# Rocky River City School District



# Preparing for 2020-2021

Plans are subject to change based on evolving conditions, new information, and recommendations and guidance from public health officials



# Mission:

We are committed to students receiving the same high-quality instruction and meeting educational, social and emotional needs whether they are learning in a classroom or online from home. It is our commitment to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 as much as possible through the use of safety protocols and guidance and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Education.

The Rocky River City School District administration and staff have been gaining and receiving input from employees, students, parents/guardians, RRCSD Board members, medical professionals and security professionals about plans to safely reopen the Rocky River City School District this fall for students and staff.

The Rr 20/20 Vision Committee is working with building and department committees and using data from the parent/guardian surveys to identify reopening recommendations and plans to share with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the Rocky River Board of Education.

More than 275 volunteers are serving on the Rr 20/20 Vision Committee and building sub-committees.

## **District Safety Protocols**

- Face covering required for all students and staff.
- Daily cleaning of classrooms, common areas, restrooms, hallways, buses.
- Weekly building and transportation deep disinfection (electrostatic treatment).
- Air purification and disinfection in all buildings.
- Hand sanitizer stations in hallways, common areas, and classrooms
- Portable sinks in each building for hand washing.
- Sneeze guards in all main office areas.
- Sneeze guards and hand sanitizer on buses.
- Social distancing reminder signage in all buildings.
- Socially distanced desks in classrooms.
- All desks facing the same direction.
- Hand washing reminder signage in all bathrooms.
- Health self-assessment reminder signage in all buildings.
- Hands free light switches in buildings.
- Socially distanced restrooms.
- Touchless flushers in most bathrooms.
- Touchless bottle filling drinking fountains in buildings.
- Regular disinfection of turf at RRHS stadium.
- Full-time RN added at GPS.
- Full-time LPN's added at KIS, RRMS, RRHS.
- No field trips or large group assemblies.
- No visitors or volunteers in buildings.

## **Instructional Models**

#### OPTION A

- All students in-person and in-building 5 days per week with safety protocols.
- Parents/guardians conduct daily health checks (temperature and COVID-19 symptoms) of children before school.
- Face covering for all students and staff.
- 3-feet social distancing.
- Special Education and English Language services will be provided.
- Preschool Peer-Based Program.

#### OPTION B

A remote learning option will be available for families who choose not to send their students back to school.

- Visit Online Learning Option B description for more information. (Linked here)
- Credit Flexibility applications will be reopened for interested RRHS students.
- Special Education and English Language services will be provided.

#### **OPTION A**

- 50% of students in-person/in-building with safety protocols for an AM session.
   Last names A, B, D, F, I, K, N, O, Q, S, U, V, W, Y
  - GPS: 8:30-11:14am; KIS: 8:00-10:44am; RRMS: 8:15-11:00am; RRHS: 7:55-10:50am
- 50% of students in-person/in-building with safety protocols for a PM session.
  - Last names C, E, G, H, J, L, M, P, R, T, Z
  - GPS: 12:46-3:30pm; KIS: 12:16-3:00pm; RRMS: 12:30-3:15pm; RRHS: 12:15-3:10pm
- In-person and online learning schedule.
  - Grades K-5
    - ∞ In school learning: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies
    - ∞ Online remote learning: Art, Fitness, Music, Intervention & Support
  - Grades 6-8
    - ∞ In school learning: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, World Language 7/8
    - ∞ Online remote learning: Music, Fitness/Health, Essentials
  - Grades 9-12
    - ∞ In school learning: 3 periods per day on a rotating schedule
    - ∞ Independent learning when not in-building
- Parents/guardians conduct daily health checks (temperature and COVID-19 symptoms) of children before school.
- Face covering for all students and staff.
- 6-feet social distancing.
- Special Education and English Language services will be provided.
- Preschool students with special needs only.

#### **OPTION B**

A remote learning option will be available for families who choose not to send their students back to school.

- Visit Online Learning Option B description for more information. (Linked here)
- Credit Flexibility applications will be reopened for interested RRHS students.
- Special Education and English Language services will be provided.

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Daily direct interaction between students and teachers.
Daily office hours for all teachers.
Posted weekly meeting schedules and upcoming assignments and assessments.

