c. Rinse hands with clear water and dry with clean paper towels
- d. Use a paper towel to turn off the water to avoid cross-contact.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

The Barker Central School District has developed protocols and procedures for the required cleaning and disinfection, per CDC and NYSDOH guidelines, prior to the next group of students arriving for meals. BCS will store cleaning and/or disinfecting solutions in the properly labeled spray bottles per OSHA standards and will have the appropriate SDS (Safety Data Sheet) readily available in case of accidental exposure or emergency.

Areas, where meals are to be eaten, will be cleared and cleaned between uses utilizing approved disinfectants and cleaning agents. If the area was used for a community activity or was shared by more than one student prior, a best practice would be to apply a light amount of disinfectant and wipe down the area with a clean towel or cloth.

High Contact Spots

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that all high contact spots, including but not limited to seats, hand railings, and windows will be wiped down after the am and pm run, depending on the disinfectant schedule, before another group of students is allowed to ride the bus.

Hand Sanitizer

The Barker Central School District has contracted with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school buses are not equipped with hand sanitizer due to its combustible composition and potential liability to the carrier.

Personal Hand Sanitizers

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, and attendants must not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with them on school buses.

Face Coverings for Drivers/Aides

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics wear a face-covering along with an optional face shield.

Training of PPE and Signs of COVID-19

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that the transportation staff (drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics) will be trained and provided periodic refreshers on the proper use of personal protective equipment and the signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Training on Social Distancing

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics are trained to ensure social distance on the buses.

Denial of Transportation Because of Lack of Mask

The Barker Central School District and STA will not deny a student who does not have a mask transportation. The Barker Central District will work with Student Transportation of America to provide a mask to students that do not have one.

Provision of Masks

The Barker Central School District will provide a mask to any student who does not have one and will provide STA with a supply of masks for each bus in the event a student does not have one as required to ride the bus in the morning or afternoon.

Students with Disabilities and Masks

The Barker Central School District will ensure that students with disabilities that prevent them from wearing a mask will not be forced to do so or denied transportation.

placed them out-of-

Teaching and Learning

Continuity of Learning: In-Person Instruction

The Barker Central School District has developed an in-person learning plan that provides for continuity of learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Upon returning to in-person instruction, faculty and staff will continue to make students feel safe, engaged, and excited about learning. The importance of in-person instruction on the well-being of students and the positive relationships that they form with peers, teachers, and school community members can not be oversta

In-person instruction will focus, to the greatest extent possible, on learning that is difficult via a virtual classroom. Such learning would include but is not limited to, direct reading instruction, science labs, project-based learning, and other hands-on learning opportunities that are only available during in-person instruction.

In-person instruction will also allow for teachers, students, and peers to have meaningful discussions, provide one-to-one assistance with content specific questions or help with technology.

At all grade levels, the use of shared resources, materials, supplies among students will be limited. Classroom materials will be properly cleaned between use and/ or taken out of use for a period of time. Students may be asked to bring in additional supplies.

Additional considerations for the Arts and PE need to be taken into account:

For Art, students will need an individual kit of “high touch” supplies such as scissors, markers, pencils, erasers, etc. to be supplied by families.

High touch surfaces and shared materials will be cleaned following CDC and NYSDOH guidelines.

A distance of at least 6 feet will be maintained between individuals while participating in activities that require projecting the voice (e.g. singing) or playing a wind instrument. There will be no sharing of instruments.

A distance of at least 6 feet will be maintained between individuals while participating in activities that require aerobic activity and result in heavy breathing.

Physical education classes will focus on individual skills rather than team sports or activities that do not require students to be in close physical proximity to each other.

Library instruction and book distribution will continue to operate with new check-in and check-out procedures developed to address the health and safety of all who use the library. Returned books will be quarantined for a specified number of days before being reshelved.

Related Services (Speech and Language, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Counselling) will continue to be provided as outlined in students' Individualized Education Plans or 504 Plans. When combined with a Hybrid Model of Instruction, therapy sessions, to the greatest extent possible, will be scheduled during in-person instruction.

Academic and Counseling support services will be available to identified students during in-person instruction and will establish a means of communication in order to be prepared for a period of full remote instruction.

Certain after school activities or clubs will continue to meet during 10th period as allowed by NYSDOH and NYSED guidance.

Continuity of Learning: Hybrid Instruction

The Barker Central School District has developed a hybrid learning plan that provides for continuity of learning for the 2020-2021 school year. The hybrid instructional model calls for students to receive both in-person and virtual instruction which allows for socially distanced instruction. The hybrid learning plan is based on the following protocol:

Students will be split into three cohorts, Cohort A, Cohort B, and Cohort C.

Students in Cohort A will receive in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays and virtual instruction Wednesday through Friday. Students in Cohort B will receive virtual instruction Monday through Wednesday and in-person instruction on Thursdays and Fridays. Cohort C will be students receiving all remote instruction.

Students living in the same household will be in the same cohort.

The six-day rotation (Days A through F) for academic classes, related services, and elementary specials will be modified to ensure that all students receive all classes and services either in-person or remotely. The cohorts will go through the same day rotations during the same week. For example, if the Cohort A Monday/Tuesday are A and B days, the Cohort B Thursday/Friday will also be A and B days.

