

Barker Central School District

Reopening Plan



July 31, 2020

Amended 4/19/2021

Introduction

On March 16th, 2020, The Barker Central School District, like many other schools across New York State, closed our doors to students and staff for in-person instruction for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year.

The State of New York and our local Barker learning community have endured through the tough, challenging times resulting from the pandemic that has continued to course through the veins our locality, state, and Nation.

The Barker school community has been and will continue to be, an important aspect of the lifeblood of our return to normalcy. However, returning to normalcy will take time, careful planning, and patience as the road back will not be easy and likely to be fraught with road bumps and other challenges that we do not yet know about.

The following plan for the return to school for the Barker Central School District has been put together by a team of stakeholders within the district and has taken into account input from staff, community members, students, and more.

The planning process for return to school began in late April of 2020 and has culminated in the following document. Please know that this document and our plan to return to school is not something that is set in stone as, with little to no notice, we may be required to change our direction and alter our path moving forward.

The goal of this plan is to return to school in the most normal fashion possible while doing this in the safest way we can. You will notice that we have included three different methods for providing instruction as circumstances may change that will require us to utilize one method over another. This plan clarifies what each could look like depending on the situation at any individual point in time.

At the time of publishing this revised document to the district website on April 19, 2021, it is the intention of the Barker Central School District to open the school to elementary students on April 26, 2021 for 4 day per week instruction with students attending Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays (Wednesdays will remain fully remote for all students) or fully remotely, depending on the desire of each family. All Jr. Sr. High School Students will continue to remain attending in either a hybrid (In-person Monday and Tuesday/Remote Wednesday, Thursday and Friday or Remote Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday/In-person Thursday and Friday depending on cohort) or fully remote model, depending on the desire of each family. It should further be noted that it is our intention to slowly increase our in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible, as long as it is safe to do so for our students and staff.

Additionally, families who do not feel comfortable sending their students to school due to the pandemic will be provided an option for full remote learning until further notice. The district will ensure that all students from the same family attend school in-person on the same days. Additional information related to these models of instruction can be found in the Teaching and Learning section of this document. Details containing the logistics of how the district will provide all of our services can be located via communication on the District website and through the mass notification system.

As noted above, our goal is to return to as close to normal as possible during the school year. The district will closely monitor the learning models outlined in the paragraphs above as well as in the Teaching and Learning section of this document and, if deemed possible, the district may increase the number of in-person days for students attending school on campus. What this increased instruction could look like will depend upon the situation, but ample notification will be provided to families before any changes are made.

We realize this approach to continuing our learning here in the Barker Central School District may not meet every family's needs perfectly. However, it is clear through the community input received to date that there is a diverse belief in the direction we need to move going forward as it relates to instruction. The approach we have outlined here allows us to provide instruction to all of our learning community in the best way we can at this time and it provides options for families that best meet their needs.

It is also important to note that as of the date of this document, extracurricular and athletic activities will continue to be allowed to commence as per guidance set forth by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association and Section VI athletics.

If at any time you have a question about the process for reopening our schools, do not hesitate to contact the District at any time.

Our community is extremely resilient and we know that we will all get through this and continue 'To be leaders in bringing out the best in each individual in our community.'

Communication/Family and Community Engagement

Stakeholder Involvement

In April of 2020, a committee was formed to plan for the reopening of school in the fall of 2020. This committee included various stakeholders within the district. The committee met weekly throughout the months of April, May, June, and July to discuss what school would look like and discuss the concerns and input from the community and staff. In early July, the District

surveyed faculty and staff to gather information on their feelings of returning to school. Once guidance was released from the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Barker Central School District surveyed community members to gather parent input on various reopening concepts.

Again in April of 2021, the District surveyed faculty and staff to gather information on their feelings of returning to school for greater in person instruction. Once guidance was released from the New York State Department of Health (DOH) and the New York State Education Department (NYSED), the Barker Central School District surveyed community members to gather parent input on various reopening concepts.

Communication Plans

The Barker Central School District has traditionally used the district website, emails, mailings home, emails, signage, and all-call group messages to convey information to staff and community members. The District will continue to use these methods to communicate plans for students, parents, or legal guardians of students, staff, and visitors. The District will also work with its World Language and its English as a New Language (ENL) teachers as well as the Brockport Migrant Program to provide communication in the language(s) spoken at home among families and throughout the school community if different from English.

COVID-19 Protocol Training

The Barker Central School District will ensure that all faculty, staff, and students will be taught or trained, through verbal and/or written communication, to adhere to CDC, DOH and SED regulations regarding the use of PPE, specifically acceptable face coverings, when social distance cannot be maintained, and to follow all COVID-19 protocols for safety which include but are not limited to hand hygiene, proper face-covering wearing, social distancing, and

respiratory hygiene. Training for staff was provided before the school year begins during the two staff development days planned on September 1 and September 2, 2020. Training for students was provided during the first two weeks of school and will be revisited periodically throughout the pandemic.

Below are links to some, but not all, of the informational videos, training, and signage that will be used by the district.

- [Know the Signs of Covid-19](#)
- [Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
- [How to Practice Social Distancing](#)
- [Key Times to Wear a Face Covering](#)
- [Key Times to Wash Your Hands](#)
- [CDC Recommended Signage](#)

Health and Safety

Reviewing Numbers and PPE

The Barker Central School District has reviewed and analyzed the numbers of students and staff to be allowed to return in person in order to maintain appropriate social distance, availability of safe transportation, and the wearing of proper PPE, providing face masks if needed. Further, the district has already purchased enough PPE for staff and students who will be in attendance for in-person instruction upon the return to school. The School Business Official will continually monitor the level of supplies in stock and available to ensure we have enough products at all times.

