



# Beacon City School District Reopening

July 2020



# Beacon Mission

To prepare  
**EVERY** student  
for **learning, life,**  
and **work**  
beyond school.

## **Beacon City School District - Mission and Belief Statements**

**Meeting the challenge of preparing EVERY student for learning, life, and work beyond school.**

**In pursuing this Mission, we believe:**

- **the diversity of our community is a strength**
- **in providing an equitable education for all students regardless of race, ethnicity, class, disability, gender identity, or sexuality.**
- **a culture of care, including ensuring a safe and supportive emotional environment for all, will help ensure the wellness of the entire school community.**

***Mission*** – to prepare ***EVERY*** student for learning, life, and work beyond school.

***Vision*** – that every student leaves Beacon City with the following...

**Skills and Abilities -**

• **Communication**

- *Organize and articulate thoughts - write, speak or create media for a variety of purposes and audiences*
- *Use digital tools for a variety of purposes and audiences*
- *Actively listen, comprehend, and respond appropriately*

• **Problem solving** (solving complex problems)

- *Identify and frame problems with their associated consequences*
- *Understand and apply problem solving processes*
- *Implement and reflect on the effectiveness of proposed solutions*

• **Creative and Critical Thinking** (divergent/convergent)

- *Identify multiple perspectives, options, or pathways*
- *Apply novel or insightful notions*
- *Apply criteria and evaluate for a purpose*
- *Use evidence, logic and reason.*

• **Collaboration – Independence**

- *Work with others to accomplish tasks and solve problem*
- *Demonstrate metacognition of interpersonal skills*
- *Fulfill different roles in a variety of situations*
- *Demonstrate self-direction and initiative*
- *Overcome obstacles to success*

**Digital literacy -**

- *Be a good digital citizen*
- *Practice effective search techniques*
- *Apply criteria and analysis processes for information validity*
- *Consistently use reliable and valid information in the service of learning*

## Attributes and Dispositions

### Empathy

- *Kindness, care, and compassion for others*
- *Respect for persons and property*
- *Understanding of the circumstances and opinions of others*

### Self-Regulation

- *Self-awareness and emotional metacognition*
- *Ability to recognize and act to regulate reactions and shift actions*

### Citizenship/Community

- *Understanding that all members are part of a larger whole*
- *Demonstrates the relationship between rights and responsibilities.*
- *Contributes to the overall success of the community as a whole*

### Curiosity, Wonder, Awe, & Imagination

- *Generates questions and follows leads*
- *Investigates and creates*
- *Demonstrates a passion and energy for learning*

### Adaptability/Flexibility

- *Calm and positive when structures or patterns change*
- *Sees change as opportunity*

# Process and Timeline

Surveys- Distance Learning and Reopening

Working with Different Employee Groups

Community Engagement on Zoom calls and Student Talking Circles

July 29- Potential board meeting to discuss planning

July 31- Plan shared with community

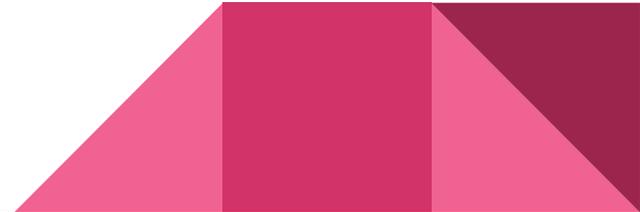
August 1-7- Governor makes reopening decision



# Social Distancing

“Social Distancing also called physical distancing means keeping a six foot space between yourself and others. Schools are to develop, implement, and enforce social distancing in all school facilities and on school grounds, including transportation.” NYSED

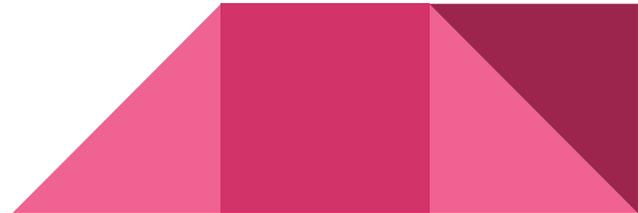
Implications- Schools must reduce student numbers for classrooms and busses. Hybrid schedule needs to be developed.



