

# REOPENING



# SCHOOLS

Implementing the Green Instructional Model

November 12, 2020

## 1.0 RATIONALE

The Rocky River City School District is a public school district that provides the crucial service of educating today's youth, our future. We are living with COVID-19. We must return to delivering our service as our long-standing history of success proves we do best - all day, every day, in-person instruction.

## 2.0 WHEN

Move to our Open-Green instructional model on January 26, 2021. This is the first day of the second semester. A delay to this transition may be warranted by conditions at that time.

Why not now?

- The district anticipates there will be families who will prefer to move to online Option B instruction rather than attend school in-person. Both registration for this, as well as class reassignments K-5, need to occur.
- It is recommended we wait until a natural break, the end of a grading period/semester one, to implement these changes.
- The holidays are upon us. We know people will gather. A January 26, 2021 return meets and exceeds the common 14-day period during which symptoms develop from contact with a COVID-19 positive person, assuming people complete their gatherings by January 3, 2021.
- Data trends for Ohio and Cuyahoga County are moving in the wrong direction at this time for RRCSD to consider reducing social distance from 6' to 3' when possible.

## 3.0 WHAT DATA WILL WE CONSIDER

We hesitate to deploy a matrix that specifically ties us to an instructional model based on points or colors.

Rather, we will always look to the following data points to help guide our decision making:

- RRCSD COVID-19 data/trends
- RRCSD staff and student attendance
- CCBH Local 44116 COVID-19 data/trends
- CCBH Positivity Rate\*
- CCBH New Cases\*

\*similar to the [CDC Core Indicators](#) "number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 14 days" and "percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days"

Similarly, we carry with us the knowledge that, when considering the [CDC indicators and thresholds for risk of introduction and transmission of COVID-19 in schools](#), RRCSD meets 4 or 5 of the key mitigation strategies listed, depending on instructional model, specifically:

CDC Key Mitigation Strategy	Hybrid-Yellow	Open-Green
Consistent and correct use of masks	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The district has implemented a mandatory mask policy for all students and staff</li></ul>	
Social distancing to the largest extent possible	✓	✗

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6' social distance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3' social distance when possible</li> <li>6' during lunch</li> </ul>
Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette	✔	✔
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand sanitizer dispensers have been installed in every classroom as well as throughout buildings and on buses</li> <li>Handwashing stations have been added at each building</li> <li>Disinfecting wipes available in each classroom for students or staff to use as desired</li> <li>Signage has been added on building entry doors indicating masks are required</li> </ul>	
Cleaning and disinfection	✔	✔
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Classroom desks and chairs sanitized between A.M. and P.M. sessions</li> <li>High touch surfaces (doorknobs, bathrooms) sanitized throughout the day</li> <li>Nightly cleaning of each classroom after students leave</li> <li>Clorox 360 used 2 nights per week at each building</li> <li>Bus seats disinfected after each route as well as at the end of the day</li> <li>Each bus receives a Clorox 360 treatment once per week</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Same cleaning protocol followed as when hybrid EXCEPT that the mid-day cleaning that occurred in classrooms between A.M. and P.M. sessions now occurs during that classroom teacher's planning or lunch period</li> </ul>
Contact tracing in collaboration with local health department	✔	✔
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The district works closely with CCBH to conduct contact tracing per CCBH guidelines</li> </ul>	
TOTAL	<b>5</b> Lower/Lowest risk of transmission in schools	<b>4</b> Moderate risk of transmission in schools
Air Quality	In addition to the five CDC key mitigating strategies listed above, RRCSD has completed an air quality improvement project across the district. Upgrades to air movement (300+ CFMs), air filtration (MERV 8-15), and the installation of UV-C light to all roof-top units was completed on November 2, 2020.	

#### 4.0 IN THE MEANTIME

- Registration for second semester Option B will open January 5, 2021 and run through January 15, 2021. Between January 15 and 22, 2021, building and district administrators will modify class rosters, contact parents, and reassign staff as needed in preparation for the January 26 start. Note: Students who are currently enrolled in Option B will not need to re-register for the second semester. Option B

students who wish to return to in-person learning for the second semester should contact the building principal.

- The Open-Green, Hybrid-Yellow and Closed-Red schedules for all buildings will be emailed to parents/guardians. This is important so that parents/guardians can make an informed decision when considering Option B enrollment for the second semester.
- All kindergarten students will have the option to attend kindergarten for a full day second semester as a result of staffing to accommodate our Closed-Red and Hybrid-Yellow models. Kindergarten parents will be given the choice, via a survey, of their child attending all-day or just the first half of the day through 12:45pm. All-day attendance will not be mandatory. Students who do not attend all day will NOT miss core subject instruction or specials. This survey is prepared and ready for deployment. A comfortable time to send this out is between Thanksgiving and winter breaks.
- On November 17, 2020, the middle and high schools will implement an improved hybrid-yellow schedule. The revisions to the high school schedule make each period longer, 45 minutes instead of 40. The revisions to the middle school schedule find students attending all of their classes in-person over the maroon/white rotation. The changes also improve the structure of the at-home side of the day. Similar to the high school, students will be expected to engage with the remainder of the day's schedule via Zoom or Google Classroom.
- Administrators will continue to work with all three unions and staff members as we plan to reopen. We want to ensure that staff understands what is/has been put in place since the pandemic began, what is available to them, and what the plans are:
  - District administrators will attend building and department meetings to answer questions from staff between now and January 26, 2021.
  - Weekly meetings between district leadership and RRTA leadership will continue to ensure items/issues/PPE/"things" crucial for reopening have not been overlooked.
  - District HR department will again request information from staff with regard to their employment status when the district reopens, and then staff positions accordingly.
  - The district has, and will continue to use, a PPE request form on the staff intranet. This is available 24 hours a day to staff, from home or work, through which they can make PPE requests for: clear face shield; face shield-adult; face shield-child; plexiglass divider; gown (for use when toileting); gloves (for use when toileting); safety goggles (for use when toileting); n95 mask (for use when toileting); disposable masks (2).

## **5.0 GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT**

The success of the transition to reopening in Open-Green, and staying open, will require strategic and frequent communication. To this end, we will work with The Impact Group to develop and deliver timely, frequent, manageable "bites" of information. This information will not only include details about our building plans or schedules, but also information and reminders to parents about how crucial their help is to remaining in an Open-Green instructional model.