Stakeholder Involvement

The Barker Central School District has surveyed faculty, staff, and parents/guardians to develop our reopening plan. Input received from all stakeholders has been reviewed and analyzed and directly influenced the decisions in determining the methodology of instruction as well as the numbers of students receiving in-person instruction at one time to ensure the district maintains CDC, DOH, and the New York State Department of Education guidelines for safety and instruction. Survey information will be retained by the district and viewable upon request.

Communication Plans

The Barker Central School District will post its reopening plan and any other updates on the district website and alert parents to the postings as appropriate. The plan will also be posted in Spanish. In the event that changes need to be made to instruction or services offered due to a change in New York State issued guidance, families will be notified through the mass notification system as well as through the district website and social media platforms.

Signs of Illness Protocols

The Barker Central School District will provide resources to educate faculty, staff, parents, and guardians regarding the careful observation of symptoms of COVID-19 and health screening that must be conducted each morning before coming to school.

Below are links to some, but not all, of the informational videos, training, and signage that will be used by the district and communicated to District families.

- [Know the Signs of Covid-19](#)
- [Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
- [How to Practice Social Distancing](#)
- [Key Times to Wear a Face Covering](#)
- [Key Times to Wash Your Hands](#)
- [CDC Recommended Signage](#)

Daily Temperature Screenings/Questionnaire

Faculty and staff will be required to complete a daily screening questionnaire that meets state guidelines related to their contact with others who may have had Covid-19 or their own personal signs of Covid-19. This questionnaire will be digital in nature.

Families are asked to check their child's temperature and go through the established list of other symptoms before sending their child to school each day. Families will also be required to complete a paper form periodically verifying their child does not have any symptoms.

If staff is unable to verify that a student's temperature had been checked prior to arrival at school, the student will have their temperature taken prior to building entry. Staff will be trained to take students temperatures with a non-contact thermometer or other like device. No data will be collected by staff pertaining to student's daily temperatures. If a student's temperature is above 100 degrees, the student will be sent home. The student will be directed to the isolation room, per district protocols, and will remain isolated while awaiting parent arrival.

Ill Students and Staff

Staff will be instructed on the signs and symptoms of illness as per information in previous sections of this plan. Staff will be given specific signs to look for indicating the need for evaluation by the school nurse. Any student or staff member suspected of illness will be evaluated by the school nurse.

If, after assessment by the school nurse, it is determined that a student has symptoms of a communicable disease, the student will remain in the isolation room until their parent arrives. Upon parent arrival, the student will be escorted to the nearest exit. The parent/guardian will be instructed to contact their health care provider for further direction. If the student does not have a PCP, a list of local urgent care centers will be provided.

Isolation Area

A separate space has been established for individuals who are suspected of being sick with Covid-19. The person will remain in this space until a parent can pick up a student (in the case of a child) or the person can safely leave campus.

The isolation area will be supervised at all times while ill students or staff are present. The most current CDC and NYSDOH guidelines for PPE will be followed by the supervising staff.

A distance of at least 6' will be maintained between all students and staff within the isolation room.

Cleaning of the isolation room, bathroom, and equipment will be performed as directed by the CDC and NYSDOH.

Protocols for Visitors

Visitor access to the school building will be significantly reduced during the school year. Only visitors who have a direct need, such as to provide services to students or the district, will be allowed in the buildings. Processes for picking up students from school and for any general entry to the building will be distributed to families before the school year begins.

Visitors and contractors will be required to fill out a health and safety survey and have their temperature checked by the District before entering the school. The survey will be digital and a link to the survey be provided to visitors and contracts as needed. If the visitor or contractor answers any question as a yes on the survey or has temp greater than 100 degrees, they will be denied entry into the building.

Visitors to the building will be required to wear a face mask covering their nose and mouth at all times.

Visitors will be given written instruction on cloth face coverings usage and care as per the CDC.

When to Stay Home

Faculty, staff, and students are strongly recommended to stay home when any of the most common symptoms of COVID-19 are observed.

Students, staff, and the community will be educated regarding COVID-19 symptoms in their home language. There will be signs overtly displayed throughout the building. Such signage will include but not be limited to that found at the [CDC website](#) (click on the hyperlink for example signage). Additional information and resources may also be mailed to families as well. There will be links to the CDC and Niagara County Department of Health accessible through the District and health office web pages.

Proper Hygiene

The Barker Central School District will follow CDC and NYSDOH guidelines for both students and staff for proper hygiene which includes, but is not limited to; frequent, proper handwashing, when to stay home if they feel sick, adhere to social distancing, report symptoms, or exposure to COVID-19 and proper respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette. Such guidelines will be provided to staff before school begins and also throughout the first weeks of school for students who attend in-person instruction. All students who attend in-person instruction will be provided with training on these practices no matter when they begin in-person instruction. Times will be provided throughout the school day for staff and students to practice good hygiene practices.

Social Distancing

Students will be required to wear masks when they are in the building, on the school bus, navigating classrooms hallways, and while in other communal areas of the campus. Students will be allowed to take mask breaks throughout the day, such as if they go outside for a class, physical education class held outside, and if they are able to maintain a socially

distanced six feet or more from others. If social distancing is maintained students may, at times designated by the teacher or supervisor, be allowed to take masks off while in instructional spaces or the cafeteria during instructional or meal times respectively.

