Dear parents and guardians,

As we await the Governor's decision to reopen schools, Marathon CSD is planning for four different scenarios. (See below). We have already experienced full remote learning. We are in the process of working on the challenges that teachers, students and parents encountered. Those challenges include student access, student engagement, addressing social-emotional issues as well as creating a universal platform for teachers and students to work from. The hybrid model will be used when we are allowed to do in-person learning and social distance is required. We anticipate starting with either the fully remote or hybrid model.

The information below outlines our hybrid model. Please review the information. If you would like to learn more or have questions, a Zoom meeting has been scheduled to review the hybrid plan. All parents and guardians are welcome to attend the 10 AM or 6 PM session on July 27th. 6th-12th grade students are invited to attend a Zoom session at 1 PM on July 27th.

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<th>July 27th from 10-11 AM</th>
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Embrace - Educate - Empower  
Reimagining Marathon - 2020 Ready

Required Components of Marathon In-Person, Hybrid Model:
● Students and staff wear masks consistently, except when eating socially distanced or engaged in instruction and seated at a desk that is socially distant from peers and staff.
● Daily health screenings for employees and students.
● Parents will be asked to take their child’s temperature before coming to school every day.
● Daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols will be put in place.
● Shared books and supplies will be minimized and where used, books (e.g., library books, trade books) supplies (e.g., science lab materials) will be disinfected and will be quarantined for the length of time specified by CDC.
● School visitors will be restricted to those required for school business.
● Students and staff will be trained on proper hand and respiratory hygiene practices, proper face covering types and usage and social distancing.
● Contact tracing and coordination will occur with the local health department.

Operationalize Academic/Instructional Parameters for In-Person Hybrid Model:

UPK - Grade 5
● Grades UPK-5 is planned for daily, onsite, instruction.
● UPK will be reduced in numbers. The UPK lottery will be used to determine UPK class lists.
● Due to social distancing requirements, 6th grade will be moved to the Junior/Senior High School and will follow middle grade level schedules (see below).
● The traditional instructional program will be modified with students learning from classroom teachers and at other times supervised by school personnel during times of independent or remote/livestream instruction from within the school building.
● Potential staggered student arrival is under consideration to accommodate for potential transportation seating limitations and increased traffic at schools due to parent drop-offs.

Grades 6 - 12
● Grade 6-12 is planned for an alternate day model with grades 6-8 attending the Junior/Senior High School on Mondays and Wednesdays and 9-12th grade students attending on site on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Remote instruction will occur on all other days. This allows for social distancing in classrooms and hallways and deep cleaning of spaces on Fridays.
● On virtual instruction days, students will be required to participate in classroom work remotely and/or complete assignments. Student expectations on virtual days will be determined by the teacher based on what will work best for the specific class and what is being learned. As an example, students in an English class may be assigned independent reading or writing, while students in a Math class may watch the day’s lesson live and from home.
● Attendance will be taken daily.
● Students attending CTE classes at OCM BOCES will attend daily. BT BOCES is still to be determined.
Specialized Services

- Students in out of district special education programs will continue to attend their out of district programs.
- Special education and ENL students who attend Marathon will attend in person as often as possible.
- Students receiving special services will continue to receive these services (e.g., speech, physical therapy, occupational therapy)

General School Information

- Time will be dedicated during the first week of school to orientation for UPK-12 students to familiarize students with school and new protocols.
- Families will be notified of the orientation schedule and official start date at the end of August.
- Lunch will be packaged and served to ensure appropriate social distancing, including allowance for eating in classrooms. The process for dining locations/food delivery is being developed along with allowances for students with food allergies.
- Hallway traffic will be one-way, where possible, with appropriate signage.
- Classes moving within hallways will be regulated to reduce the number of students in the hallway at a given time.
- There will be no field trips for the time being.
- Filtration and ventilation will meet or exceed minimum requirements.
- Teachers will be encouraged to have windows open and instruct parts of classes outdoors, where feasible.
- Lockers will not be used at the secondary level. The use of cubbies at Appleby is still under review.
- Students will be asked to carry a reduced number of materials with them on a daily basis.

Extra-Curricular, Athletics, Physical Education and Performing Arts

- Feasibility to provide physical education and performing arts given requirement to ensure 12 feet between participants is being assessed.
- During the summer months, interscholastic sports are not permitted.
- Fall sports have been delayed until Monday, September 21st.
- Additional guidance on athletics is expected to be forthcoming.
- Extra curricular activities will be examined to determine which can be conducted virtually.
- There will be no late bus runs until further notice.

Shift to Virtual Learning in the Event of School Building Closure Due to COVID-19

- In the event school buildings are compelled to close, school will resume virtually.
- Grades UPK-6 students will learn with a combination of synchronous (liveonline) and asynchronous (recorded) teacher lessons, online group work or small group instruction. Time spent on instruction will vary by grade level, however, students will engage with learning daily.
- Grade 7-12 students will learn at home with live, virtual instruction, blended with recorded teacher lessons, online group work, and small group instruction. Students will be engaged in learning activities when classes would have been in session.
- Students in grades 7-12 are expected to check their school email daily as that will be the primary method of communication from their teachers.
- Student attendance will be taken daily.
Student Grading & Reporting Practices

- Grading protocols are being reviewed and will be shared at the start of school.
- The District will issue report cards based on the scheduled cycle (see Marathon Calendar for exact dates).
- At the high school, grades will factor into student GPAs.

Transportation

- Parents/guardians must screen their child(ren) for fever/signs of COVID prior to getting on the bus; sick students must be kept home.
- Masks will be worn on school buses.
- Students will be assigned seats.
- Students will sit in a seat by themselves or may be required to share a seat with others in the same household.
- Elementary students will no longer be picked up or dropped off at the High School.
- Eating will not be allowed on the bus. Food taken out of backpacks will need to be thrown away.
- Parents are encouraged to drive their children where feasible.
- Staggered school arrival times and dismissal procedures will likely be necessary.

Parent Surveys

- Parents will be asked to complete a survey to determine who will be riding the bus, computer and internet access and who will be unable to attend in-person learning based on the categories established by the New York State Department of Education.
- Surveys must be completed by August 5th.
- Parents who choose not to send their child to school for an established reason or those who choose to transport will be making a commitment to do so for the first 10 weeks of school. Parents will have the opportunity to make changes 2 weeks prior to every school quarter (10 weeks).

Thank you for all you do. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Stone
Superintendent