

# Deposit CSD School Opening Plan 2021-2022

Denise Cook, Superintendent

Kelli Vosbury, Principal, Deposit Elementary

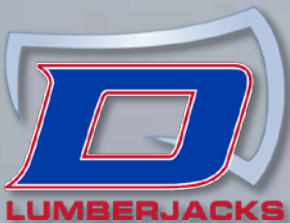
Hal Pettersen, Principal, Deposit Middle School

Karen Armbrust, Principal, Deposit High School

Lauriel McCoy, Director of Special Education

Tom Williams, Director of Facilities

Matt Mastropietro, Director of Athletics



Dear Deposit Community,

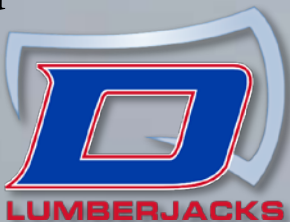
As we prepare for school in the fall, we are considering the recommendations of the New York State Education Department (NYSED) and the Delaware County Department of Health. We are also reflecting on the practices we engaged in during the 2020-2021 school year that were effective in keeping our students and staff safe.

While we'd all like for this pandemic to be in the rearview mirror, the number of cases of the new variant have increased in New York State – including in Delaware and Broome Counties. Therefore, it is imperative that we make decisions that protect the health and safety of our students and staff, while also encouraging in-person, face-to-face instruction.

I encourage you to read this plan overview, which is meant to be a living document and open to change based on the circumstances surrounding COVID-19. Your input provides opportunities to clarify our communications, meet individual needs and to improve our plans.

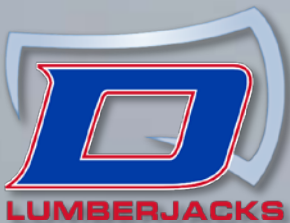
Questions may be directed to my attention at [dcook@deposit.stier.org](mailto:dcook@deposit.stier.org), or to the administrator indicated on the first page of this document.

Sincerely, Denise Cook, Superintendent



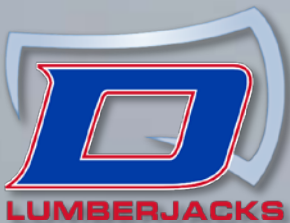
# In Appreciation

- Thank you to the entire Deposit community including parents, students, faculty, staff and members of the Board of Education, who have continued to support our school district throughout the pandemic. We appreciate your continuous feedback as we strive to improve all aspects of our school district during these challenging times.
- This plan is a living document and is subject to change per state and local government directive. Changes will be communicated to families as soon as possible with our SchoolMessenger email, phone and text system.
- This plan will be evaluated regularly and changed as necessary based on data such as current infection rate within the school, community and region.



# Options for Learning

- This year, we're excited to return to a 5 day per week in-person instructional schedule. However, we realize that there are families for whom this plan is not ideal due to on-going health concerns related to the pandemic. In response, the district will be offering an on-line option for the school year. Details of this option are outlined on page 7 of this document.
- Parents always have the option of home schooling their children. When children are home schooled, they are not enrolled in our district. The education of the children (including the curriculum materials) is the responsibility of the family. You can read more about this option on page 8 of this document.



# In Person Instruction

## Schedule

- Monday through Friday, 7:45 (Breakfast) - 2:40
- Wednesday dismissal @ 1:40
- Traditional 6 day cycle schedule

## Technology

- Students will be issued a personal device. MS/HS students will transport devices to and from school. Elementary students will utilize devices only while at school.

## Health /Safety Procedures

- Families, students, and staff will be required to review the daily health screening questions. Students and staff should not come to school with symptoms and will need a negative test or note from the doctor with resolution of symptoms.
- Screening procedures will be conducted at school entrances for all visitors (review of questions).
- Per the NYSDOH, masking will be required on buses and at all times while inside school buildings (exceptions for eating/singing/playing instruments) regardless of vaccination status. Masking is not required while outside. Medical notes for mask accommodations will be allowed for individuals. Outdoor activities will be encouraged whenever possible. Mask breaks for students will be implemented.
- Masks will be provided for all staff and students as needed. Students/staff may choose to bring their own.
- 3 feet of distance will be maintained at all times when possible.
- Classrooms and common areas will be disinfected daily.
- Students will be trained regarding proper hygiene practices.
- COVID testing will be available for students and staff who are symptomatic.
- Students will work as cohorts whenever possible.



# In Person Instruction

## Food Services

- Breakfast will be held in the classroom for elementary (K-2) and café (3-5).
- Lunch will held in the cafeterias. In situations where acceptable distancing can't be maintained, students will go through the line in the cafeteria and report to designated spots that can accommodate them and promote socialization.
- Seniors and select juniors (NHS members) will be allowed to go off-campus for lunch.

## Transportation

- All persons on buses are required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status.
- Windows will be open when temperatures are above 45 degrees.
- Buses will be cleaned/disinfected daily.