Social distancing guidelines will be posted around the campus and students will be instructed in best practices for social distancing and hygiene. At times, it may be necessary to limit the number of students and staff in any one area of congregation at a given time including but not limited to auditoriums, gymnasiums, classrooms, restrooms, libraries and hallways in order to maintain social distancing.

Accommodations for At-Risk Students/Staff

The Barker Central School will work to accommodate at-risk faculty and students who are at risk or have family members at risk and will be allowed to attend school remotely. As such, remote instruction will be offered to students per the remote instruction model within this plan.

PPE for Staff and Students

The Barker Central School District will require faculty, staff, and students to wear appropriate PPE or cloth face coverings whenever social distancing cannot be maintained.

Employees and students with healthcare provider documentation stating they are not medically able to tolerate face covering will not be required to do so.

The Barker Central School District will provide an acceptable face covering to employees and students if they forget their own and will maintain an adequate supply in case of need for replacement. The School Business Official will continually monitor the supply of PPE and will order required supplies to ensure acceptable stock is on hand in case of need.

Staff and students will be educated in proper donning, doffing, and storing of PPE verbally and through signage.

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in School and the return to School

The school nurse, upon notification of a positive case, will immediately contact the Superintendent of Schools. Upon notification, the Superintendent of Schools, in conjunction with the School Nurse, will contact the Niagara County Department of Health to determine the next steps for the district, which could include the closure of the building(s) or other responses as directed by the Niagara County Department of Health.

CDC guidelines as well as NCDOH directives will be utilized to ensure proper quarantine and isolation precautions are initiated and maintained.

The district has developed a protocol for the management of ill persons and COVID 19 which will direct many of the actions taken by the school district.

The school district has a longstanding partnership with Niagara County Department of Health. Niagara County has four (4) hospitals in the jurisdiction: Kaleida DeGraff Memorial Hospital, Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center, Mount Saint Mary's Hospital and Eastern Niagara Hospital - Lockport. Local hospital capacity may be found at: https://profiles.health.ny.gov/hospital/bed_type/Total+Beds. Regarding medical surge bed availability, the school district may work with the Niagara County Department of Health and local hospital partners for situational awareness as needed.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools

Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the school day according to CDC and NYSDOH guidelines. All staff responsible for cleaning and disinfection will be retrained in proper cleaning and disinfection protocols. Additional staff will be hired for the sole purpose of disinfection throughout the school day. The timing of disinfection within

classrooms and throughout the building, including community spaces such as but not limited to lavatories, cafeterias, hallways, and large gathering spaces, will be scheduled around student occupancy of each space.

Per NYS Department of Health Guidelines, students will not be allowed in the immediate proximity when disinfectants are in use, nor will they be allowed to use disinfectants to disinfect their spaces.

School Safety Drills

The Barker Central School District will perform all required school safety drills with modifications ensuring social distancing between persons.

Before and After School Programs

At the start of the school year, no before or after school programs were allowed to run, including but not limited to extracurricular activities, athletics, community education, or any other activities. All before and after school activities have been continually reviewed during the school year and notification of commencing any activity was provided to families and the community through the District website, mass notification system, and other methods of communication. As of the date of publishing this document, certain athletic activities and extra curriculums continue to operate under NYSED and NYSDOH guidelines and will continue to do so unless circumstances dictate otherwise.

Safety Coordinator

The Barker Central School District has designated two COVID-19 safety coordinators whose responsibility includes continuous compliance with all aspects of the school's reopening plan, as well as any phased-in activities necessary to allow for operational issues to be resolved

before activities return normal or “new normal” levels. The Superintendent and School Nurse will act jointly in this role.

Facilities

Fire Prevention and Building Codes

The Barker Central School District will adhere to all Office of Facilities Planning (OFP) requirements and submit any projects for approval, as well as meeting the requirements of the 2020 New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (BC) and the State Energy Conservation Code in an event that changes or additions need to be made to accommodate for COVID-19 reopening.

Building Condition Survey and Visual Inspection

The Barker Central School District will meet all current deadlines for the Building Condition Survey or Visual Inspections.

Lead in Water Testing

The Barker Central School District will comply with the DOH lead-in-water testing to the extent possible due to COVID-19 restrictions to provide clean and safe drinking water upon reopening.

Hand-Rub Dispensers

The Barker Central School District will provide adequate handwashing facilities and alcohol-based hand rub dispensers in accordance with FCNYS 2020 Section 5705. Sanitizing stations will be present in every instructional space as well as throughout the buildings in public areas such as corridors and other spaces.

Installation of Dividers

The Barker Central School District does not plan to install dividers at this time. If the district needs to install dividers for any reason it will ensure plans have been submitted to and approved by the OFP before any installation commences.

Building Construction and Temporary Quarter Project

The Barker Central School District is not engaging in new building construction and/ or temporary quarter projects at this time. If said construction does occur projects will be submitted to OFP for a full code review prior to implementation.

Leasing New Facilities

The Barker Central School District, at this time, is not engaging in leasing facilities. If leasing were to be required, projects will be submitted to OFP for a full code review prior to implementation.

Tents

The Barker Central School District does not need the use of temporary or permanent tents to meet instructional requirements for students at this time. If the use of tents needs to occur, plans will be submitted adhering to the BCNYS (Building Code of New York State) regulations.

Toilet and Sink Fixtures

The Barker Central School District currently maintains existing toilet and sink fixtures that meet the minimum standards of the BCNYS. If alterations do occur, plans will be submitted adhering to the BCNYS regulations.

Drinking Fountains

The Barker Central School District ensures that each building is able to provide one drinking fountain per one hundred occupants. Additionally, the district installed 3 additional touchless water bottle filling stations, for a total of 6, throughout the district for students and staff to use during the school day.

