

Scio Central School – Opening Plan 2023-2024

At-A-Glance

**As of August 30, 2023, subject to change based on NYSED, NYSDOH, ACDOH and CDC guidance.

Preventative Strategies

- Parents are expected to screen their child(ren) each morning and keep them home if they have a fever or severe cold symptoms. Parents are welcome to refer to the nurse if questioning their child's attendance.
- Covid tests will be made available to anyone that would like one.
- Scio CSD encourages vaccinations of those eligible
- Anyone that needs to enter the school other than staff and students will need to report to the Main Office

Athletics & Extracurricular Activities

- All extracurricular activities will resume
- Playgrounds will remain open
- Athletics will follow NYSED, DOH, & NYSPHSAA guidance

Classroom Instruction

- Students in grades 3-12 will have a school issued laptop
- K thru 2nd will have a school issued iPad
- Normal grading will be used for face-to-face instruction as well as virtual instruction in the event of a mandatory quarantine by the Department of Health
- Remote instruction will only be used for mandatory quarantines or school shutdowns
- Classroom seating charts will be required for all class periods



Return after Covid

- Persons that have Covid will follow recommended protocols including staying home for 5 days and masking for 5 days upon return.

Transportation

- Students will sit in assigned seats

School Day Schedule

- School Day will be Face to Face Monday through Friday
- School start and end times
 - School Day – 7:55-3:00
 - Students may enter building at 7:30 a.m.
- BOCES is unchanged:
 - Junior CTE students will attend in the AM
 - Senior CTE students will attend in the PM
- Students will have a hallway locker and switch classes
- Elem students will switch rooms for all specials
- Students will use the locker room for PE

Introduction:

Schools are once again faced with educating our school population while navigating through the Covid-19 pandemic. Our approach to safety has consistently been to follow the guidance from the NYSED, NYSDOH, ACDOH, and the CDC. As we begin the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to follow the guidance of these entities.

Having our students in the building five days a week continues to be a priority. Our approach to providing a safe learning environment for students, faculty and staff will be a layered approach. Mitigation layers will include, but are not limited to:

- Encouraging Vaccination
- Mask Wearing after having Covid
- Handwashing/Sanitizing
- HVAC improvements
- Regular Disinfecting
- Evaluation of Symptomatic Individuals
- Limiting Visitors to the Building

This plan is an update to our 2021-2022 Reopening Plan which morphed as new information was received throughout last school year. The steps we took to mitigate the virus last school year were, overall , very successful. This plan aligns with its basic concepts and includes changes we made throughout the school year, while being aligned with the latest CDC and NYSED guidance.

This plan remains a living document that must be revisited on a regular basis to ensure it is up-to-date as new guidance is provided.

Covid-19 Vaccinations

The CDC states that “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”. (NYSED Health and Safety Guidance, page 6) Furthermore, many schools serve children under age 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at the time. Therefore, reflecting CDC guidance, this document emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (i.e., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, and other members of their households.

Monitoring Community Transmission

Scio Central School will continue to work with the Allegany County Department of Health to monitor community spread, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrences of outbreaks to guide decisions related to Covid-19 procedures.

Wearing Masks

The CDC has recommended mask wearing for 5-days for persons returning after having Covid.

Symptomatic Individuals

Employees and parents are asked to act responsibly when coming to work/sending children to school. No one that has had a fever should return to school until they have been fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication. Individuals who suspect they have Covid-19 should get tested. Tests will be available at the school.

Other Mitigating Strategies:

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette: Students will be expected to hand sanitize upon entering the classroom, gym, cafeteria, etc. Students will be encouraged to regularly wash their hands throughout the school day. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be taught and reinforced.

Disinfecting and Sanitizing: The building will continue to be sanitized on a regular basis. All high touched surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned at least once per day. All classrooms will be equipped with wipes and supplies will be replenished as needed.

Drinking Fountains: We encourage all students to bring water bottles to school. Filtered water is available through the drinking fountain bottle filler.