



## **GAPS 2020-21 Reopening Frequently Asked Questions**

As of: 7/28/20

***If our child/children enroll in the rotation model and it doesn't work well for them/our family, will we have the option to switch to Albany online?***

7/23/20: Yes! Currently, students who are moving between a K-12 in-person model, including the 3-12 Rotation Model, and the K-12 Interactive At-Home Model will have the opportunity to move between programs. We know the earliest changes in these scenarios would be at the quarter.

Due to the difference in learning paces, students wishing to move between Albany Online and any other model must do so at the semester.

7/15/20: Yes! We are working to establish the greatest level of flexibility possible for students. We will have a process for switching between models when/if students need a different experience.

***One of my concerns is protocol if a child is sick? Will temperatures be taken at the school daily?***

7/23/20: We will be visually screening all students, staff, and visitors before they enter the building for any visible signs or symptoms of COVID-19. For some students, this will occur when they get on the bus and when they get to school. Anyone exhibiting symptoms will then undergo further screening in a separate isolation room, including taking their temperature and asking a series of questions about their symptoms.

7/15/20: Our lead nurse is working with local and regional health authorities to establish clear protocols for health.

***If the child is in the classroom, will masks be required?***

7/23/20: Yes, per Governor's directive, starting July 24th, children age 5 and up are required to wear a mask, face shield or face covering. Face coverings are now required when exercising indoors, plus outdoors when you can't physically distance. Students and staff with a disability or medical condition may request accommodation if they cannot wear a mask, face shield or face covering.



***If our children are required to wear masks for 6+ hours a day we will pull them out completely, what is the alt plan for that?***

7/23/20: We now know that students grades K-12 will be required to wear masks while at school. Though scheduled 'mask breaks' will occur, parents may still wish to pursue one of our two learning options outside of school. Please see the [K-12 Interactive At-Home Learning Model](#) and the [Albany Online Model](#) to learn more.

***I have 3 kids in 2 different schools, will or can they all be on the same schedule (they have 2 different last names)?***

7/23/20: We will be organizing student K-12 in-school attendance days to align with those of the other students living in their home. (The exception to this will be our K-2 students who will be attending four days a week. Thus, there will be two in-school days for them while their older siblings will not be attending school in-person. All other students in the home will be on the same in-person schedule.)

***How do you plan on distance learning working for working families where both parents work? Who is supposed to be home with my two elementary age kids to teach them while I'm at work?***

7/23/20: COVID-19 has created many challenges for all of us who are working parents, particularly when we have limited child care options available in our community, in general. We recognize that this is a community challenge for us to meet together. Maximizing in-person learning days for our primary grades students not only supports their building blocks of learning but also creates four days each week where child care is not an issue. We continue to partner with agencies such as CAP, the Boys and Girls Club, and the YMCA as they look to fill some of these needs. We are continuing to explore ways to partner with other child care providers.

***Why did we go with such random days? Monday and thursday? Tuesday and Friday? Are they sanitizing every day?***

7/15/20: The emphasis in this decision was to minimize the number of days students would go without being physically at school for academic and social reasons. If we did a Monday/Tuesday cohort for example, a student would have five days between sessions. In this model, the longest students will not be attending school in person would be three days.

***Is there any word about the transition program?***

7/27/20: The transition program will operate. We are working on implementation.



***There is no mention of the possibility of hiring outside cleaning services to deep clean the school's nightly or over the weekend. Is this an option being considered?***

7/23/20: At this time, we are following OHA and ODE guidelines and expectations for the cleanliness of all student and staff spaces. We are able to do this without engaging with an outside cleaning service.

***Many Americans are facing reduced schedules and hours with income cuts due to the pandemic. Has the school district considered a reduction in pay for teachers that will only be working 4 days a week instead of 5?***

7/23/20: All staff will continue to be working their full five-day work weeks. Due to the nature of the student schedules, during non-student time, teachers will be lesson planning, collaborating with peers to align instructional modules, participating in professional learning, and contacting students or families to ensure ongoing engagement.