Ventilation

The Barker Central School District will continue to maintain proper ventilation that meets current building and safety standards and codes.

Plastic Separators

The district plans to use plastic separators in Speech-Language Therapy sessions and individual testing situations such as testing for reevaluations or elementary benchmarking. The plastic separators will also be used to provide protection during lunch. The District will follow all CDC and DOH guidelines regarding the cleaning and disinfecting of these barriers.

Child Nutrition

School Meals Every School Day

Barker Central School (BCS) prides itself on offering nutritious meals for all our students. Children cannot focus on learning when they are hungry and studies show that students perform best academically when they are well-nourished. BCS Breakfast and Lunch programs are a key component of our daily operations.

The BCS reopening plan provides all students enrolled with access to school meals each school day. Whether it be in-person instruction, remote learning, or a blended learning

situation our Food Service staff will be ready to provide both breakfast and lunch to all of our students daily.

The Barker Central School District will comply with the Child Nutrition Program requirements and provide all students enrolled in the SFA with access to school meals each day for students in attendance at school or learning remotely.

Health and Safety Guidelines

The BCS reopening plan addresses all applicable health and safety guidelines as outlined by the Niagara County Department of Health, the New York State Department of Child Nutrition, and all Federal Guidelines.

All staff involved in the preparation, set up, service, and clean up will work together to ensure that all meals served are safe to eat and that appropriate food safety measures are followed.

Staff will wear face masks, follow all proper handwashing procedures, disposable gloves, and will be instructed to not come to work sick.

Food Allergies

The BCS reopening plan includes measures to protect students with food allergies when providing meals in spaces outside the cafeteria. These spaces may include classrooms, auditoriums, gymnasiums, or outdoors to allow for the distancing of students and maintaining cohort populations in one location, which will depend on the logistics of class sizes and available space to be determined once class schedules are finalized.

Meal Services will be completed as follows for the different scenarios.

Full Return of Students on Campus

Eating socially distanced in the Cafe/ or accommodating spaces to allow social distancing.

Students will have social distance (six feet separation) while consuming meals in school. Hand

sanitizer will be provided near the entrance to the school cafeteria or multi-purpose room dining areas. Everyone who enters the dining area must be required to wash hands and/or apply hand sanitizer before entering the serving line or eating. Cafeteria entrance and exit doors will remain open to reduce students and staff repeatedly touching the same doorknobs and/or handles. We will implement a "One Way In/ One Way Out" procedure. Where lines are necessary they will flow in a single direction and floor markings or signage will be considered to encourage proper distancing. BCS food service is in full compliance with Child Nutrition Program requirements for every meal served. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the health and safety of individuals with food allergies, while the cafe staff will be able to make sure a student is not getting any foods they are allergic to by coming to the line and using the register/computer, the safety in the classroom will be under the guidance of the class monitor who will be trained in food allergen safety and prevention of cross-contact with potential allergens. Procedures such as proper handwashing with soap and water after food allergen contact, proper cleaning and disinfection of surfaces after food allergen contact, along with a very strict policy regarding "No Food Sharing" will be implemented for classroom or any space used in addition to the cafe. BCS will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as the serving line, between every class or group entering, using a properly mixed germicidal/disinfectant cleaner.

Blended Hybrid of Students on Campus & Students Learning Remotely

For all students on campus, we will follow all procedures mentioned above for on-site feeding.

For all students distance learning remotely - we will offer meals to be delivered to families.

Notification of meal services will be provided as appropriate. We will follow all Child Nutrition guidelines for reimbursable meals and every student in the district will be able to receive breakfast and lunch daily.

Distance Learning Only

We have already proven successful in our ability to provide meals to students at home. We served emergency meals for 3 ½ months and our community is well versed in the process and we will continue to provide pick up meal services for all families.

Hand Hygiene

The Barker Central School District will teach students protocols and procedures for performing hand hygiene before and after eating. Sharing food and beverages will be strongly discouraged.

Hands will be washed and/or sanitized prior to going into the cafeteria or at the hand sanitizer station at the cafe door. Handwashing will include the following:

- a. Wet hands and apply a single pump of hand soap
- b. Wash normally for at least 20 seconds
- c. Rinse hands with clear water and dry with clean paper towels
- d. Use a paper towel to turn off the water to avoid cross-contact.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

The Barker Central School District has developed protocols and procedures for the required cleaning and disinfection, per CDC and NYSDOH guidelines, prior to the next group of students arriving for meals. BCS will store cleaning and/or disinfecting solutions in the properly labeled spray bottles per OSHA standards and will have the appropriate SDS (Safety Data Sheet) readily available in case of accidental exposure or emergency.

Areas, where meals are to be eaten, will be cleared and cleaned between uses utilizing approved disinfectants and cleaning agents. If the area was used for a community activity or was shared by more than one student prior, a best practice would be to apply a light amount of disinfectant and wipe down the area with a clean towel or cloth.

Child Nutrition Programs

The Barker Central School District will continue to comply with Child Nutrition Program requirements. BCS reopening plan includes protocols that describe communication with families through multiple means in the languages spoken by families. The Food Service Department has new signage in different languages and uses pictures to cross language barriers for students, and has communication with families available in several different languages.

Child Nutrition Resources

- [The NYSED Child Nutrition Office website](#)
- [USDA Food and Nutrition Service](#)
- [Institute of Child Nutrition](#)
- [New York State Department of Health Food Safety Guidance](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools](#)

Communication with Families

The Barker Central School District will communicate with families through multiple means in the languages spoken by families. The Barker Central School will continue to send communications to families both through written correspondence and verbal communication via the blackboard system (calls & texts) as well as mailings and the Barker Central School website related to food services.

