



UPDATED OPENING PLAN COOPERSTOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sarah Spross, Superintendent

August 18, 2021



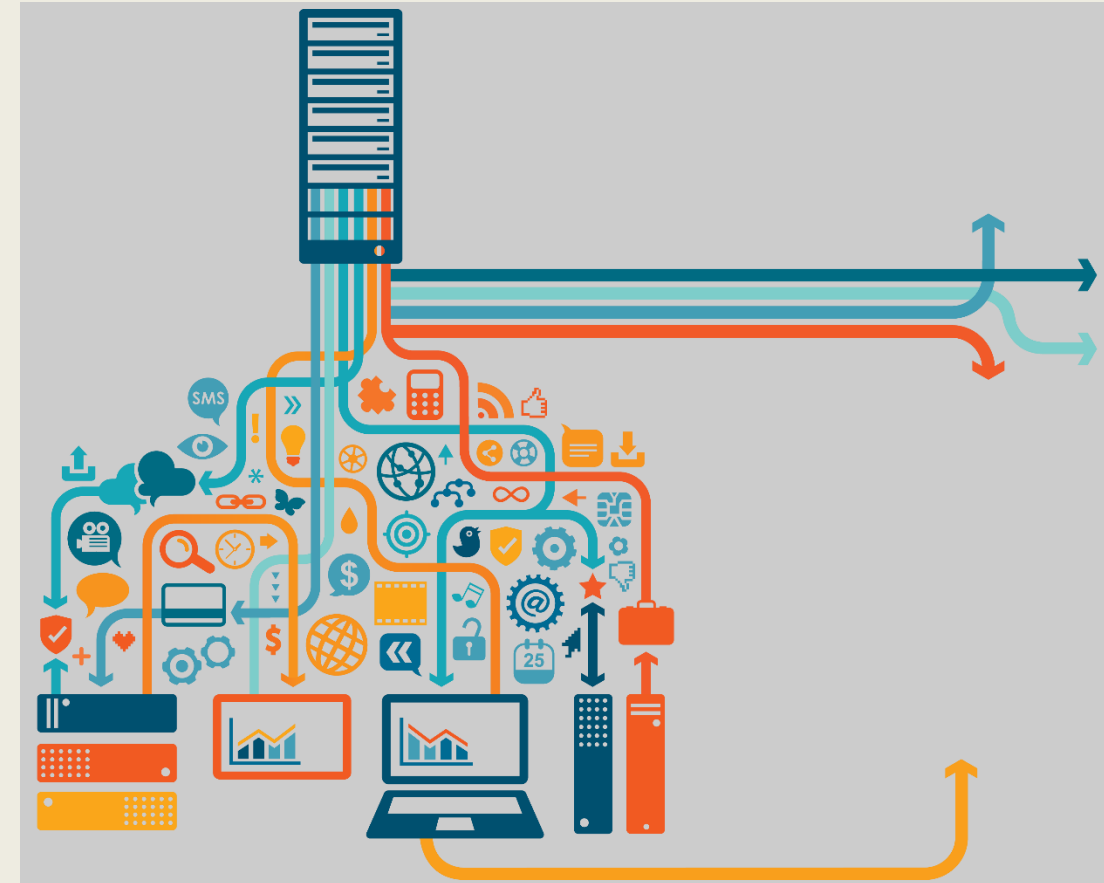


PURPOSE

To provide an update to parents/guardians, faculty, and the community regarding Cooperstown Central School Districts' plan to open for learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

TOGETHER WE WILL USE DATA TO INFORM OUR PLAN

CCSD response and plan based on guidance provided



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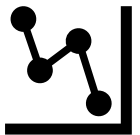
New Factors Considered



August 2021 Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year, NYSED



August 12, 2021, Letter from the Otsego County Department of Health



Otsego County Statistics

Health and Safety Guide for the 2021-2022 School Year, NYSED

2021-2022 Goals

- Keep students and staff healthy and safe.
- Be responsive to student needs.
- Maximize in-person teaching and learning.

NYSED compiled guide based on:

- CDC's Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools and American
- Academy of Pediatrics' COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools.

Designed to be used in conjunction with

- Local, state, and national resources available to schools.
- Local health department recommendations

Letter from the Otsego County Department of Health

Important Considerations:

- Delta variant is the predominant strain
- Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy
- Extremely important that children return to the in-person learning environment with layered prevention strategies in place.
- High-risk sports and extracurricular activities should be virtual or cancelled in areas of high transmission unless all participants are fully vaccinated.

