City School District of Albany

2020-21 Reopening Plan

*Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*

Kaweeda G. Adams, Superintendent
August 27, 2020
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 Reopening Plan

OBJECTIVE

• Update the BoE on the impact of the State Aid Budget reductions

• Provide updates on the planning process and status of reopening schools in September

• Provide the BoE with the recommended plans for reopening schools
2020-21 Reopening Plan

Discussion Topics

- NYS Division of the Budget (20% aid reductions)
- General Guidance (NYSED, DOH)
- Elementary School Instructional Plan
- Middle School Instructional Plan
- High School Instructional Plan
- Instructional Technology
- Food and Nutrition
- Maintenance and Operations
- Transportation
On August 20, the New York State Division of the Budget (DOB) issued budget updates based on state revenue projections through June 30.

With no federal action to provide COVID-19 relief funding since enactment of state’s 2020-21 budget on April 1, the state has begun withholding 20% of most local aid payments.

- DOB advised that all or a portion of these withholdings could become permanent reductions, depending on the size and timing of new federal aid, if any becomes available.

For our district, a 20% reduction in foundation aid is approximately $16.5 million.

If the 20% is applied to all state aid (foundation, categorical, building, transportation, excess cost, etc.), as appears to be the case, the impact is a loss of $23.2 million in our 2020-21 fiscal year.

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Additional fiscal considerations:

- The district’s original 2020-21 state aid allotment also included federal CARES Act funding. Federal guidance on these funds – released after voters approved our 2020-21 budget in June – clarified that these funds are to be used over two years.
  - That represents an additional 2020-21 aid reduction of $2.3 million

- We expect that our total revenue losses for 2020-21 will be as follows, unless additional federal aid becomes available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Foundation Aid Only</th>
<th>All Aid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20% Reduction</td>
<td>16,495,894</td>
<td>23,228,643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARES</td>
<td>2,336,845</td>
<td>2,336,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>18,832,739</td>
<td>25,565,488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
2020-21 Reopening Plan

State Aid Budget Reductions Impact

As a result of this new financial reality, we are proposing the following instructional and operational changes for the 2020-21 school year:

- All general education students in grades 7-12 shift to a **fully virtual learning environment**
  - No in-person option would be provided

- PK-5 would attend **in-person or fully virtual five days a week, depending on family choice for the first marking period**
  - We anticipate that all PK-5 students would be able to remain in their school building due to the high percentage of families selecting virtual instruction

*Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*
2020-21 Reopening Plan

State Aid Budget Reductions Impact

- All students in grade 6 would be enrolled in an elementary learning model (five days a week, either virtual or in-person)

- Sixth-graders selecting in-person instruction would attend school based on our current feeder patterns:
  - North Albany sixth-graders would remain at North Albany
  - Hackett would serve its sixth-graders, plus sixth-graders from Eagle Point and TOAST
  - Myers would serve its sixth-graders, plus sixth-graders from ASH and Giffen

- Because this is a significant change to the sixth-grade program, the district would work with these families to determine if they want to change their enrollment choice (virtual or in-person)

- No change proposed for self-contained special education students K-12, who would attend school in-person five days a week

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Additional programmatic reductions:

- The district would restructure or suspend the Albany International Center and Tony Clement Center for Education programs.
- Students from these programs would become part of the general student body:
  - Grade 7-12 students from both programs in the fully virtual model.
  - Grade 6 AIC students with a choice between fully virtual or fully in-person at a middle school determined based on their address.
  - The restructuring aspect looks at how services may be delivered to the impacted students.
- Note that 27% of AIC students (16/59 responding) and 75% of Clement students (82/110 responding) selected the fully virtual model; there would be no change for those students.

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
State Aid Budget Reductions Impact

- These programmatic changes would result in reductions in staff positions, including administrators, faculty, and staff.
- We are in the process of evaluating the exact number of positions and exact budget implications of state aid reductions.

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
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Transportation

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2020-21 Reopening Plan

Required components of our Reopening Plan

- Three options required by Governor’s office. Based on feedback and feasibility, the overarching plans have been narrowed and will be shared in this presentation.
- 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 (attestation and temperature checks) for all employees and students
- Parents asked to take attestation survey for their child daily before coming to school
- Contact tracing and coordination with local health department guidelines
- Daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols
- Shared books and supplies minimized (individual student supplies)
  - Where used, books (e.g., library books, trade books) and supplies (e.g., science lab materials) will be disinfected or allowed to remain untouched for three days between use (or length specified by CDC)
- School visitors will be restricted to those required for school business
- Students and staff will be trained on proper hand hygiene practices
Remote Learning Model

Families who select remote learning will remain enrolled in their current school but will receive instruction from their remote/virtual learning teacher. Remote/Virtual learning is **not** the same as homeschooling. Families selecting remote/virtual learning are still enrolled in the City School District of Albany.