This model is ready to implement if needed at any point during the 2020-2021 school year.

Posted weekly meeting schedules and upcoming assignments and assessment

Buildings closed. All students at home daily with online remote learning.

- Students will earn grades for their work and participation is expected.
- Special Education and English Language services will be provided.
  - Preschool students with special needs only.

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## **Online Learning Option**

#### Option B in Open/Hybrid Models

- Please visit the Online Learning Option B description for more information. (Linked here)
- The Online Learning Option is available to students in grades K-12.
- Parents/guardians who register their child(ren) for the Online Learning Option are asked to make a commitment for the entire first semester (August 31, 2020 through January 22, 2021).
- Students enrolled in the Online Learning Option are able to participate in after-school activities and athletics.

## **Special Education Services**

- In all instructional models, the RRCSD will ensure that special education services will be delivered and that a FAPE (Free and Appropriate Public Education) is provided.
- Teams will collaborate to ensure the best instructional plan is in place for students regardless of setting. This will include maximizing specially designed instruction and related services delivery in person (Green and Yellow Models) when possible.
- The RRCSD recognizes that students' needs do not change because of the circumstances. Our teachers are prepared to meet those needs regardless of the situation.

## **Credit Flexibility for RRHS Students**

- Credit Flexibility applications will be reopened for students at RRHS (linked here).
- If you have questions regarding Credit Flexibility, please contact your counselor.

## Important Dates

August 25-28: Staff only for professional development

August 31: First day of school for students

The RRCSD will continue to review county risk level data, other available local data, and guidance from local health officials when making decisions on instructional models.

### **Beach Preschool**

- The RRCSD will deliver services to all preschool students identified as having needs and being serviced under an IEP.
- Students will follow the same calendar as the rest of the district and students will simply attend their assigned AM or PM class.
- The RRCSD will follow the same cleaning and distancing protocol for preschool students as we are for the rest of the district.
- If you are the parent of a child on an IEP in preschool and you do NOT plan on sending your child to school at this time please notify Tara Zbin (zbin.tara@rrcs.org).
- The RRCSD intends on inviting peer models back to the program if/when the district is able to transition into the Open (Green) model.

## Social, Emotional and Mental Health Support

- Social, emotional and mental health support will be more important than ever.
- RRCSD counselors will be available for all students in every building for in-person or virtual meetings.
- The RRCSD has also increased the presence of McKeon Education Group mental health counselors at each building.
- RRHS and McKeon Education Group counselors were available for virtual appointments throughout the summer months.

### School Nurses

- A full-time RN will be at Goldwood Primary School and full-time LPN's will be at Kensington Intermediate School, Rocky River Middle School and Rocky River High School on a daily basis in 2020-2021.
- The district nurse will oversee services and needs at Beach Early Childhood Learning Center (preschool).

## Operations

#### **Transportation**

- Face masks will be required when riding a RRCSD school bus.
- Parents/guardians with children who are eligible for transportation have received a survey asking if they will be able to provide daily transportation for their child to help reduce the number of students on each bus.
- Students will be spaced on buses to the greatest extent possible. Depending on ridership, students may be seated two per seat.

#### **Food Service**

- Students will be socially distanced during any lunch periods.
- The food services department will serve individually packaged items for students.
- When in the Open (Green) or Hybrid (Yellow) Models, RRHS and RRMS will have boxed lunches available for students to order/pick-up.
- These will be available for any students, including those who qualify for free and reduced lunch.

#### Facilities

- Our cleaning and sanitizing procedures have always been extremely thorough throughout the District.
- These efforts will be increased even more this year.
- Surfaces will be disinfected frequently, with special attention to high-touch areas.
- Classrooms, common areas, restrooms, hallways and buses will be cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis. These areas will also be cleaned and sanitized during the break between AM and PM sessions in the Yellow Instructional model.
- We will schedule weekly building and transportation deep disinfection (electrostatic treatment).
- Air purification and disinfection in all buildings.

#### Technology

- Participation in remote online learning will require access to the internet and use of a technology device (such as a desktop, laptop or Chromebook) with a web camera and a microphone. If you do not have access to these items, the district will assist you with these needs.
- Students who will be in school each day will have a designated Chromebook at school to pick-up and drop-off at the same location daily.