Guidance based recommendations provided by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Recommends K-12 schools adopt universal masking for staff, students and visitors, regardless of vaccination status

Safely returning all students to in-person instruction is a priority

Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak news

(August 12, 2021, The Daily Star)

County population: 59,749

Total cases: 4,625

New cases: 78 (+41)

Deaths: 64 (0)

New Deaths: 0 (0)

Active cases: 82 (+42)

Hospitalizations: 5 (+3)

7-day rolling average positivity rate: 3.2 (+6)

Vaccination rate (at least one dose):
56.5%

Percent point increase: .5 (+.1%)

Vaccination rate (at least one dose) 18
and older: 63.8%

Percentage point increase: .5(+1)

Number of people with at least one dose:
33,744

Increase from previous report: 277 (+16)

Number of people fully vaccinated:
31,631

Increase from previous report: 167(+2)

American Academy of Pediatrics

Source: [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)



- **Strongly advocates that all policy considerations for school plans should start with the goal of keeping students safe and physically present in school.**
 - **Remote learning highlighted inequities in education, was detrimental to the educational attainment of students of all ages and exacerbated the mental health crisis among children and adolescents.**
 - **Opening schools generally does not significantly increase community transmission, particularly when guidance is followed.**
 - **There are still possibilities for transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially for individuals and families who have chosen not to be vaccinated or are not eligible to be vaccinated. Variants have also emerged that may increase the risk of transmission.**
- The AAP believes that, at this point in the pandemic, **given what we know about low rates of in-school transmission** when proper prevention measures are used, together with the availability of effective vaccines for those age 12 years and up, that the **benefits of in-person school outweigh the risks in almost all circumstances.**
 - **Schools and school-supported programs are fundamental to child and adolescent development and well-being** provide our children and adolescents with academic instruction; social and emotional skills, safety, reliable nutrition, physical/occupational/speech therapy, mental health services, health services, and opportunities for physical activity, among other benefits.
 - **Families rely on schools to provide a safe, stimulating, and enriching space for children to learn;** appropriate supervision of children; opportunities for socialization; and access to school-based mental, physical, and nutritional health services.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

Source: [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 schools](#)



- Students benefit from **in-person learning**, and safely returning to **in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority**.
 - **Vaccination is the leading public health prevention strategy** to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
 - **CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.**
 - Students, teachers, and staff **should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness** and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- **Maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance** between students within classrooms to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, it is especially important to **layer multiple other prevention strategies**, such as screening testing.
 - Screening testing, **ventilation, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection** are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
 - Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing **layered prevention strategies** to promote in-person learning.
 - Localities should **monitor community transmission**, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies.

CDC update 8.12.21

Given new evidence on the B.1.617.2 (Delta) variant, CDC has updated guidance for fully vaccinated people. CDC recommends universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 school, regardless of vaccination status. Children should return to full-time in person learning in the fall with layered prevention strategies in place.



TOGETHER WE WILL
FOCUS ON
INSTRUCTION IN A
SAFE ENVIRONMENT



In-Person Learning

Schools will open for
in-person learning on
September 7th, 2021,
5-days a week

Layered Mitigation Strategies

Vaccination

Universal Masking

Physical Distancing

Respiratory Etiquette

Staying home when
sick

Cleaning/disinfection

Vaccination

Vaccination is the
leading public health
prevention strategy
to end the pandemic

Universal Masking

Universal indoor
masking for all staff,
students, & visitors
regardless of
vaccination status

Physical Distancing

Classrooms with
3ft distancing,
using desks and
tables

Cafeterias with 3ft
distancing using
alternating seats
at tables

Band, Chorus, PE
with 6ft as
possible

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

Cover coughs and
sneezes

Encourage
handwashing with
soap and water for
at least 20 seconds

Temperature and Questionnaire Screenings

The CDC no longer
recommends
temperature screenings
or screening
questionnaires at school

Cleaning & Disinfecting

Will clean and
disinfect
classrooms and
buses daily

Ventilation

Building ventilation
systems are
currently being
assessed

Monitoring Community Transmission

Consult with local health officials and monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks

Transportation



Universal
Masking

Siblings to sit
together

Ride assigned
bus

Crack
windows

Remote Learning

Shift as a district to
remote learning based
on public health
conditions

Districts not required
to offer remote
learning option

Will evaluate
educational needs of
medically homebound
students as identified

Contact Tracing and Quarantine

No Quarantine:

Student/staff masked
appropriately within 3ft
of positive

Quarantine:

Unvaccinated person
within 6ft unmasked
longer than 15 minutes

Collaborate with local
health departments
and report new
diagnoses of COVID-
19

TOGETHER WE WILL
FOCUS ON THE WELL
BEING OF STUDENTS
AND STAFF



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Social Emotional

Counselors will reach out to all families that remained fully remote last year as well as our students with disabilities.

We will be offering an Employee Assistance Program.

Sports and Extracurriculars Activities

The CDC and NYSED recognize that school-sponsored sports and extracurricular activities provide students with enrichment opportunities that can help them learn and achieve and support their social, emotional, and mental health.

Fall Sports offered at CCSD



Soccer

Football

Cross Country

Girls Swimming

Field Hockey (Mt. Markham)

Recommended Prevention Strategies

Follow the same school-day policies and procedures during athletic and extracurricular activities

Students should refrain from these activities when they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and should be tested.