***If the child is in the classroom, how many hours a day will the child be at school?***

7/23/20: It depends on the student's grade level, but most students will be at school for the same length of time they have typically been at school in previous school years.

***If the child is in the classroom, will they be allowed to sit and interact with other children in the classroom/playground/cafeteria?***

7/23/20: Yes! While practicing social distancing and other health and safety measures, students will be allowed to interact with other students in the classroom and on the playground.

***If the child is in the classroom, will there be recess?***

7/23/20: Recess will be scheduled for elementary students.

***If the child is in the classroom, will they mostly be on screens or working with books and paper?***

7/23/20: In the classroom, students will be working with a variety of tools to engage in learning. This will include peer to peer interaction.

***If the child is in the classroom, what will be expected of the child on non-classroom days?***



7/23/20: On non-classroom days, students will interact with materials and activities carefully selected by their classroom teacher. Some new information will be introduced on these days, and students may be expected to engage in virtual learning experiences, as well.

***If the child is at home, will all work and instruction be online?***

7/23/20: It is anticipated that student work at home will be diverse, though most will be delivered virtually.

***Is it possible to do Interactive At-Home and/or Albany Online and be able to participate in school activities (athletics, band, etc.?)***

7/27/20: Yes, students would have access to these programs just like in the past. As of right now we are unsure of what music and athletic programs will look like or what will be available.

***If the Interactive at Home Model were selected, to what class/teacher will a student be tied/assigned? Will they be tied to the school where they would otherwise be attending school and grouped with peers from their school or will they be assigned to a class with students across the district, not necessarily tied to their school?***

7/27/20: Students will be connected to a teacher at their home school. This is going to be dependent on the number of students who select this method in a building as well as some other aspects that are still being worked on. We are hoping that all students in the virtual model will connect with their home school.

***Are the “teacher-led virtual classes,” referenced in the graphic for Interactive at Home Model in real time(live) or are they recorded?***

7/27/20: Most lessons will be in real time and some will be asynchronous.

***If the hybrid model is selected, and a student is ill or in quarantine, the entire class or cohort were required to quarantine, how would the transition to virtual/interactive at home model happen? Would an individual student be switched for that time period to a different class/group or would they join their class/group virtually from home?***

7/27/20: We want to keep cohorts intact as much as possible. If a student or teacher gets COVID-19 the entire cohort would transition to the virtual model until the isolation period is over. If a student has to isolate due to exposure outside of the school, they would isolate and be virtual until the isolation period is over.

***Are there differences in the concepts and material that will be presented to a student in a hybrid model v. Interactive at home model? Will there be a different pace?***



7/27/20: The idea is that Hybrid and interactive will be following the same scope and sequence as students will move between the two models if individual students and cohorts need to quarantine and/or state guidelines change

***Will students be interacting virtually with the teacher and with students who are sitting in the classroom?***

7/27/20: In the hybrid rotation model, if a student becomes ill or needs to quarantine, they will be able to still connect with their class and teacher. In the K-12 virtual at home learning model, they will have interaction with their online classmates and teacher.

***What kind of access will my students have to their teacher for questions?***

7/27/20: Both live interactions and the ability to ask questions virtually as well as office hours.

***The phrasing of the registration question about transportation seemed to imply that you are discouraging students from taking the bus. Is that correct? And why does the question only relate to the first month of school.***

7/27/20: We are not trying to encourage or discourage parents from using the bus but are trying to get an accurate picture of who will be riding. This information will be used to balance the cohorts of children and equalize the number of students on Monday/Thursday with the number on Tuesday/Friday. While we are confident we can meet State requirements for transportation at historical levels of ridership, we will not know how close we will be to matching the State recommendations. The ridership reductions from the alternating 3-12 schedule alone will not reduce elementary student loads to the State recommended level.

We have asked families to commit to their choice for one month (and only one month) because we know family needs change over time and we need time for ridership to settle before we begin making changes and adding returning students to the bus. Ultimately, we want all families to be able to make an informed choice about placing their student in school and on the bus.