

Parent Zoom Spring Meeting CP Rochester and Happiness House

Summary of Chat Box Parent Questions

1. **As parents who do we reach out to/contact at DOH and NYSED to get them on board with the CDC recommendations and guidance?**
 - a. All guidance's released from DOH and NYSED have been based upon the Governor's Executive Order 202. There are multiple additions to this Executive Order which have extended the original intent and have allowed for certain mandates to remain in effect. The Governor would need to change/amend or discontinue his Executive Orders then DOH and NYSED would need to update their guidance's to all agencies/clinics/hospitals/etc. (including PS services)
2. **Is the attendance of the alternating Wednesdays required or optional?**
 - a. Attendance for the alternating Wednesdays is optional. If your child cannot attend due to prior arrangements, please let your classroom teacher know as well as the Director of the Site know.
3. **Why is there a difference between the interpretation of guidance that CP Rochester is using and other CPSE programs operating more days?**
 - a. All approved Preschool Programs are following the same guidance released by DOH and NYSED in July 2020. I cannot speak to the unique situations other programs may have such as increased space availability, increased staffing abilities, etc. CP Rochester and Happiness House have applied the requirements set forth in those documents since September, 2020 and to this date, no changes to those documents have been made. Thus no changes to our program, other than the addition of an alternating Wednesday.
4. **Does the Ontario Bus Company know about the alternating Wednesday schedule?**
 - a. Yes, all busing companies that both CP Rochester and Happiness House work with have been provided calendars of the alternating Wednesday schedule. All counties have been provided these schedules as well.
5. **Will they pick up my child at his/her regular time?**
 - a. Pick up is determined by the bus company. If there is a change, they should be contacting you directly to let you know.
6. **Do UPK students have the option to sign up for summer programming?**
 - a. UPK is a federally subsidized program that is run by NYS Education Dept. It is a school year program only and our contracts with each UPK program is through the local district. We do not have any control over UPK program parameters.
7. **My child is unable to wear a mask all of the time and the requirements say 100% of the time, if my child cannot wear the mask 100% of the time, is he/she allowed to attend 5 days a week?**
 - a. In the guidance issued by NYSED and NYSDOH, it does say masks need to be worn 100% of the time, other than the cases where it will cause emotional or physical harm. The children in our programs are wearing masks, if they tolerate them and can increase wear time. However, there are many children who do not tolerate masks for various reasons. We are using the exception in those guidance's to justify why not all children

wear a mask at all times. We are also working on mask wearing when in the class as well.

8. Can you speculate on fall?

- a. At this time, we cannot speculate on Fall. We are hopefully, as all districts indicate, that we will be back to school without restrictions, but we will need to receive updated direction from both NYSDOH and NYSED.

9. At Happiness House in Geneva, are there two cohorts or just the Monday/Tuesday?

- a. Geneva Happiness House has two cohorts: M/T Full day classrooms; Th/F half day classrooms This is the same model as all our other sites.

10. We were told in the fall that children with IEPs would be prioritized to add days. For fall, are you considering alterations to the contract that would allow you to add days for IEP children if restrictions are the same?

- a. As noted above, we cannot speculate about Fall. If similar restrictions were placed upon us in the Fall, we would certainly need to look at all of our commitments as our relationships with districts and counties are very important in the overall function of our programs and program philosophy.

11. How is there a disparity in the operating capacity between programs? Why can several programs operate 4 days a week and others only 2 days? Who is controlling these interpretations and why are they not the same?

- a. All approved Preschool Programs are following the same guidance released by DOH and NYSED in July 2020. I cannot speak to the unique situations other programs may have such as increased space availability, increased staffing abilities, etc. CP Rochester and Happiness House have applied the requirements set forth in those documents since September, 2020 and to this date, no changes to those documents have been made. Thus no changes to our program, other than the addition of an alternating Wednesday.
- b. This is the same answer to question number 3 above.

12. Unless Governor Cuomo relaxes the mandates, will the hybrid model continue until summer?

- a. Yes, unless mandates are relaxed AND preschool programs are included in those changes (along with busing mandates changing) the hybrid model will continue until the end of the current school year.

13. Should we consider leaving CP Rochester in favor of a program that operates 5 days a week?

- a. Program choice is always a discussion that should occur with the family's district and then the program site they are currently on. We, as an agency, understand the frustration families are feeling and understand. While we do not want families to leave, we would not stop a family from leaving for another program as we support a family doing what they feel is best for their child.

14. Why are the zoom meetings stopping if it is only every other Wednesday added?

- a. Zoom meetings or remote day learning, should not be much different on the days that are remote. The only day that will be different is the Wednesday that children are now onsite.

15. Was this recorded?

- a. This was not recorded.