Social Distancing & Physical Barriers

The Barker Central School District will require students to maintain 6 feet social distance while obtaining and consuming meals in school unless a physical barrier is provided or students eat their meals outside. The district will provide barriers for students who eat in the cafeterias unless a full 6 ft of distancing can be maintained. Students who eat meals in a cafeteria with barriers or in an open space will not be required to wear their masks while eating but will be required to wear their masks while walking to and from their seats and while in the line to get food.

Transportation

Cleaning and Disinfecting

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that all buses which are used by the district every day will be disinfected per CDC guidelines at least once a day.

High Contact Spots

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that all high contact spots, including but not limited to seats, hand railings, and windows will be wiped down after the am and pm run, depending on the disinfectant schedule, before another group of students is allowed to ride the bus.

Hand Sanitizer

The Barker Central School District has contracted with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school buses are not equipped with hand sanitizer due to its combustible composition and potential liability to the carrier.

Personal Hand Sanitizers

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, and attendants must not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with them on school buses.

Face Coverings for Drivers/Aides

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics wear a face-covering along with an optional face shield.

Training of PPE and Signs of COVID-19

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that the transportation staff (drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics) will be trained and provided periodic refreshers on the proper use of personal protective equipment and the signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Training on Social Distancing

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics are trained to ensure social distance on the buses.

Hand Sanitizers Off Buses

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that hand sanitizer for all transportation staff is provided in their transportation locations such as dispatch offices, employee lunch/break rooms, and/or bus garages.

Gloves

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure drivers, monitors, and attendants who must have direct physical contact with a child must wear gloves.

Self-Health Assessment

The Barker Central School District will contract with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure school bus drivers, monitors, attendants, and mechanics shall perform a self-health assessment for symptoms of COVID-19 before arriving to work. Such assessment will include but not be limited to the same requirements per the assessment used by the District. If personnel is experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 they should notify their employer, not report to work, and possibly seek medical attention.

Students Wearing Masks

The Barker Central School District will work with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that all students who are able to will wear masks on the bus.

Denial of Transportation Because of Lack of Mask

The Barker Central School District and STA will not deny a student who does not have a mask transportation. The Barker Central District will work with Student Transportation of America to provide a mask to students that do not have one.

Provision of Masks

The Barker Central School District will provide a mask to any student who does not have one and will provide STA with a supply of masks for each bus in the event a student does not have one as required to ride the bus in the morning or afternoon.

Students with Disabilities and Masks

The Barker Central School District will ensure that students with disabilities that prevent them from wearing a mask will not be forced to do so or denied transportation.

PPE Training Reminders

The Barker Central School District will work with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that transportation staff is provided periodic refreshers on the proper use of personal protective equipment and the signs of COVID-19.

Social Distancing Training Reminders

The Barker Central School District will work with Student Transportation of America (STA) to ensure that transportation staff is provided periodic refreshers on social distance guidelines.

Transportation and IEPs

The Barker Central School District will provide pupil transportation to nonpublic, parochial, private, charter schools or to students whose Individualized Education Plans have

placed them out-of-district whose schools are meeting in in-person sessions when/if the district is not.

The Barker Central School District recognizes that all students are entitled to transportation by the district to the extent required by law. Transportation departments do not have the ability or the right to deny transportation for children who are in foster care, homeless, or attend private or charter schools. Parents who may have missed the due date to request out of district transportation due to a reasonable excuse may file a 310 appeal with the Commissioner of Education.

Social-Emotional Well-Being

Counseling Program Plans

The Barker Central School District will ensure that a district-wide and building-level comprehensive school counseling program plan, developed under the direction of certified school counselor(s), is reviewed and updated to meet current needs.

Advisory Council

The Barker Central School District will establish an advisory council composed of families, students, faculty, and staff to inform the comprehensive developmental school counseling program plan.

Referrals for Mental Health, Behavior and Emotional Support

The Barker Central School District will provide resources and referrals to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional support services and programs. The district will continue to utilize contracted mental health services through our local BOCES as well as New Directions to assist in providing various levels of support to our students.

Professional Development for Staff

The Barker Central School District will provide professional development for faculty and staff on how to talk with and support students during and after the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency as well as provide support for developing coping and resilience skills for students, faculty, and staff.

School Schedules

Contingent Scheduling

The Barker Central School System will develop contingent schedules for a full in-person schedule, a blended schedule, and a full remote schedule of learning. Student schedules will be developed by the guidance office. In-person instruction will continue similar to previous years, with staggered release times to limit contact in the hallways. The actual schedules of the learning day are determined by student need and will follow the outlines of the continuity of learning as described in the Teaching and Learning section of this document.

Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism

Tracking Attendance

The Barker Central School District will develop a mechanism to collect and record daily teacher/student engagement and attendance regardless of the instructional setting. The PowerSchool system will be used to track in-person attendance. The school's LMS (Google Classroom) will be used to track virtual attendance. Regardless of which type of learning is being conducted, regular student attendance is expected throughout the learning week. Final details of how attendance will be tracked will be provided before school begins.

Technology and Connectivity

Level of Access to Devices and High-Speed Internet

The Barker Central School District will provide all faculty and students who do not have access to a device with a digital device capable of accessing and completing all work. Additionally, the district will provide MiFi devices, or the like, for families who do not have high-speed broadband internet access.