*Note: Families that select to homeschool their children must dis-enroll from the district and follow the provisions of home schooling which include declaration of intent to homeschool and submission of an Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP) plan inclusive of the homeschool curriculum that will be utilized.*

*Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*
In-Person Model

Families selecting the in-person model will have their children attend school Monday through Friday with an abbreviated day that allows for a staggered arrival and dismissal.

The only time a hybrid model would be used is if we were unable to implement a fully on-site model.

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Elementary School Instructional Plan

- Parent choice:
  a. Virtual learning
  b. In-person learning (Pre-K-5)

- Space limitations

- Enhanced academic rigor and accountability

- Instructional Considerations

- Staffing

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Sample Virtual PK-5 Schedules outline how live virtual instruction could be structured to align most closely with the instruction that occurs on-site. There will also be a recorded lesson for asynchronous learning.

**Live** and pre-recorded sessions

- 3.5 hours of remote learning includes virtual with independent tasks outside of the virtual time
- Social Emotional Learning, Encore and Support Services
- Core Subjects (ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science)
- Google Classroom, Nearpod, Dreambox and Lexia

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Structure for In-Person Learning

We cannot provide a final staffing schedule or classroom location until we know what students will be remote and which will be in-person.

- Delaware Dual Language (P-5), Pine Hills (4-5), New Scotland (4-5), Schuyler (4-5) and Sheridan (4-5) housed at their own sites
- Classrooms will house 12-18 students, larger spaces will house 1-2 classes of 24 (students spaced 6ft apart)
- Students will have at least 5 hours on-site inclusive of core and encore subjects lunch, recess, and hand-washing breaks while taught and supervised in a fluid flipped classroom model.
- Still accessing space with required social distancing and staffing to provide instrumental music.
- Afterschool programming will have reduced capacity and may be located off-site.

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
2020-21 Reopening Plan

Middle School Instructional Plan

- Parent choice:
  1. Virtual learning
  2. 6th grade in-person (follows elementary model)
     a. North Albany (SAA, SPA, AHES)
     b. Hackett (Eagle Point, TOAST)
     c. Myers (Giffen, ASH)
        *approximately 170 students in each middle school building

- Enhanced academic rigor and accountability
- Instructional Considerations
- Staffing

*Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*
Middle School Virtual Instructional Plan-7th/8th grade

Schedule

- Monday-Friday
- Live and pre-recorded sessions
- Social Emotional Learning, Encore and Support Services
- Core Subjects (ELA, Math, Social Studies and Science, World Language(Grade 7/8))
- Instructional Technology Tools → Google Classroom, Google Meet, Nearpod, Gizmo for Science labs, SmartMusic for Music

Additional Information

- Student attendance will be taken
- Follow the District’s grading policy → based on student performance to indicate achievement and development in each class or subject
- Grab-and-go materials will be established for each class
- Orientation for virtual instruction will be scheduled to support students and families

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
AHS Curriculum, Instruction, and Accountability

- **Curriculum**
  - Inquiry based instructional model; student centered
  - Focus on high-leverage standards and content; prepare students for Regents and other exit exams

- **Platform** - Google Meet synchronous (live) teaching during class periods and asynchronous teaching in Google Classroom

- **Assessment, Feedback and Grading** – continue as usual on a 100 point scale with some accommodations for assessments in an online environment

- **Attendance and Participation** - Daily attendance taken in a “virtual” homeroom during pod time; attendance may be taken in all classes

*Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*
All classes are virtual

- master schedule
- students scheduled for all eight classes
- students have each class five times in a 10-day cycle in a period 1-9 schedule (adjustments being made)
- Pod/Advisory conducted virtually
- Self-contained Special Education classes on-site

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
AHS Staffing

- Teachers – regular caseload of students
- Pod/Advisory Teacher – may be a content teacher of the students assigned
- Pod/Advisory Teachers – facilitate tutoring, Google Classroom access and modeling, monitor assignments, participation and attendance, and make contact with the parent
- Attendance - taken in pod time
- Teaching platform - Google Classroom and Google Meet; synchronous (live) teaching during the 9 period day; asynchronous at other times

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.
Health and Safety

- Maintenance staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched items throughout the day.
- Daily maintenance clean/disinfect log.
- Each building has a disinfecting mister that will be used entire building each day.
- All buildings have HEPA filter vacuums for floors, vents, etc.
- Routine ordering of cleaning and disinfecting supplies including hand soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, etc. on a rolling 90 day supply basis.
- Purchasing process from multiple sources on a rolling 90 day supply basis for PPE (masks, gloves, etc.).
- Increase fresh air intake.

*Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.*
The following areas of the reopening plan have no changes from previous presentations.

- Instructional Technology
- Food and Nutrition
- Transportation

Note: Decisions may be adjusted based on additional feedback and data.