## Teaching/Learning & Attendance

- Teachers will provide in-person instruction to all students on their rosters.
- Teachers will provide daily instruction on the grade level/content essentials as identified by the collaborative teams.
- Teachers and staff collect and report daily attendance.
- When individual students are absent, work will be provided based on the teacher's professional decision through a variety of ways: Zoom, Google Classroom, live lessons, send work home, etc.
- Teachers/Admin. will use a variety of creative methods to reach out to students and their families who have not engaged in learning.
- Social workers and school counselors will assist with attendance.
- Students with disabilities will continue to receive services as outlined in the IEP.

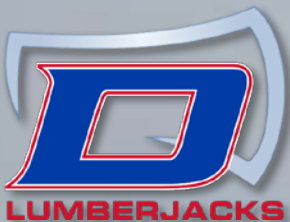


# BOCES On-Line (Remote) Learning Option:

Although districts are not required to provide families with a remote learning option this year, we recognize that some of our families continue to deal with health concerns as a result of the pandemic. Students who participate in the remote learning option remain enrolled in the district. It is important to note that the remote option is not the same as it was during the last school year. Because we are in person 5 days per week with a traditional schedule, **our teachers are not available to conduct remote instruction**. This on-line option will be implemented through BT-BOCES and run by regional teachers.

## Program Information

- Students will be issued a personal device, charger and headphones.
- Tech assistance is available through the BT BOCES tech service line 607-766-3800.
- Wi-Fi connectivity assistance is available.
- Students can participate in school activities such as athletics.
- Students will use the program Edgenuity. You can learn more about Edgenuity at the link below. The program is mostly asynchronous at the 7-12 level and does not involve a lot of real-time interaction with teachers.  
<https://www.edgenuity.com/>
- The program is available for students in grades k-12.
- Families must commit to the on-line program until at least the end of the first Semester (late January).

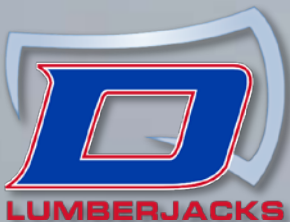


# Home School Learning Option:

When parents make the decision to home school, their children are no longer enrolled in the district. We respect our families right to choose this option, although we would love to have all students enrolled in our in-person instructional program. Although Deposit CSD is not responsible for the education of home schooled students, we are responsible for making sure that all students are receiving an education. Therefore, New York State requires the district to collect and track certain educational information. Because home schooled students are not enrolled in the district, they are not able to participate in school activities such as athletics.

## Program Information

- Parents notify the district of intent to home school.
- The district will connect parents to the home school liaison at BT BOCES.
- BT BOCES assists parents with resources for home schooling and helps families track yearly progress toward completion of school requirements.
- Families are responsible for choosing and implementing curriculum and assessments. Progress reports are required.
- BT BOCES Home School Liaison: [homeschool@btboces.org](mailto:homeschool@btboces.org)
- Children and families can access any opportunities the district offers to the community, but cannot access specific school clubs or athletics.





# Quarantine Procedures:

When the District receives notification of a positive case of COVID, it begins the chain of events listed below. The District works with the Department of Health (DOH), the school nurse, and administration to carefully follow through the steps. As a reminder, vaccinated individuals will not have to quarantine as a result of being in contact with a positive case.

- District is notified by DOH or employee/family member that someone is a confirmed positive case. DOH directs District to begin a contact tracing list for certain days (depending on when the person tested positive or began experiencing symptoms). **DOH dictates the period of quarantine and the return date.**
- Principals pull schedules to fill in DOH template of contacts. Principals check attendance for days in question to rule out persons who were not in attendance.
- DOH contacts positive case directly to confer and identify other individuals who may have been exposed but were not identified in District schedule (i.e. lunch time, prep time etc.)
- Principals and nurses also contact positive case directly to confer regarding contact list and make additions as needed.
- Superintendent or her designee sends completed tracing list to DOH and discusses any situations that may be in question. **DOH is the final authority on list for quarantine.**
- Principals/nurses call all excluded (quarantined) families and staff directly.
- DOH calls all excluded families and staff as a follow up. This takes a few days.
- Administration and the superintendent review exclusion list and make decisions regarding the ability to continue in-person instruction. If a large group of students (whole class/grade level) were required to quarantine, district teachers would begin on-line instruction via Seesaw or Google Classroom.
- Superintendent informs staff, BOE and community of the positive case via School Messenger system and posts the notice to the website. If it is determined that certain grade levels or buildings will need to become fully remote, additional communications to families and staff will follow the original notification.

\*If you are notified that you are positive for COVID, please contact the building principal to begin the contact tracing process.



# COVID Coordinator

- Denise Cook has been designated as the district's COVID-19 Coordinator for 2021-22 and will serve as the liaison between the district and the Broome County and Delaware County Health Departments when there are known or suspected COVID-19 cases or exposures.
- If you have information regarding COVID that may impact our school community, please contact Denise Cook at the phone number or email addresses indicated below.
- Beth Smalt, Broome County Health Department, will serve as COVID School Liaison for all school districts in the County. [elizabeth.smalt@broomecounty.us](mailto:elizabeth.smalt@broomecounty.us)
- Mandy Walsh, Delaware County Health Department, will serve as COVID School Liaison for all school districts in Delaware County. 607-832-5200

Denise Cook, Superintendent & COVID Coordinator

[dcook@deposit.stier.org](mailto:dcook@deposit.stier.org)

607-467-5380

