

Commonly Asked Questions & Answers

The following answers are subject to change at any time based on new guidance, new mandates, and/or South Buffalo Charter School's decision from data points.

What will the start time and end time be for the 2021-2022 school year?

1. Start time. The 2021-2022 school year has a start time of 8:00am. Students may be dropped off and buses unload at 8:00. Students shall arrive between 8:00-8:10. Students will be marked late after 8:20.
2. School will end this year at 3:00pm. Dismissal for pick-up and bussers will begin at this time. Walkers will be released at 3:20pm.

Where will parents drop off in the morning?

Drop off will be on the North side of the school and enter through the side entrances. Staff members will be stationed there to assist. The North side parking lot is the drive closest to the bridge. Buses will drop off in front of the school.

Where will parents pick up students in the afternoon?

Student pick up will be in the same parking lot as drop off. North side, closest to the bridge.

Will there be school events and sports this year?

SBCS will follow guidance and safety protocols to make these decisions. Athletics will be determined by sport and by guidance at the time of the year the sport is played. Our goal is to make every effort to keep our traditions, introduce new ones, and keep safety as a top priority.

What is the social distancing protocol?

The current social distance protocol is three (3) feet. SBCS will utilize social distancing with desks in the classrooms and in the cafeteria.

What is the protocol for masks? Will there be mask breaks?

Masks will be worn by all staff and students during the school day when distancing of six (6) feet or greater cannot be achieved. Mask breaks will occur within the classroom as scheduled by the teacher. Students will be socially distanced during these breaks.

How will lunches be served?

Lunches will be served for grades 1-8 in the cafeteria and small gymnasium. Students will "order" lunches in the morning, and they will be served during the lunch period.

Will there be care before and after school?

The before school program will be modified this school year to accept 60 students. Parents may drop off from 7:35 to 7:55am. Drop off will occur from the front parking lot. Students will enter through the main doors and proceed to the auditorium where we can adequately distance. A one-call went out for parent sign-up. Only students signed up for the program may attend.

Will students be required to wear uniforms this year?

Yes, SBCS will be returning to full uniforms for the 2021-2022 School year. The uniform will consist of Khakis/Navy/Black pants, Navy Blue Logo Polo, Solid Black or Brown Shoes, or Solid Black or White Sneakers. In addition to the standard SBCS uniform.

What was used to develop the reopening plan for SBCS?

SBCS utilized guidance from the CDC, American Pediatric Association, New York State Department of Health, New York State Department of Education and the Erie County Department of Health.

How will cases of covid be communicated with parents?

All cases will be referred to the Erie County Department of Health. We will notify cohorts through our one-call system as necessary.

Will there be in-person learning and remote learning?

SBCS will be in-person for the 2021-2022 school year. We see this as a way to work with students through the social/emotional needs created by the pandemic. If a student, through documentation provided by a licensed medical physician, requires remote learning, adjustments to instruction may be made. Please contact the Health Office if your student may require remote learning.

How will students receive related services?

Students who receive Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Counseling as mandated by IEPs and 504 Plans will continue to receive services and providers will ensure masks are worn adhering to the guidance and proper cleaning takes place between sessions.

Will students attend specials this year? What will specials look like?

Yes, students will attend Music, Art, Physical Education, Library, Health, and Technology based on their grade level. Specials will take place in the specials' classrooms.

What extra cleaning measures are being taken at SBCS?

SBCS is utilizing the recommended sanitizing solutions by the Department of Health. Each evening a thorough cleaning is completed in classrooms and the building. During the school day restrooms and commonly used items (doorknobs, railings, etc.) will receive regularly scheduled cleanings.

What safety measures are being taken regarding bus transportation?

Students are required to wear masks at bus stops and while riding the bus to school. SBCS will continue to work with First Student, the company tasked with transporting BPS students, and all district busing that they follow appropriate cleaning protocols.