



Hillside Elementary School

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Dear Hillside Families,

We have made some revisions to our ALL DAY schedule in the AM/PM Model to further reduce cross contact in the event that we have a second positive COVID case. Our shared goal is to keep Hillside open!

The below midday schedule only applies to our Grades 1-4 students that have been identified "high needs" and attend both the AM and PM sessions:

Grades 1 and 2

10:50-11:10 AM- Lunch

11:10-11:40 AM- School-Based Video Conference Special 1

11:40-12:10 PM- School-Based Video Conference Special 2

12:10-12:30 PM- Recess - Alternate Back Playground/Back Blacktop and Swings

Grades 3 and 4

10:50-11:10 AM - Alternate Recess Back Playground/Back Blacktop and Swings

11:10-11:40 AM- School-Based Video Conference Special 1

11:40-12:10 PM- School-Based Video Conference Special 2

12:10-12:30 PM- Lunch

This new schedule separates each grade level (1-4) in assigned, larger spaces (such as the APR, Small Gym, Library, Cafe) and reduces exposure for students and special area teachers, related service providers, and support staff. It is our hope that this model will limit the impact of any future quarantines.

Over the past week, families have requested to pick up their ALL DAY students during the midday lunch, recess and specials time frame. Please know that if you are interested in doing this, the children must participate in the NYS mandated specials at the assigned times (11:10am - 11:40am and 11:40am - 12:10pm). The children should return to school by 12:40 PM in time for the PM session.

In order to further reduce grade level cross contact (first/second grade, second/third grade, third/fourth grade), we are moving to school-based video conferencing for our related services where our teachers will interact with students through the screen. These include Reading

Instruction, Speech and Language, Counseling, Occupational Therapy, and Physical Therapy. Again, each grade level will be assigned a separate location (Cafe, Small Gym, All Purpose Room) and receive their related services at their scheduled time. Each child will bring their chromebook and earbuds (the Special Education Department will provide a set for your child) to the location. A monitor will be in the room to provide supervision and assistance with technology needs. The tables and desks will be sanitized after each session.

If your child is attending the PM session only and receives reading instruction, they can continue to log onto their classroom at 8:30am as the time has not changed.

If your child is attending a half day session only, please let us know so we can schedule their related services during the opposite time of when they are receiving in-person instruction.

We will resume the All Day session for students identified as “high needs” in Grades 1-4 on Thursday, October 15th. We recognize that this year is filled with change and very much appreciate your feedback, flexibility, and partnership.

Warm regards,

Amy Cazes
Principal

John DeKams
Assistant Principal

Laura Sullivan
Director of Special Education

Tesfa Stewart
Assistant Director of Special Education