

TRANSPORTATION

The Churchville-Chili Central School District has developed a School Reopening Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and health and safety concerns across our community. This document outlines the Reopening Plan for transportation.

The district will provide transportation that is consistent with state-issued public transit guidance and NYSED School Reopening guidelines. **Students and school staff must wear acceptable face coverings at all times on school buses (e.g., entering, exiting, and seated) and should maintain appropriate social distancing to the extent feasible.**

Students whose physical or mental health would be impaired as certified by a medical physician are not required to wear a face covering, but must be appropriately socially distanced. Members of the same household may be seated within 6 feet of each other. While all students are entitled to transportation by the district to the extent required by law, parents and legal guardians are encouraged to transport their children to school to reduce density on buses during this reopening plan timeframe.

All buses used daily will be cleaned and disinfected twice a day. High contact surfaces will be wiped down after each morning (AM) and afternoon (PM) run following the Transportation Director's developed disinfection schedule.

School buses will not be equipped with hand sanitizer due to its combustible composition and potential liability. School bus drivers, monitors and attendants must not carry personal bottles of hand sanitizer with them on school buses.

Wheelchair school buses will configure wheelchair placement to ensure social distancing of 6 feet. Whether school is in session remotely or otherwise, transportation will be provided to nonpublic, parochial, private, charter schools or students whose Individualized Education Plans have placed them out of the district whose schools are meeting in in-person sessions.

School Bus Staff

School bus drivers, monitors, attendants and mechanics are required to perform a self-health assessment for symptoms of COVID-19. The attestation will be posted clearly stating that swiping their fob ID confirms that they do not exhibit nor have they been exposed to COVID-19.

School bus drivers, monitors, attendants and mechanics must wear a face covering. Transportation staff (drivers, monitors, attendants, mechanics and cleaners) will be trained and provided periodic refreshers on the proper use of personal protective equipment and the signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Transportation departments/carriers will provide Personal Protective Equipment such as masks and gloves for drivers, monitors and attendants in buses as well as hand sanitizer for all staff in their transportation locations such as dispatch offices, employee lunch/break rooms and/or bus garages.

Drivers, monitors and attendants who must have direct physical contact with a child must wear gloves.

Social Distancing and Capacity

- The number of students on the bus should be a maximum of 50% of standard capacity.
- Allow only one child in a seat at a time unless sitting with someone from the same household.
- Students may be assigned seats to facilitate the spreading out of students as much as possible and the seating of household members together as necessary.
- Buses will be loaded back-to-front and unloaded front-to-back.
- Face coverings are required for everyone on a bus.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Each bus shall be cleaned and disinfected using an electrostatic handheld sprayer and EPA-approved disinfectant twice per day after completion of morning and afternoon routes. High traffic surfaces will be frequently wiped down with disinfectant, including those in the bus entrance touched by the driver and passengers, such as handrails. Adequate supplies will be provided to support frequent cleaning and disinfection practices.

Ventilation

We will increase fresh air flow on the bus via available mechanisms, including opening the roof vents and some windows as weather conditions allow. For buses with air conditioning, increasing circulation of outside air should still be performed to the extent possible, since the air conditioning on buses only recirculates interior air. Each bus driver will assess the need for fresh air, recognizing that frequent openings of the door will also increase air exchange.