# Face Coverings

“Any time that individuals cannot maintain appropriate social distancing, individuals must wear acceptable face coverings. Face coverings are strongly recommended at all times, except for meals and instruction with appropriate social distancing.” NYDOH

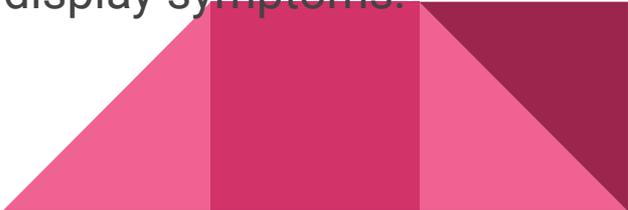
Implications- District providing face coverings for all staff and students who need them daily



# Health Screenings

“Parents/guardians and staff members must be provided resources to educate them regarding the careful observation of symptoms of COVID-19 and health screening that must be conducted each morning before coming to school. Parents/guardians and school staff must be instructed that any student or staff member with a fever of 100F or greater and/or symptoms of possible COVID-19 virus should not be present in school.” NYSED

Implications- Develop health screening procedure for entry into school and procedures for dealing with students/staff in school who display symptoms.



# Cleaning and Disinfection

“The CDC provides specific guidance for schools...School wide cleaning must include classrooms, restrooms, cafeterias, libraries, playgrounds, and busses.”

Implications- District has purchased new cleaning equipment, hiring more custodians, creating cleaning schedules.



# Vulnerable Populations

“The following groups are at increased risk for complications from COVID-19 and may need added or alternative provisions for social distancing. Students who have family members who are in high risk groups may also need to attend school remotely. Schools will need to make accommodations and be able to accommodate the needs of these students in the school community” NYSED

“And individuals who may not feel comfortable returning to an in-person educational environment.” NYDOH

Implications- District needs to identify students and develop Beacon Virtual School experience.



# Ventilation

“Districts and schools are encouraged to increase the fresh air ventilation rate to the extent possible to aid in maintaining a health indoor air quality” NYSED

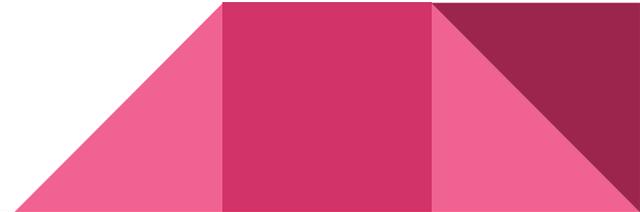
Implications- All of our rooms have unit ventilators equipped with a Merv-13 filter. Outdoor classroom spaces are being developed at each building.



# Social/Emotional Well Being

“Each school and/or district reopening plan must address how the school/district will provide resources and referrals to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional support services and programs.” NYSED

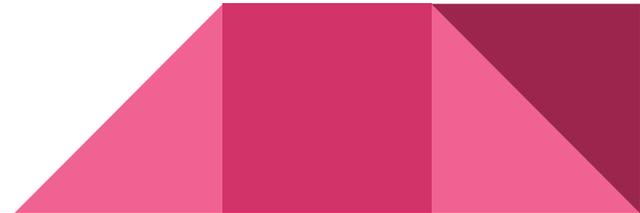
Implications for District- Using survey data and working with district mental health professionals, a plan will be developed to support students both in school and remotely through a variety of services.



# School Schedules

“Plans should address a combination of in-person instruction and remote learning to facilitate a phased-in approach or hybrid model, which may be necessary at various times throughout the 20-21 school year” NYSED

Implications- Develop hybrid schedule which at least has predictable days of school for family members, adds extra support for special education and ELL students, and is able to move fluidly to either a full in-person model or full remote model.



# Remote Learning 20-21 School Year

More predictable schedule for all students and importance of attendance

More teacher/student interaction on video conferencing

More authentic learning experiences



# Reflection Questions

What will the impact of quarantining have on our physical school operations?

How much is all of this going to cost? And when are we getting some fiscal help?

If school districts have more say over school closings, does it have to be all schools closed or can we continue to support smaller groups of students with in person experiences?

Do we consider a phase-in of students at the beginning of the year ?

What other questions do we have?



# Next Steps

Quick parent survey

Community zoom calls on Tuesday, July 21, Thursday, July 23 and Monday July 27.

Develop and post plan on July 31.

Await Governor Cuomo's decision on school reopenings.

Spend the rest of August preparing for all contingencies.

