

**MIDHUDSON VALLEY EARLY EDUCATION CENTER REOPENING PLAN:
FAMILY/STAFF MEETINGS, TESTING, CONTRACT TRACING and REMOTE LEARNING**

On August 7, 2020, Governor Cuomo requested that schools complete parent and staff meetings to present their reopening plans and post the Remote Instruction, Contract Tracing and Testing sections of their reopening plans in a separate document.

MidHudson Early Education Center's Reopening plan can be found at Midhudsonregional.org/early-education-center for further details. Questions can be sent to Margaret Slomin, Program Administrator at Margaret.Slomin@WMCHHealth.org.

PARENT/STAFF INTERACTIVE MEETINGS

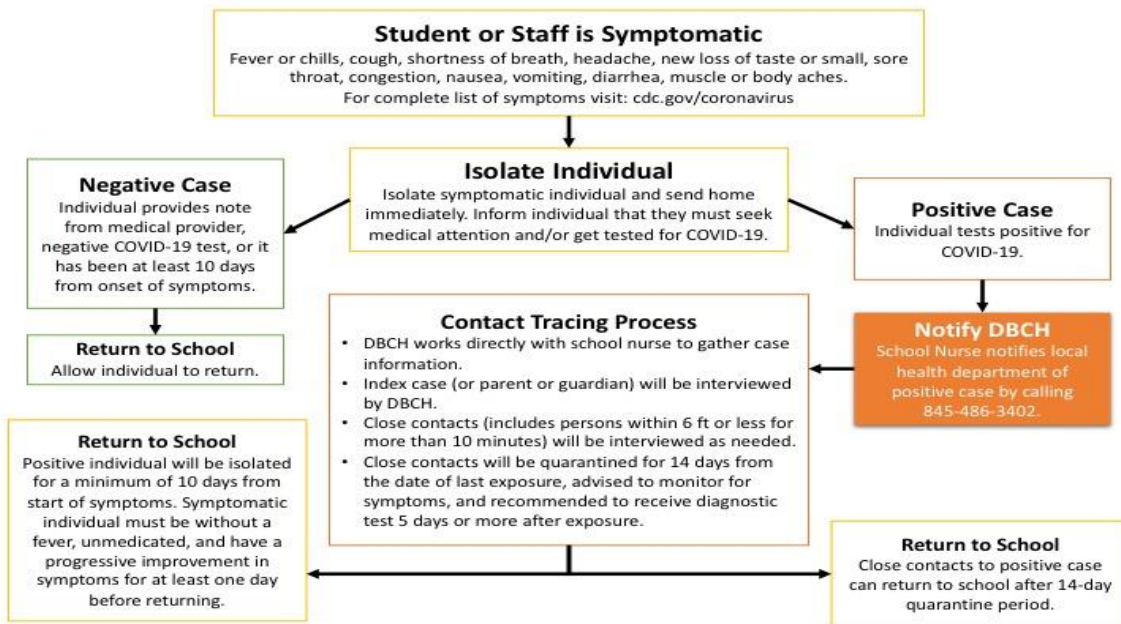
Parent Interactive meetings were held on August 10-14 via individual phone calls with each family and via interactive Zoom meetings on August 19th at 7:00 pm and August 21st at noon.

Staff interactive Zoom meetings were held on August 17th, 18th and 21st. Families and staff were given opportunities for having their questions and concerns heard from staff during phone calls and with Program Director Margaret Slomin on Zoom meetings.

TESTING

MHVVEC will screen all staff, students and visitors prior to entering our classrooms each day. All staff are required and families are requested to go over the Health Questionnaire daily. The steps are listed in the Reopening plan if a student, staff member or visitor is identified as having any symptoms of Covid-19 as identified by NYS DOH and CDC. MHVVEC has procedures in place if someone presents with symptoms and will follow this flow chart developed by Dutchess County Department of Health.

Dutchess County Protocol for Symptomatic or Positive COVID-19 Student or Staff



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On August 14th The County of Dutchess Board of Behavioral and Community Health released protocols for testing and contact tracing. These protocols augment the plans developed by MHVEEC.

Testing Responsibility:

The decision of conducting a COVID-19 test should be determined by a healthcare provider or the local Department of Health, and conducted by a county-recognized collection site. A comprehensive list of collection sites in Dutchess County, as well as the site-specific protocols of the test providers, is available through the Dutchess County Government website at the following link:

<https://www.dutchessny.gov/Departments/DBCH/Collection-Sites-for-Testing-in-Dutchess-County.htm#collapse-6>

CONTRACT TRACING

MHVEEC will follow the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH) procedures for school (August 14, 2020 document) as listed below.