Addressing the Need for Devices and High-Speed Internet

The Barker Central School District has surveyed the greater learning community twice to determine the need for devices and the internet. It is clear that many of our students and staff do not have access to digital devices or high-speed internet in addition to needing training on how to use digital devices once they have them. Survey data will be used to determine the number of devices and wifi connections needed and the School Business Official and Director of Instructional Services will contract with appropriate entities to obtain enough devices and wifi connections ensuring all students and staff have the ability to complete all required work.

Remote and Blended Learning Models

The Barker Central School District will provide faculty with professional development to improve remote and blended learning. The district will encourage remote or blended learning to be given in both synchronous and asynchronous methods so students will be able to participate in learning in the way that best suits their needs. See the Teaching and Learning section of this document for more specific protocols related to instructional models.

Teaching and Learning

Continuity of Learning: In-Person Instruction

The Barker Central School District has developed an in-person learning plan that provides for continuity of learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Upon returning to in-person instruction, faculty and staff will continue to make students feel safe, engaged, and excited about learning. The importance of in-person instruction on the well-being of students and the positive relationships that they form with peers, teachers, and school community members can not be overstated. Barker Central School faculty and staff will strive to provide a sense of normalcy and a return to a routine while maintaining strict adherence to health and safety guidelines outlined by the CDC and NYSED which included, but are not limited to, acceptable face coverings, social distancing, and proper hygiene. Instruction P-12 will be aligned to the New York State Learning Standards and faculty and staff will work towards providing students with individualized support to meet their needs. In-person instruction P-12 will include, but is not limited to:

- In addition to being assigned a 1:1 technology device, students will be assigned Google Classroom (G Suite) accounts at all grade levels and subject areas. Individual teachers will model and provide instruction to students on how to access, complete, and submit assignments. The use of Google Classroom allows students to work remotely when needed and allows for students to maintain contact with teachers during times of distance learning.
- Teachers will share with students and parents the best way to establish communication, such as, but not limited to, email, phone, and online platforms.
- When designing instruction, teachers will prioritize NYS Learning Standards that are best suited for in-person instruction versus those that could be attainable through remote learning.

- In-person instruction will focus, to the greatest extent possible, on learning that is difficult via a virtual classroom. Such learning would include but is not limited to, direct reading instruction, science labs, project-based learning, and other hands-on learning opportunities that are only available during in-person instruction.
- In-person instruction will also allow for teachers, students, and peers to have meaningful discussions, provide one-to-one assistance with content specific questions or help with technology.
- At all grade levels, the use of shared resources, materials, supplies among students will be limited. Classroom materials will be properly cleaned between use and/ or taken out of use for a period of time. Students may be asked to bring in additional supplies.
- Additional considerations for the Arts and PE need to be taken into account:
 - For Art, students will need an individual kit of “high touch” supplies such as scissors, markers, pencils, erasers, etc. to be supplied by families.
 - High touch surfaces and shared materials will be cleaned following CDC and NYSDOH guidelines.
 - A distance of at least 6 feet will be maintained between individuals while participating in activities that require projecting the voice (e.g. singing) or playing a wind instrument. There will be no sharing of instruments.
 - A distance of at least 6 feet will be maintained between individuals while participating in activities that require aerobic activity and result in heavy breathing.
 - Physical education classes will focus on individual skills rather than team sports or activities that do not require students to be in close physical proximity to each other.

Library instruction and book distribution will continue to operate with new check-in and check-out procedures developed to address the health and safety of all who use the library. Returned books will be quarantined for a specified number of days before being reshelved.

Related Services (Speech and Language, Occupational and Physical Therapy, Counselling) will continue to be provided as outlined in students' Individualized Education Plans or 504 Plans. When combined with a Hybrid Model of Instruction, therapy sessions, to the greatest extent possible, will be scheduled during in-person instruction.

Academic and Counseling support services will be available to identified students during in-person instruction and will establish a means of communication in order to be prepared for a period of full remote instruction.

Certain after school activities or clubs will continue to meet during 10th period as allowed by NYSDOH and NYSED guidance.

Continuity of Learning: Hybrid Instruction

The Barker Central School District has developed a hybrid learning plan that provides for continuity of learning for the 2020-2021 school year. The hybrid instructional model calls for students to receive both in-person and virtual instruction which allows for socially distanced instruction. The hybrid learning plan is based on the following protocol:

- Students will be split into three cohorts, Cohort A, Cohort B, and Cohort C.
Students in Cohort A will receive in-person instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays and virtual instruction Wednesday through Friday. Students in Cohort B will receive virtual instruction Monday through Wednesday and in-person instruction on Thursdays and Fridays. Cohort C will be students receiving all remote instruction.
- Students living in the same household will be in the same cohort.

- On Wednesdays, all learning will take place remotely.
- In-person instruction will take place while following all health and safety guidelines outlined within this document and required by NYSDOH.
- In-person instruction will focus, to the greatest extent possible, on learning that is difficult via a virtual classroom. Such learning would include but is not limited to, direct reading instruction, science labs, project-based learning, and other hands-on learning opportunities that are only available during in-person instruction.
- In-person instruction, when paired remote learning (Hybrid Model), will also allow for teachers, students, and peers to have meaningful discussions, provide one-to-one assistance with content specific questions or help with technology.
- Shared supplies will be limited, so students may be asked to bring in additional supplies. Shared supplies and materials will be cleaned and/or disinfected on a regular basis.
- Virtual learning will take place as delivered through Google Classroom (G Suite)
- Virtual learning will be a combination of asynchronous and synchronous lessons and activities.
- All virtual assignments will be posted by Monday morning each week for students.
- Students are expected to be actively engaged in virtual learning activities as attendance is required, and virtual learning provides valuable learning experiences that contribute to students' academic success.
- Each student will be assigned a device (Chromebook or iPad) that they must bring back and forth to school with them when they attend in-person instruction.
- Mobile Wi-Fi hotspots will be available to students that do not have access to the internet.

