Supplement to the Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Pursuant to the Interim Guidance for In-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

Supplemental Guidance

Stakeholder Communication and Outreach

Responsible parties must publish their entire school reopening plan on their website. In addition, they must specifically extract and separately post prominently on the website the following components addressing specific portions of their plans:

Remote Learning

Explain how the Responsible Party will accomplish remote learning, especially considering closing inequity gaps. This must include details outlining the numbers of students, mode of remote learning, asynchronous and synchronous learning opportunities, internet and device access among students, and alternatives available for students who have neither a device nor consistent access.

Testing

The Responsible Party’s testing protocol and procedures. The plan needs to include where the testing will take place and who will be providing the testing and what circumstances the testing will occur, and describe how the district will work with local departments of health.

Contact Tracing

Provide details about how each school will work with, support, and supplement the contact tracing efforts of their local health department. Plans must include protocols for symptomatic individuals and positive cases in school, and proximate contacts; and a determination for how students and or staff need to be tested to adequately isolate and mitigate additional exposure to COVID-19. The plan must also specify the roles will the Responsible Party’s staff will perform and who among the staff will perform these tests.

These three components must be posted prominently and separately from the entire plan (in multiple languages, if applicable) for the community to review.

Public Meetings

Between August 7 and August 21, 2020, every school district and/or school is required to host at least three public meetings with parents, community members and stakeholders to address and discuss potential concerns and/or outstanding questions regarding school reopening plans. The largest five school districts in the State are required to host at least five public meetings.
Between August 7 and August 21, 2020, every school district and/or school is also required to host one additional meeting whose attendees are limited to teachers and staff of such institution to address and discuss potential concerns and/or outstanding questions regarding school reopening plans.

Meetings can be held in an online and/or telephone town hall format. Participants must be given multiple options to ask questions, and provided on-going opportunity for the submission of community questions (i.e., dedicated and monitored email address) in addition to these forums.