COVID19 remains a serious public health threat to the residents of Dutchess County, NY. Recently, the Governor of New York State has approved that both public and private PreK-12 schools will be able to open for the upcoming school year and was given guidance documents to develop plans to safely re-open with many COVID-19 mitigations. One of those mitigations is to have a plan for contact tracing when a positive case is reported in a school setting.

Report the confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 to the Dutchess County Department of Behavioral and Community Health (DBCH) Nurse or designee from school to contact DBCH by calling 845-486-3402

The following case information prepared when call is made:

- Demographic information required to begin investigation including full name, date of birth, and physical address;
- Guardian/caregiver information including full name, phone number, and email address
- Date of symptom(s) onset;
- Positive test date and healthcare provider, if available;
- Name and date of birth for each household member, if known and/or obtainable;
- Recent travel history within past 14 days and location(s);
- Last day student was in school;
- Names of potential contacts during 48 hours prior to symptom onset including classes
extracurricular activities; and
- Mode of transportation to and from school during past 48 hours prior to symptom onset

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As a secondary contact for case reporting and other questions, schools may call the COVID Call Center at 845-486-3555.

Index case (or proxy) will be interviewed by DBCH staff. This is to ascertain the incubation period (14 days before the onset of symptoms or positive test) and exposure period (48 hours before symptom onset and or positive test) to elicit contacts.

DBCH staff will interview contacts of index case as needed DBCH staff may require line lists with relevant contact information of potentially exposed individuals as well as clarify information based on the interview of the index. An exposure is defined by CDC guidelines. Each instance of exposure will require review and investigation by DBCH staff.

DBCH to issue quarantine orders as needed Based on investigative activities those that are considered exposed will be notified to quarantine for 14 days. They will be entered into the NYS COVID-19 program and notified by NYS Contact Tracers and receive letters of quarantine.

Schools may have already sent the individual home to begin the quarantine prior to the formal notice of quarantine. Schools to communicate with parents and students the positive case via a "Dear Parent" Letter to impacted groups or the school at large.

REMOTE LEARNING

Hybrid/blended Instructions and Remote instruction

Given the possibility that communities may experience spikes in COVID-19 cases at any point during the school year, which may prompt short or long-term school closures, MHVEEC has developed a hybrid/blended learning model and schedule that can continue as is in a fully remote environment

Instruction will focus on each child's individual goals, as stated on their IEP. All instruction will be aligned to the New York State Learning Standards. Remote lessons will be scheduled with the family and other teachers and therapists, so there are no scheduling conflicts for related services or teacher instruction. Teachers and therapists will work together to formulate activities individualized for each child, which will be tailored to the child's individual needs and learning styles, addressing the goals set forth on the child's IEP.

All teachers and therapists will be instructed to structure their therapy sessions to include family members in the activities, giving suggestions and ideas as to how to foster their child's development for the learning domains. During remote sessions, teaching and therapy sessions will be similar as in-person teaching. Lessons will be designed so that there is not only teacher directed instruction but active participation from the student and family, to maintain engagement. Teachers and therapists will include familiar school routines, will plan a number of activities for each session and will demonstrate flexibility and child centered responses, so as to keep the child interested

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and motivated. Remote learning sessions will focus on active learning activities, taking into account the individual needs and cultural differences of the children. When applicable if preschool music videos and/or games are incorporated in a lesson, there must be assurances that there is a specific and intended educational and/or therapeutic goal, and that the child and family member are active participants during the video or game.

Asynchronous learning opportunities will be provided via the student engagement platform, Seesaw. Asynchronous learning activities will address group instruction activities (e.g. Circle Time activities), as well as activities that will address each child's individual goals. Translation will be provided in the family's home language when necessary.

Ongoing assessment of child's progress will occur through data collection, progress monitoring, written daily logs (for related service therapists), anecdotal narratives, photo/video collection of a child's work provided by the family and collected work added to a child's portfolio. Narratives, photo and video collection, as well as saved hard copies can be provided by the family through Seesaw.

For those families unable to access asynchronous and synchronous learning activities due to technology and connectivity issues, families will be informed prior to start of school in September, that they can speak to their child's classroom teacher via phone, who will forward all information to the program Special Education Supervisor, as well as the school district CPSE chairperson. This information will be provided to each family in their home language. Arrangements will be made for weekly hard copy activities to be mailed or delivered to families. Again, these activities will be individualized based on the child's IEP goals, as well as each child's learning needs. Teachers and therapists will communicate with families via telephone to provide information or explanation of activities, as well as give suggestions in addressing goals. This information will be communicated to families in their home language. Families will be asked to return activities to be kept in child's portfolio, to assist in ongoing assessment of progress.