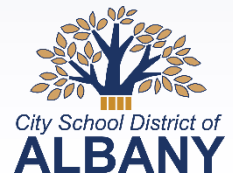


# City School District of Albany

## 2020-21 Middle School Reopening Town Hall Meeting

*Information is subject to change*

Lori A. McKenna, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Instruction  
July 28, 2020



# CSDA Guiding Principles

## Vision Statement

The City School District of Albany will be a district of excellence with caring relationships and engaging learning experiences that provide equitable opportunities for all students to reach their potential.

## Mission Statement

We will work in partnership with our diverse community to engage every learner in a robust educational program designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for success.

## Goals

- Increase **student achievement**
- Enhance the **delivery of quality instruction**
- Build our **leadership capacity**
- Empower families**
- Partner with our diverse community**



# 2020-21 Middle School Student Forum

Provide an update and opportunity for feedback on the planning process and status of reopening schools in September.

If you have questions or feedback you would like to provide during this focus group, please use our survey form at **[albanyschools.org/questions](https://albanyschools.org/questions)**

# 2020-21 Middle School Student Forum

Superintendent Adams charged the Middle School Reopening Committee with developing recommendations for reimagining school for grades 6-8 in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. She asked the committee to define the framework for learning in three modalities: fully on-site, blended and fully virtual/off-site.

The team's best thinking to date, given the parameters, is presented within. The team continues to research, review guidance documents from the Reimagine Education Advisory Council and the NYS Departments of Health and Education, and seeks input from stakeholders to inform this recommendation.

Our ultimate goal and purpose is to present our best recommendation for a safe plan for reopening that creates the most conducive learning environment within the guidance parameters.



# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Planning Committee: Middle School (6-8)

Name	School	Role	Name	School	Role
Jen Houlihan	District	Instructional Supervisor, ELA	Sonya Flowers	District	TA/APSUE President
Amanda Powers	District	Instructional Supervisor, STEM	Deborah McNicholas	Hackett	Teacher
Lori McKenna	District	Assistant Superintendent, Secondary	Ellen Gerard	O'Neal	School Counselor
Kate Wright	District	Instructional Supervisor, Fine Arts	Paul Manzo	Hackett	Teacher
Ashley Chapple	District	Instructional Supervisor, Health, PE and Athletics	Jen Kuebler	Myers	Teacher
Elaine Griessler	District	Director, Special Education	Cindy Clo	O'Neal	SpEd Teacher
Nicole Lindeman	District	Instructional Supervisor, FACS, Technology and Library	Melissa Hirt	Myers	Technology Teacher
Tom Giglio	District	Director, ENL and Refugee	Latisha Miller	O'Neal	Teaching Assistant
Mike Panetta	District	Asst. Director, PPS	Tom Willette	O'Neal	Teaching Assistant
Mike Paolino	Hackett	Principal	Jen Pryor	District	Instructional Coach
Andrea Piper	Myers	Principal	Sue Tuminaro	District	Instructional Coach
Dave Bernsley	O'Neal	Principal	Kim McDonough	ASH	6 <sup>th</sup> -grade teacher
Julie Barber	NAMS	Principal	Abigail Bleck	District	Communications Specialist
Stephon Frost	Hackett	Home School Coordinator	Laura Hamlin	District	Master Schedule Support
Lisa Finkenbinder	District	Food Services	Kristy Kruse	Myers	School Counselor

# 2020-21 Reopening Discussion

## Required components of our Reopening Plan

- Parent choice: hybrid/blended or virtual
- Enhanced academic rigor and accountability
- Students and employees wearing masks
  - Families are asked to provide masks for their children
  - The district will have replacement masks and also face shields as an option for employees
- Daily health screenings/temperature checks for all employees and students
- Parents asked to take their child's temperature daily before coming to school
- Contact tracing and coordination with local health department guidelines
- Daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- Shared books and supplies minimized
  - Where used, books (e.g., library books, trade books) and supplies (e.g., science lab materials) will be disinfected or allowed to remain untouched between use (as per CDC and DOH guidelines)
- School visitors will be restricted to those required for school business
- Students and staff will be trained on proper hand hygiene practices

# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Recommendation for Middle School Structure

### Schools recommended

- O'Neal, Hackett and North Albany may be used to rotate students for on-site instruction
  - North Albany may support students from O'Neal, North Albany, Giffen (6<sup>th</sup>), Eagle Point (6<sup>th</sup>) and ASH (6<sup>th</sup>)
  - Hackett may support students from Hackett and Myers
  - O'Neal may support students from AIC and TOAST (6<sup>th</sup>)

*We assessed O'Neal, Hackett, Myers and North Albany to determine the number of students we could accommodate in each classroom while following CDC guidelines of 6 feet social distancing between desks.*

*Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.*

# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Recommendation for Middle School Structure

### Blended learning model consideration

- Onsite learning two days
  - Onsite learning → Core subjects both days and encore subjects one day
- Virtual learning three days
  - Virtual learning → Core subjects only

### Possible rotation schedule for on-site learning

- Self-contained special education students and English-language learners may attend every day
  - General education students in grades 6-8 may attend two days (Tues-Wed or Thurs-Fri)
  - Co-taught/resource room, English-language learners, Tier 3 students for math and reading may attend three days (Monday)
    - Also could Friday for related services (if needed)
  - Exploring the possibility of Friday for instrumental music lessons
- Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.*



# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Recommendation for Middle School Structure

### On-site learning schedule sample considerations include:

- 40-minute periods
  - This could include an SEL period each day for all students, two periods for encores both days and core classes (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies and World Language for grades 7-8, and Math and English enrichment for grade 6)

**One way in/one way out** for students will be determined to ensure students do not cross paths (grade levels may be assigned to floors)

**Breakfast and lunch in the classroom**

**Shortened student day** to allow for contractual obligations such as CPT and planning time; doesn't reduce instructional time for students

*Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.*

# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Next Steps

- Determine multiple entry points and design staggered arrival and dismissal procedure
- Finalize staff, student supervisions, rotations and schedules
- Develop guidelines and resources for
  - On-site and virtual instruction
  - Exclusively virtual instruction
  - Teacher and staff professional development and planning (academic, social emotional and procedural)
- Develop a communication plan for students, families and staff to provide clear guidance on re-entry procedures

*Note: No decisions have been finalized at this time.*

# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Student Focus Group Questions

1. What was the online learning experience like for you during the school closure? What was most helpful? What can we improve to make it the best possible learning experience?
2. What are you most concerned about as you think about school restarting in September, whether it is in-person, online or some mixture of both?
3. What are you most excited about as you think about school restarting?
4. Is there anything else you would like us to know as we plan for the restart of school?

# CSDA 2020-21 Reopening

## Student Focus Group Questions

Thank you for your joining our student focus group!

Please continue to submit questions and feedback using our survey form at [albanyschools.org/questions](https://albanyschools.org/questions)