- The six-day rotation (Days A through F) for academic classes, related services, and elementary specials will be modified to ensure that all students receive all classes and services either in-person or remotely. The cohorts will go through the same day rotations during the same week. For example, if the Cohort A Monday/Tuesday are A and B days, the Cohort B Thursday/Friday will also be A and B days.

Continuity of Learning: Hybrid (4 Day Per Week) Instruction

The hybrid 4 day per week instructional model calls for students to receive both in-person and virtual instruction which allows for socially distanced instruction. The hybrid learning plan is based on the following protocol:

- Students will be split into two cohorts, Cohort AB, and Cohort C. Students in Cohort AB will receive in-person instruction on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and virtual instruction on Wednesday. Cohort C will be students receiving all remote instruction, 5 days a week.
- On Wednesdays, all learning will take place remotely.
- In-person instruction will take place while following all health and safety guidelines outlined within this document and required by NYSDOH.
- In-person instruction will focus, to the greatest extent possible, on learning that is difficult via a virtual classroom. Such learning would include but is not limited to, direct reading instruction, science labs, project-based learning, and other hands-on learning opportunities that are only available during in-person instruction.
- In-person instruction, when paired remote learning (Hybrid Model), will also allow for teachers, students, and peers to have meaningful discussions, provide one-to-one assistance with content specific questions or help with technology.

- Shared supplies will be limited, so students may be asked to bring in additional supplies. Shared supplies and materials will be cleaned and/or disinfected on a regular basis.
- Virtual learning will take place as delivered through Google Classroom (G Suite)
- Virtual learning will be a combination of asynchronous and synchronous lessons and activities.
- All virtual assignments will be posted by Monday morning each week for students.
- Students are expected to be actively engaged in virtual learning activities as attendance is required, and virtual learning provides valuable learning experiences that contribute to students' academic success.
- Each student will be assigned a device (Chromebook or iPad) that they must bring back and forth to school with them when they attend in-person instruction.
- Mobile Wi-Fi hotspots will be available to students that do not have access to the internet.

The six-day rotation (Days A through F) for academic classes, related services, and elementary specials will be modified to ensure that all students receive all classes and services either in-person or remotely.

Continuity of Learning: Remote Instruction

The Barker Central School District has developed a remote learning plan that provides for continuity of learning for the 2020-2021 school year. The fully remote learning plan is based on the following protocol which outlines but is not limited to, what is outlined below.

Full Virtual Remote Learning Protocol.

- All faculty will use the same platform, Google Classroom (G Suite) to deliver virtual learning

- All virtual learning will be composed of a combination of asynchronous and synchronous learning to meet the 180 minutes of instruction per week.
- Asynchronous learning will be independent learning that will be delivered in different forms which include, but are not limited to:
 - Video Direct Instruction where teacher pre-records lessons
 - Combination of short video with several problems to be completed before the in-person learning time.
 - YouTube video, or other pre-recorded presentation which could include but are not limited to Khan Academy, FlipGrid, EdPuzzles, Google Slides, PowerPoint, Castle Learning, Examgen
- Synchronous learning is when a student works directly with a teacher in a real-time setting. It will be provided by required meetings between the teacher and individual students or small groups of students to provide deeper levels of learning. This will be delivered in different forms which could include, but are not limited to:
 - Google Meet, Zoom meetings, Kahoot, Flipgrid, Quizlet Live, Read Alouds, Book Shares
- All virtual learning activities will be considered to be “real” instruction which will be subject to grading. Posts, assignments, meetings, and activities are subject to due dates where a penalty can be determined if the due date is not met.
- Faculty will post weekly assignments by Monday of each week so that students and parents can see what work is being assigned to them and can plan accordingly.
- The Barker Central School District is committed to providing excellent education even in the virtual classroom and will continue to work with faculty and students to achieve excellence.

New York State Learning Standards

The Barker Central School District will continue to follow the New York State learning standards in teaching and learning. The Barker Central School District and Teachers work hard to align all curriculum and instruction to the NYS learning standards to meet the academic needs of our diverse student population.

Substantive Interaction Between Teachers and Students

The Barker Central School District will ensure that all reopening plans provide for a program that includes regular substantive interactions between teachers and students whether delivered in-person, remotely, or through a hybrid model of instruction.

Equity

The Barker Central School District understands the importance of creating an equitable learning environment to meet the diverse needs of our student population, especially during these challenging times. Whether instruction is delivered in-person, remotely, or through a hybrid model, the Barker Central School District is committed to making sure that learning and instruction are accessible to all students. Regardless of the instructional setting, instruction will be delivered to students that are aligned with the New York State Learning Standards. Schedules will be formed and maintained to allow for interaction between students and teachers that provides students with the opportunity to ask questions and receive feedback in a timely manner. For more information regarding instructional practices see the Continuity of Learning sections above.

Contacting the School

The Barker Central School District encourages parents and guardians to be in regular contact with the school and teachers. Members of the faculty and staff are regularly available to

answer questions about students' instructional and technological needs. Parents and guardians can contact teachers through email, phone, and the school learning management system (Google Classroom). Please see the barkerccsd.net website to find contact information for the school as well as faculty and staff.

