

Letter from Superintendent

The Plan for Reopening Dobbs Ferry Schools

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents and Community,

[The Plan for Reopening Dobbs Ferry Schools](#) has been posted to the District website as required by the New York State Department of Education. The plan is the result of weeks of work by the Reopening Dobbs Ferry Schools Task Force, Focus Group Subcommittees, and an enormous amount of input and feedback from parents. Throughout the summer, I received close to 700 individual parent emails, which I have tried to respond to thoughtfully. Our Task Force, with approximately 80 members, includes representation from our Board of Education, administrators, teachers, staff, parents, students and community members.

[The Plan for Reopening Dobbs Ferry Schools](#) includes the required plans for three scenarios:

- 100% In Person
- 100% Remote
- Hybrid Schedules for Each School
 - High School - Student Choice Model
 - Middle School - A/B A/B Model
 - Springhurst - AM/PM Model

The District has taken a differentiated approach to hybrid scheduling based on the developmental differences among students and significant space limitations, especially on the High School/Middle School campus. The plan also includes the details for remote learning at all three levels, which parents will find significantly expanded from the program offered in the spring. It is important to note that Governor Cuomo has still not decided on the opening of schools in New York and, currently, we remain in a remote learning environment until further notice. The District continues to have unclear guidance related to a “remote-only choice” option for parents who may not want to send their children back to school. We hope that this will be clarified by the State Education Department next week.

Although there is still an extraordinary amount of work left to do, some critical decisions have been made. The plan is a “living document” since information related to health and safety protocols is continually changing. We, of course, continue to monitor and adjust as needed.

Our schools are scheduling parent forums in the weeks ahead so that we can focus on the needs and differences among the schools. We sincerely appreciate all of the input that parents continue to provide and look forward to our continued partnership in the weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

Lisa Brady, Ed.D.
Superintendent