



# Alexandria Central School

Home of the Purple Ghosts



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To: Students, Parents, Staff  
From: Chris Clapper, Superintendent  
Date: August 13, 2021  
Re: Reopening 2021-2022 School year

Families and Staff,

The Office of the Governor and the New York State Department of Health have provided few details regarding reopening of schools. Instead, school districts have been working with the New York State Education Department and our local Jefferson County Health Department to determine best practices. On August 13, Commissioner of Education Betty Rosa released guidelines on reopening schools based on the guidance of the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Both the CDC and the New York State Education Department have emphasized the importance of all students returning to in-person learning. Though we do expect these guidelines to evolve with the pandemic, our plan includes the following;

- ACS will return to one bus run. The school day will begin at 7:55am and end at 3:00pm.
- All students and staff will be masked on buses
- All students and staff will be masked within the school building
- No masks will be required outside of the building
- No temperature checks or health screenings will be required
- Social distancing to the extent possible in classrooms, minimum of 3 feet between students
- Social distancing to the extent possible in the cafeteria
- Alternative education is available for students who must quarantine due to exposure or a positive test
- No full-remote or hybrid option will be offered as an educational choice
- ACS will continue to hold vaccination clinics for those 12 years of age and older
- Fall Athletics will proceed as normal unless Jefferson County returns to “high community transmission,” currently Jefferson County is at “moderate community transmission”
- Jefferson County will continue to provide all contact tracing and quarantine orders

I expect, with the change of leadership in the Governor's office, that guidelines from the NYS Governor's Office or from the NYS Health Department will be forthcoming. As I receive updated guidance, I will share immediately with our school community. The health and safety of our students and staff remains paramount.

Chris Clapper