PreKindergarten Programs

The Barker Central School District will continue to operate our Prekindergarten programs to meet the mandatory requirements outlined under Teaching and Learning. The District plans on providing UPK to eligible students for 2 full days per week, either Monday and Tuesday or Thursday and Friday, with one day of full remote instruction for all students.

Special Education

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)

Barker Central School District's Committee on Special Education (CSE) recognizes these are unique times. The CSE has reviewed all student's Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) and will be providing free appropriate public education (FAPE) to all students regardless of the setting (in-person, remote, and/or through a hybrid model). Barker Central School District understands the need to protect the health and safety of our students with disabilities and our special education and related services providers.

All IEPs will be followed according to how they are written. Every attempt will be made to provide related services in person, however, if the district should move to full-remote learning, these services will be provided during teletherapy. The district will provide access to the internet and a device to access the internet if necessary.

Documentation of Programs and Services

Barker Central School District will document the programs and services offered and provided to students with disabilities using the Frontline Management System for IEPs. If the District implements a hybrid or remote learning model, teachers will also be keeping notes in a secure Google Doc shared with the Director of Instructional Services and, if requested, the parent.

Testing will be administered within the required time frame. If the district is meeting in-person or with a hybrid model, testing will take place in person. However, if the district moves fully-remote, testing will be provided through an online meeting platform.

Parent Engagement

The Barker Central School District will communicate with parents of students with disabilities in their preferred language or mode of communication through phone calls, emails, text messages, and the student learning management system. At the beginning of the year, teachers will reach out to families to ascertain this information.

CPSE and CSE Collaboration

The Barker Central School District's Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE) and Committee on Special Education (CSE), as well as program providers, will meet regularly to ensure there is an understanding of the provision of services consistent with the recommendations on individualized education programs (IEPs), plans for monitoring and communicating students progress, and commitment to sharing resources.

The Barker Central School District Special Education Department meets at least once a month but, during the COVID-19 closing, the department met biweekly to discuss IEPs and how to best meet student needs.

The Director of Instructional Services also participates in the Special Education Advisory Council through Orleans-Niagara BOCES. This council, made up of 13 component districts and outside agencies, meets every other week to discuss ongoing district needs and/or concerns.

Needs of Students

The Barker Central School District ensures that all students with disabilities will have access to the necessary accommodations, modifications, supplementary aids and services, and technology (including assistive technology) to meet the unique disability-related needs of the student. Barker Central School District provides devices (Chromebooks, iPads, etc.) to all students. If additional assistive technology is required, it is included in the child's IEP. All IEPs are followed per district, state, and federal guidelines.

Bilingual Education and World Languages

ELL Identification Process

Barker Central School District provides a home language questionnaire with the new student registration packet. When parents select that another language is spoken at home, the home language questionnaire is provided and, if determined based on the interview, a New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL) exam is given.

If instruction is in person, the NYSITELL will be administered following all guidelines set forth by NYSED, the DOH, and the CDC. The district has purchased barriers to be used for testing situations such as this. The barrier will be used while the NYSITELL is administered. For a hybrid model of learning, the NYSITELL will be administered in the same manner as for in-person instruction on the next available day the student is in school. For a remote-learning model, the NYSITELL will be administered through an online platform such as Google Meets.

No students enrolled in the school during the COVID-19 closures in the 2019-2020 school year, so the district will not need to implement any NYSITELL tests.

Units of Study

Students were unable to take the New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT) during the 2019-2020 school year. Because of this, student's results on the 2018-2019 NYSESLAT will be used to determine the appropriate units of study for the 2020-2021 school year. For two students who started last year and, therefore, did not take the NYSESLAT in 2019 and for the two students who started this year, their NYSITELL score will be used to provide the unit of study. This instruction will take place whether the district is using in-person instruction, hybrid instruction, or remote learning. There are no students enrolled who are considered Former ELL students.

Communication with Parents/Guardians

Barker Central School district maintains regular communication with parents/guardians and other family members of English Language Learners. The district is using its Spanish teachers and its English as a New Language teacher to translate the document into the preferred language of our families. The District also closely works with the Brockport Migrant Program liaison to provide communication to the families. Currently, the District has no families that speak a language other than English or Spanish. However, if one moves into the district, Barker Central School District will work with Erie 1 BOCES and the International Institute of Buffalo to provide translation services as needed.

Teacher and Principal Evaluation System

APPR

Barker Central School District has an approved 3012-d Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR) plan on file with the New York State Education Department (NYSED). The district intends to implement this plan fully. Teacher observations will take place in accordance with the plan. Because the observations only focus on Domain 2 and 3, these components can be observed during in-person, hybrid, or remote teaching.

The District plan uses Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) for Regents exams and the 4th and 8th-grade Science Assessments as the student performance piece. This will continue to be used as long as these exams are given by NYSED. If alternatives are required due to the elimination of any component of the current SLO design, the district will develop new SLO's in conjunction with the Barker Teacher's Union.

Certification, Incidental Teaching, and Substitute Teaching

Appropriate Certifications

Barker Central School District will continue to verify teaching certifications for all teachers, teaching assistants, and substitute teachers. This will be done by searching in the TEACH system by name and reviewing the SIRS 329 Staff Certification report available through Level 2 Reports.

Student Teachers

The Barker Central School District is working with local colleges and universities to identify ways student teachers can support classroom instruction. If student teachers are in the

district this year, they will work under the direction of a certified teacher. This will happen regardless of the format for instruction (in-person, hybrid, or remote learning). Student teachers will be provided access to all learning platforms the cooperating teacher is using.