



Supplemental Guidance

to the

Reopening Plan for St. Mary's School for the Deaf

2020-2021 School Year

Remote Learning
August 13, 2020

SMSD Remote Learning Supplement

As set forth in Section 5.b-c of the SMSD Reopening Plan:

- If a return to distance learning is necessary, SMSD will employ similar methods to those used at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.
- SMSD is committed to continuing to provide specialized instruction using a distance model throughout this crisis to address our students' annual goals. Support through online platforms as well as physical deliveries of materials/plans and telephone conferencing will continue if remote learning is necessary. Teachers, therapists and staff continue to use multiple avenues to best communicate with students and families, including: email, text messages, Private YouTube channels with individual content, Slack.com, updated Braille materials, PECS books, ABA discrete-trial-training materials, Zoom video conferencing, Skype, See Saw, Private Facebook accounts, Remind, Class Dojo, and Google Classroom. SMSD will continue to provide families with directions and guidance for how to best use these materials and supports.
- SMSD will consider a hybrid model of instruction if required. Any such hybrid plan will comply with relevant state and local guidance. Any implemented hybrid model will treat students equally; all of our students are considered high need. The proposed schedule for a hybrid return to school is attached as Appendix A to this supplement. This phased in return schedule is contingent upon the successful competition of each phase, the rates of infection in the community, as well as guidance or directives from the federal, state and local governments.

As set forth in Section 2.i of the SMSD Reopening Plan:

- SMSD conducted a survey of students and staff to assess technology availability and needs.
- Student devices were ordered with the intention of all students, if age and developmentally appropriate, having his/her own device for use at home and at school.
- SMSD has confirmed that staff have Internet access and have been provided with devices for remote use.
- Specialty programs such as Loom, Screencastify and Flipgrid are available for teachers to create deaf-friendly, accessible content.
- When needed students will be provided with paper copies of work along with textbooks and office/art supplies which are prepared, collected and mailed or dropped off to student homes. This service will continue if fully remote or hybrid instruction is necessary during the 2020-2021 school year.

As set forth in Section 2.j of the SMSD Reopening Plan:

- The School has a Continuity of Learning plan that prepares for in-person, remote, and hybrid models of instruction. This plan is posted to the School's website.

- If a remote learning schedule is necessary, students in need of tangible materials and paper copies of items are provided through delivery or mail service to ensure equity of learning is in place.
- Regardless of whether an in-person, hybrid, or remote plan is utilized, equity is at the heart of all school instructional decisions and instructional opportunities/substantive interaction with teachers will be accessible to all students. Schedules will be worked out with the families to ensure students and their parents are given opportunities for learning. SMSD will provide access for families to communicate with our staff via various communication methods (e.g. video/phone, text, email, social media sites).
- Regardless of the mode, instruction is aligned with NYS Next Generation Learning Standards. Specially Designed Instruction is used to create Standard Based Individualized Educational Programs for all students.
- SMSD has developed multiple avenues to communicate with families. Families will continue to receive regular communication from the school including but not limited to: video phone calls, phone calls, text messages, reminder messages, paper letters in the mail, emails, robo calls and texts from our BlackBoard messaging system, as well as updated information posted on our School's website.
 - The BlackBoard system translates voice and text messages to families' home languages.
 - Language Line Services is used for translating phone calls in languages other than English.

APPENDIX A

2020-2021

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

COVID-19 HYBRID PLAN

RESIDENTIAL STUDENTS will be on campus thru all phases of the Hybrid Plan and will follow the REMOTE or IN PERSON learning schedules as noted below.

DAY STUDENTS

PHASE I: September 8th thru September 25th					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ELEMENTARY	IN PERSON	REMOTE	REMOTE	IN PERSON	REMOTE
SECONDARY	REMOTE	IN PERSON	REMOTE	REMOTE	IN PERSON
PHASE II: September 28th thru October 16th					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ELEMENTARY	IN PERSON	IN PERSON	REMOTE	IN PERSON	REMOTE
SECONDARY	REMOTE	IN PERSON	REMOTE	IN PERSON	IN PERSON
PHASE III: October 19th thru December 23rd					
	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ELEMENTARY	IN PERSON	IN PERSON	REMOTE	IN PERSON	IN PERSON
SECONDARY	IN PERSON	IN PERSON	REMOTE	IN PERSON	IN PERSON

**** ALL STAFF TO REPORT TO WORK IN PERSON DAILY ****



This Hybrid Plan is subject to and may change at any time.