Continuity of Learning: Hybrid (4 Day Per Week) Instruction

The hybrid 4 day per week instructional model calls for students to receive both in-person and virtual instruction which allows for socially distanced instruction. The hybrid learning plan is based on the following protocol:

Students will be split into two cohorts, Cohort AB, and Cohort C. Students in Cohort AB will receive in-person instruction on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and virtual instruction on Wednesday. Cohort C will be students receiving all remote instruction, 5 days a week.

On Wednesdays, all learning will take place remotely.

In-person instruction will take place while following all health and safety guidelines outlined within this document and required by NYSDOH.

In-person instruction will focus, to the greatest extent possible, on learning that is difficult via a virtual classroom. Such learning would include but is not limited to, direct reading instruction, science labs, project-based learning, and other hands-on learning opportunities that are only available during in-person instruction.

In-person instruction, when paired remote learning (Hybrid Model), will also allow for teachers, students, and peers to have meaningful discussions, provide one-to-one assistance with content specific questions or help with technology.

Shared supplies will be limited, so students may be asked to bring in additional supplies. Shared supplies and materials will be cleaned and/or disinfected on a regular basis.

Virtual learning will take place as delivered through Google Classroom (G Suite) Virtual learning will be a combination of asynchronous and synchronous lessons and activities.

All virtual assignments will be posted by Monday morning each week for students.

Students are expected to be actively engaged in virtual learning activities as attendance is required, and virtual learning provides valuable learning experiences that contribute to students' academic success.

Each student will be assigned a device (Chromebook or iPad) that they must

All virtual learning will be composed of a combination of asynchronous and synchronous learning to meet the 180 minutes of instruction per week.

Asynchronous learning will be independent learning that will be delivered in different forms which include, but are not limited to:

- Video Direct Instruction where teacher pre-records lessons

- Combination of short video with several problems to be completed before the in-person learning time.

- YouTube video, or other pre-recorded presentation which could include but are not limited to Khan Academy, FlipGrid, EdPuzzles, Google Slides, PowerPoint, Castle Learning, Examgen

Synchronous learning is when a student works directly with a teacher in a real-time setting. It will be provided by required meetings between the teacher and individual students or small groups of students to provide deeper levels of learning. This will be delivered in different forms which could include, but are not limited to:

- Google Meet, Zoom meetings, Kahoot, Flipgrid, Quizlet Live, Read Alouds, Book Shares

All virtual learning activities will be considered to be “real” instruction which will be subject to grading. Posts, assignments, meetings, and activities are subject to due dates where a penalty can be determined if the due date is not met.

Faculty will post weekly assignments by Monday of each week so that students and parents can see what work is being assigned to them and can plan accordingly.

New York State Learning Standards

The Barker Central School District will continue to follow the New York State learning standards in teaching and learning. The Barker Central School District and Teachers work hard

answer questions about students' instructional and technological needs. Parents and guardians can contact teachers through email, phone, and the school learning management system (Google Classroom). Please see the barkercsd.net website to find contact information for the school as well as faculty and staff.

PreKindergarten Programs

The Barker Central School District will continue to operate our Prekindergarten programs to meet the mandatory requirements outlined under Teaching and Learning. The District plans on providing UPK to eligible students for 2 full days per week, either Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday, with one day of full remote instruction for all students.

Special Education

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

Barker Central School District's Committee on Special Education (CSE) recognizes these are unique times. The CSE has reviewed all student's Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and will be providing free appropriate public education (FAPE) to all students regardless of the setting (in-person, remote, and/or through a hybrid model). Barker Central School District understands the need to protect the health and safety of our students with disabilities and our special education and related services providers.

All IEPs will be followed according to how they are written. Every attempt will be made to provide related services in person, however, if the district should move to full-remote learning,

The Director of Instructional Services also participates in the Special Education Advisory Council through Orleans-Niagara BOCES. This council, made up of 13 component districts and outside agencies, meets every other week to discuss ongoing district needs and/or concerns.

Needs of Students

The Barker Central School District ensures that all students with disabilities will have access to the necessary accommodations, modifications, supplementary aids and services, and technology (including assistive technology) to meet the unique disability-related needs of the student. Barker Central School District provides devices (Chromebooks, iPads, etc.) to all students. If additional assistive technology is required, it is included in the child's IEP. All IEPs are followed per district, state, and federal guidelines.

Bilingual Education and World Languages

ELL Identification Process

Barker Central School District provides a home language questionnaire with the new student registration packet. When parents select that another language is spoken at home, the home language questionnaire is provided and, if determined based on the interview, a New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL) exam is given.

If instruction is in person, the NYSITELL will be administered following all guidelines set forth by NYSED, the DOH, and the CDC. The district has purchased barriers to be used for

No students enrolled in the school during the COVID-19 closures in the 2019-2020 school year, so the district will not need to implement any NYSITELL tests.

Units of Study

Students were unable to take the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) during the 2019-2020 school year. Because of this, student's results on the 2018-2019 NYSESLAT will be used to determine the appropriate units of study for the 2020-2021 school year. For two students who started last year and, therefore, did not take the NYSESLAT in 2019 and for the two students who started this year, their NYSITELL score will be used to provide the unit of study. This instruction will take place whether the district is using in-person instruction, hybrid instruction, or remote learning. There are no students enrolled who are considered Former ELL students.

Communication with Parents/Guardians

Barker Central School district maintains regular communication with parents/guardians and other family members of English Language Learners. The district is using its Spanish teachers and its English as a New Language teacher to translate the document into the preferred language of our families. The Dstudents.

Teacher and Principal Evaluation System

APPR

Barker Central School District has an approved 3012-d Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) plan on file with the New York State Education Department

