



## **School Reopening Plan for SY2020-2021**

Cambria Center for the Gifted Child  
Cambria School of Excellence

As we plan to reopen school this fall, it is important to make sure that staff, parents and teachers are on the same page concerning keeping all members of our community safe and healthy. Please refer to the following:

### **Reopening of In-Person Instruction**

#### Capacity

In accordance with DOH regulations, classroom sizes will not surpass 15 children to a classroom. We are offering online, blended and in-person learning in hopes that with some students learning from home, the need for in classroom space will be lower. We have, in preparation for the school year, social distanced our students' desks and will be providing barriers on shared table space (in preschool) to ensure safe distances are kept between students at all times.

#### Social Distancing

Along with students' desks already being separated from one another, we are also marking a box around each student's desk with tape to clarify the personal space for each student. The visual aid will help support our students in monitoring their own social distancing. Teachers will complete activities and discussions at the start of the year about the importance of social distancing and how we will work together to keep our community healthy. For preschool, we will stagger lunch times and activity times amongst the group to allow for even more distancing during activities that require the removal of masks.

#### PPE and Face Coverings

Face Coverings will be mandated for all students and adults in our building. We will have representatives at the entrance of the school during drop off hours to ensure that every single person is wearing a mask upon entry. We have purchased a year's worth of face coverings for our staff and also to provide emergency replacements. Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in all classrooms and common spaces for easy access for all students and staff.

#### Operational Activity

For the 2020-2021 school year, we are offering a number of learning options to our students and families. For preschool, we are offering full time in person, full time online or a blended schedule of two-three days a week in school and two days at home online. The full time in-person and blended groups will be held independently of one another in



separate classrooms. For the hybrid schedule classrooms, one set of students will attend on an A schedule and the other set of students will attend on a B schedule. For grade school, we are offering a full time in person or full time virtual schedule. Parents were given their preference for type of learning to the best of our ability (as much as our space could accommodate). For those families of vulnerable populations, we believe our remote learning options should provide them the opportunity to still participate in our community from an even safer position.

We have eliminated the use of all shared spaces, with the exception of the playground, which will be disinfected between play groups. Students will remain in their specific cohort (class group) even during time spent on the playground. Directional pathways will be created to access and exit the playground to ensure that groups do not cross paths.

All school trips for the school year will be conducted virtually. All parent-teacher conferences, parent meetings and staff meetings will be held via online conferencing. Visitors to the building will not be allowed to enter unless absolutely necessary. We are asking parents to please send students to school with lunch, rather than dropping lunch to school during the school day to aid in limiting the amount of traffic into the school building.

Drop off and pick up will be conducted at the entrance of the school. Families will drop off students at the door and students will be escorted by faculty members. Students and faculty entering the building will have their temperature checked (to make sure that it is not higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit) and also be asked a number of questions to complete a daily health survey. Those persons not answering appropriately to the questions or with too high of a temperature will be denied entry to the school. Teachers will be encouraged to communicate with families weekly (via phone or internet) to make up for the lack of in-persons communication that we are usually afforded when seeing families during drop off and pick up. Early morning drop off and after school will be held closely to the day class cohorts.

Special classes (such as Foreign Language, Art, Music Appreciation, etc.) taught by consultants will be conducted online for all students - both those learning from home and also those in school. This plan was created in an effort to limit the different persons entering the building.

#### Restart Operations

Our school building has remained open throughout the summer for the access of our Office Staff. During that time, we have replaced one of our ventilation systems to more adequately serve our school. We have been regularly running the water, completing checks on our ventilation systems. All walls have been newly painted and the floors



buffed and waxed. We have prepared our classrooms for appropriate social distancing and purchased more supplies to be able to provide individual packs of items for students. We have removed all cloth items from the classrooms, including rugs and made transitions to use items of easily cleanable material. We will complete a deep cleaning of the building prior to the start of school and regularly during the school year to provide more than adequate space for our community.

Hygiene, Cleaning and Disinfection (\*adapted from the Department of Education\*)

Throughout the school year, we will continue the rigorous practices used to prepare buildings for reopening, including:

- Providing adequate cleaning and disinfection supplies or plan to procure those supplies.
- Requiring deep cleanings to be completed on a nightly basis, including with the use of electrostatic sprayers.
- Improving HVAC systems to ensure proper ventilation.
- Setting-up enhanced cleaning in classrooms, bathrooms, and for high touch areas such as doorknobs and shared equipment such as laptops.
- Providing teachers with cleaning supplies for classrooms.

Extracurricular Activities

Our extracurricular program begins in October and we will use the start of school as a model for how we will proceed. We will uphold our same standards of cleanliness, social distancing and order.

Transportation

Our busing is provided through the Department of Education's Office of Pupil Transportation and as such, we will conduct ourselves in accordance with every regulation set forth by the Department of Education regarding transportation.

Food Services

Our food services are provided through the Department of Education's Satellite Food program and as such, we will conduct ourselves in accordance with every regulation set forth by the Department of Education regarding food services.

Communication

This plan will be shared with families and staff alike. Two staff meetings will be held prior to the start of school to ensure faculty understanding and agreement with the policies set forth. Families have been informed regarding our plan for reopening via email and two sessions will be held prior to the start of school to answer any questions families may have. Our Office has also been open all summer to help filter the concerns and information for parents. Staff and families will be required for signing an agreement



regarding the understanding of new protocols and agreement to uphold the expectations of social distancing in and out of school.

Class Dojo and Google Classroom will be used as a means of communication for families and teachers to stay in contact throughout the school year. Our weekly Parent Pack (information from the Administration) will be distributed via email to families.

### **Monitoring and Containment** (\*adapted from the Department of Education\*)

All staff members will be asked to take a COVID-19 test in the days before the first day of school. Testing information will also be provided to students and families, although testing will not be required prior to the start of school for students.

Parents are advised to abide by the same social distancing rules and use of PPE, even outside of the school building. Parents should use the same health survey as the school, in terms of checking for symptoms and tracking the potential exposure of students. During breaks from school, we will ask that parents abstain from traveling as much as possible. If there is a necessity for families to travel, we ask that students quarantine at home for 14 days and access the classroom through the virtual learning platform.

If a student or teacher is feeling sick, they are required to stay home and, if their symptoms are consistent with COVID-19, are asked to get tested. If a student begins experiencing symptoms in school, they will be isolated and monitored by a dedicated staff member until they are picked up by their family. Staff members who become symptomatic at school are asked to immediately leave the building.

Whether symptoms begin at home or in school, there will be a clear flow of information to facilitate fast action and prevent spread. A positive confirmed case will trigger an investigation by NYC Test + Trace and DOHMH to determine close contacts within the school. We will communicate to all families and students at school once a case is laboratory confirmed. In the event that there is a laboratory- confirmed case in a school, all students and teachers in that class are assumed to be close contacts and will be instructed to self-quarantine for 14 days since their last exposure to that case.

All post-investigation decisions on classroom quarantines or whether full school closure is required will be dependent on the specific facts of each investigation.

Our COVID Safety Coordinators are located in the Main Office (Ms. Rebekah Gibson and Ms. NaBria Gaffney). In the event of a rise in the COVID outbreak within NYC that forces schools to close, we will continue classes 100% virtually. In general, we will stay



abreast of all updates of health guidance provided to the public and adjust our protocols accordingly.