

## **In-person Instructional Model**

### ***Castleton Elementary School and Maple Hill Jr./Sr. HS***

The ultimate goal returning to school would allow for all of our students to return back to a normal schedule with little to no restrictions. With current guidelines in place recommending social distancing at all times, building capacity constraints, and limited resources for staffing, in-person instruction for all students each day is **not possible to do safely**. In the event restrictions lessen, the following will apply to all students, K-12:

Upon reopening, the number of students in each of our classrooms will be reduced to adhere to CDC guidance regarding proper social distancing. Class size will reflect the need to ensure that students' desks/seats are positioned no less than six (6) feet apart.

To the extent possible, students will remain in small cohorts if/when leaving the classroom, such as for recess or any necessary transition, so as to reduce their exposure to additional students. To reduce the amount of transition:

- Teachers will move to classrooms to provide instruction and supervision, when possible.
- K-6 students will eat lunch in their classroom instead of the cafeteria.
- Special-area subjects (e.g., art, music, physical education) may be pushed into the classroom. Whenever possible students will utilize outside space for physical education instruction. Students and staff will adhere to twelve (12) feet between students when engaging in physical exercise, chorus and band, and singing activities.

## **Remote Instruction:**

### ***Castleton Elementary School and Maple Hill Jr./Sr. HS***

Given the possibility that communities may experience spikes in COVID-19 cases at any point during the school year, which may prompt short or long-term school closures, our district has developed a hybrid/blended learning model and schedule that can continue as is in a fully remote environment (explained below).

Instruction will not only focus on “core” subject areas to the exclusion of elective courses. Consideration has been given to prioritizing hands-on and lab-based activities while students are onsite in school buildings. All instruction will continue to be aligned to the New York State Learning Standards.

As noted previously, student schedules will remain the same whether instruction is in-person or remote so that students do not encounter conflicts wherein synchronous lessons for different subjects are offered simultaneously. Attendance will be taken in all learning models.

Remote learning opportunities for secondary students will include a greater emphasis on synchronous instruction, with teachers finding ways to provide live instruction and lessons to students. While recording of live lessons is still essential for students unable to attend at a scheduled time, teachers will ensure that their students are directly engaged with them and their class peers in experiential learning on a regular basis.

To ensure high-quality remote learning experiences, we will standardize the use of a single online learning platform, to the extent possible, and develop a common, coordinated set of guidelines for teachers to follow when using the platform with students.

- Grades K-12 will utilize a learning management system that allows for students, teachers and parents to access and organize online learning resources, content and work, receive feedback, grades and communicate between students, teachers and families.
- Students will follow a provided schedule and routine that will closely align to the minutes of instruction required in school.
- Classes will be scheduled throughout their day to allow for structure and consistency.
- Students will be required to participate in all remote learning activities and classes and will be required to complete assignments. Student expectations will be determined by the teacher within parameters established by the District.
- Google meets will be utilized for full group instruction, small group instruction and one-to-one support.
- Attendance will be taken on all virtual learning days.
- Student work, participation and effort will be graded.

### **Hybrid Instructional Model:**

(This model will be utilized if the Governor authorizes students to return to school in the Fall for all students)

#### ***Castleton Elementary School-Grades K-6***

##### **In-Person Grades K-3:**

- Students will attend in-person 5 days per week.
- Students may be split into smaller cohorts (10-14 students in regular classroom spaces, while large spaces may accommodate 18-23 students safely), as needed, to maintain social distancing guidelines (minimum of six (6) feet between student work spaces).
- Students will learn primarily from their classroom teachers but may be supervised by other school personnel during times of independent work or remote/live streamed instruction within the building.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided in the classrooms. Students will eat at their desks, which will be at least six (6) feet apart.
- Movement in the hallways will be limited. Students and adults will walk on the right side of the hallway. Hallways will be marked with directional signs and social distancing spacing will be labeled on the floor in places where waiting may be necessary.
- Special area classes will push into the classroom or utilize a large or outdoor space that allows for social distancing. Activities will be designed to ensure the health and safety of students and adults.
- Recess will consist of opportunities for movement and free time where social distancing is possible.
- In the event of a school closure, instruction will switch to virtual-only learning.

##### **GRADES 4-6:**

- A hybrid model consists of a partial in-person and partial virtual instruction.
- Half of students will attend school in-person on Mondays and Thursdays, the other half of the students will attend school in-person on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- Students will receive 2-3 days of in-person and virtual instruction each week based on need.