Encouraged to use COVID-19 screening testing for student athletes, students participating in extracurricular activities or other activities with elevated risk

Sport Related Risk Factors



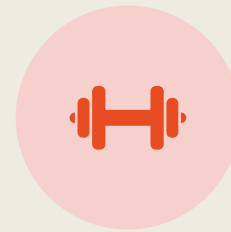
SETTING OF THE
SPORTING EVENT
OR ACTIVITY.



PHYSICAL
CLOSENESS.



NUMBER OF
PEOPLE.



LEVEL OF INTENSITY
OF ACTIVITY..



DURATION OF TIME.

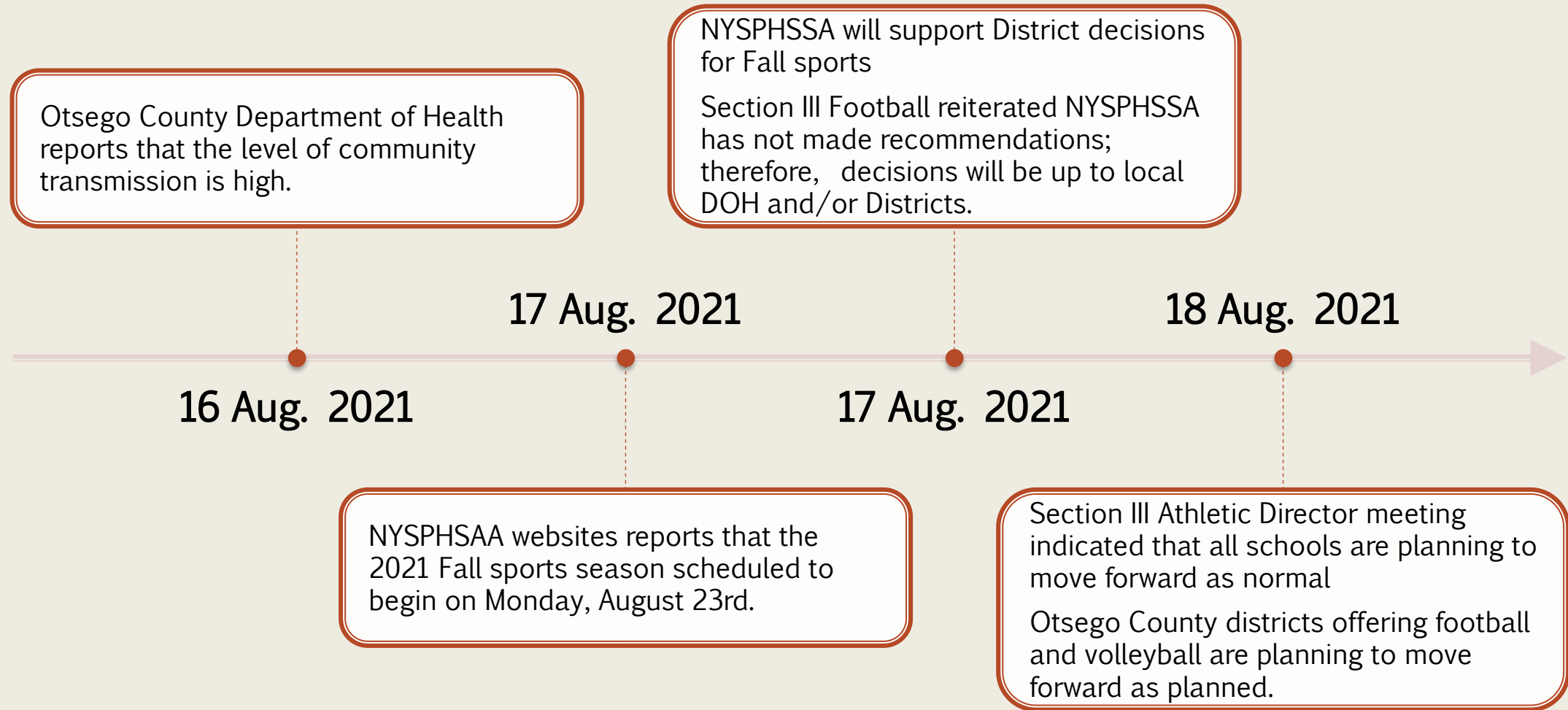
High Risk Sports

High-risk sports and extracurricular activities should be virtual or canceled in areas of high community transmission unless all participants are fully vaccinated.

High Risk Sports



Community Transmission Status Related to High-Risk Sports



Football Options

Option I	Allow football to continue as scheduled and require masks, unless the local DOH, NYSED, or NYSPHSSA mandate cancelling the season
Option II	Allow the football season to continue as scheduled and require COVID-19 screening testing for student athletes and coaches.
Option III	Cancel the football season.

TOGETHER WE CAN
SUCCESSFULLY HAVE
STUDENTS RETURN
TO IN-PERSON
LEARNING IN GRADES
K-12.





QUESTIONS
