



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan 2021-2022

June 2021

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

Horizon Science Academy Youngstown (HSAY) will return to traditional school beginning in August of 2021. There will be no waiver on instruction time or minutes this year. Therefore, HSAY will operate on a full day schedule. Students will be required to take all mandated state and district assessments.

In the event that HSAY has to close due to a COVID-19 outbreak (as defined by the CDC or local health department), HSAY has a plan in place to engage all students via Virtual and/or Hybrid instructional and Chromebooks / hotspots will be provided if needed. Progress and attendance will be monitored by the classroom teacher and the truancy team.

Teachers will maintain communication with students and parents through Classroom Dojo, Google Classroom, ConceptSIS, Gmail, and/or Seesaw.

Teacher based teams will meet biweekly and the Building Leadership Team will meet weekly to follow up with progress during online / hybrid learning.

HSAY will follow grading scales, enrollment procedures, attendance procedures, and promotion/retention policies in place that are consistent with previous requirements for all students regardless of traditional or distance learning status.

OPERATIONS

Students will arrive and dismiss as determined by the HSAY daily schedule. K-8 students will be dropped off and picked up in designated areas in front the school building. Buses will drop off and pick up students back of the building as normal. Parents and students will be encouraged to administer health checks such as temperature checks prior to arriving on campus.

Students will participate in breakfast and lunch as normal. K-8 students will eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria.

The start date for students for the 2021-2022 school year is August 23, 2021. The end date for the 2021-2022 school year is June 3, 2022. (2021-2022 board approved academic calendar attached).

Communication and Family Support

HSAY maintains communication with parents in a variety of methods such as Classroom Dojo, email and School Reach – our schoolwide phone call & text messaging system.

Classroom Dojo allows teachers with the ability to send and receive communications in a quick messaging format. Surveys will be conducted over the course of the year regarding technology and learning to ensure progress with each student is and that each student has access to the resources they need.

All current health and safety guidelines as prescribed by CDC and Youngstown Health Department will be communicated with parents via our regular communication tools.

Our policies, protocol, and procedures regarding student illness (including COVID 19) are posted on our website and/or in our student handbooks. All policies, procedures, and protocol will be strictly adhered to.

School nurse, school administrators, and/or other appropriate school staff will communicate with parents as needed in regards to health concerns of students.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Overview

HSAY has taken steps to prepare for the health, wellness, and safety for students and staff for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. These guidelines are part of a living document and will be updated with new information as it becomes available. Please see the information below for a set of general guidelines and expectations. Decisions will be made in coordination with local and state guidelines as they are released.

Arrival

- Staff, parents, and students will be encouraged to perform health checks including temperature checks before arriving to school.
- Students will use hand sanitizer or hand washing upon arrival into classrooms.
- Common areas will be under a sanitizing schedule

Dismissal

- Use of the car line will be used for student pick-up only. No in-person parent pick-up to avoid parent gatherings in school lobby or in front of school. Bus riding students will be dismissed first. All car-riding students will be dismissed after the school buses have departed.

Cafeteria

- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available before and after lunch.
- Cafeterias will be appropriately disinfected after each use.

Classrooms

- Multiple social distancing strategies will be implemented based on feasibility of the unique space and needs of each school.
- Students will be encouraged to maintain distance from each other in the school and taught appropriate hygiene/COVID practices.
- Personal water bottles will be provided for touchless drinking fountains.
- Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing will be encouraged.
- Appropriate measures will be taken for cleaning Chromebooks/other technology devices.
- Staff will observe students for illness prior to starting class and refer students to nurse as needed.
- Teachers and staff will clean/disinfect at appropriate times.

Visitors

- Non-essential visitors will be limited.
- Visitors are encouraged to call the school before entering the building.
- Proper face coverings may be required as per current CDC guidelines.
- Regulated number of visitors in the building at one time

Playground / Gymnasium

- Students will be monitored for social distancing while on playground / in gym.
- Handwashing/sanitizer will be available upon re-entry to building.
- Frequently used playground / gym equipment will be cleaned routinely.

Cleaning

- Cleaning crew will target cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, such as counters, doorknobs, stair rails, tabletops, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary.

Health Services

- School personnel will provide COVID safety training/materials to faculty and staff via Safe Schools
- School personnel will provide education to staff and students regarding health and safety protocols as they relate to prevention of communicable disease.
- Students or staff demonstrating symptoms will be referred to the nurse. Prior to returning to school, the school nurse will be consulted or documentation from health care provider will be provided.
- Students and/or staff exhibiting COVID symptoms will be required to wear a provided mask.
- Students/adults who are symptomatic will be issued a mask to wear until they are picked up by a parent or leave the building.

Technology

All students will have access to a Chromebook or other device regardless of traditional or distance learning environment.

In the event of an outbreak of COVID -19, online review training for Google Classroom, Seesaw, and other programs will be provided to students, parents and staff.