## Guidance for Reopening Schools

- Vigilantly Assess for Symptoms
- Wash and Sanitize Hands to Prevent Spread
- Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize the School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces
- Practice Social Distancing
- Implement Face Covering Policies

## Vigilantly Assess for Symptoms

- Parents/guardians are asked to conduct daily health checks (temperature, COVID-19 symptoms) of children before school.
- Do not send children to school with a fever of 100°F or higher, or if children are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms.
- People with COVID-19 report a wide range of symptoms, which can include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

## About COVID-19

- The virus spreads through respiratory droplets that are released when an infected person talks, coughs or sneezes.
- The virus can also spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection.

## **Preventative Practices**

#### To help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, follow these important tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Wear a face covering to keep from spreading the virus to others.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Maintain proper social distancing (3-6 feet).
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash, and wash your hands.
- · Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

## Wash and Sanitize Hands to Prevent Spread

- Regular hand washing and use of hand sanitizer throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers in classrooms, hallways, and common areas.
- Portable sinks in each building for hand washing.
- Hand washing reminder signage in restrooms.
- Touchless water bottle filling fountains.
- Touchless flushers in restrooms.





WET HANDS AND APPLY SOAP



SCRUB THE BACK OF YOUR HANDS



RINSE HANDS WITH WATER



RUB PALM TO PALM



**CLEAN BASE OF THUMBS** 



DRY HAND WITH TOWEL



RUB PLAMS WITH FINGERS INTERLACED



WASH FINGERTIPS AND FINGERNAILS



YOUR HANDS ARE NOW CLEAN

## Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize the School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces

Daily cleaning of classrooms, common areas, restrooms, hallways, buses.

Weekly building and transportation deep disinfection.

Sneeze guards in all main office areas

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#### **Implement Face Covering Policies**

## All students (unless they are unable to do so for health or developmental reasons) and staff must wear a Face Covering at all times while in the district's school buildings and buses.



- If your child is unable to wear a face covering, we kindly request your medical documentation be submitted to Jennifer Norman (norman.jennifer@rrcs.org) by August 15th so appropriate accommodations can be made.
- Disposable face coverings will be available for students when necessary.

## Next Steps

- These plans are "at this moment" and we will continue to re-evaluate based on evolving conditions, new data and recommendations and guidance from public health officials.
- We will continue to share information and more specific details over the coming weeks as it becomes available.
- For more detailed information about the online learning Option B, please click here.
- Continue to have a safe and healthy summer and follow the guidelines and recommendations in place from health officials.
- Thank you for your continued patience and understanding as we work together through these challenges. Your ongoing partnership is vital as we prepare for the 2020-2021 school year.



#### FAQ • Please visit the Q&A website linked <u>here</u>.

#### Q: Will the school day look different from this past spring if instruction returns to fully online?

Yes, RRCSD has developed an improved Red Model with teachers that includes daily direct interaction between students and teachers, daily office hours for all teachers, and posted weekly meeting schedules and upcoming assignments and assessments. Students will earn grades for their work and participation is expected.

#### Q: Have teachers been provided professional development opportunities for online learning?

Yes. RRCSD provides significant professional development for all staff members throughout the school year and summer. Teachers and staff will also use August 25-28 as professional development days.

Q: If my child does not return to in-person classes and instead enrolls in the online option, can s/he participate in after school activities/athletics?

Yes, your child can participate in after school activities/athletics.

#### Q: Will all day Kindergarten be offered?

No. All Day Kindergarten will not be offered for the 2020-2021 school year. All tuition will be refunded to families.

Q: How will students who are not sick but need medical attention in another way be treated by school nurses? (medicine distribution, injury, cut, etc.)

Students who are sick or injured, not related to COVID-19, will be treated by the school nurse with normal procedures.

#### Q: How can parents/guardians help control the spread of COVID-19? What will RRCSD ask of parents/ guardians?

Conduct daily health checks (temperature and COVID-19 symptoms) of children before school.

Do not send children to school with a fever of 100°F or higher, or if children are exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms.

#### Q: What happens to students/staff who begin to exhibit illness symptoms during the day?

The Ohio Department of Health states that any student exhibiting symptoms while physically attending school should be placed in a separate room, away from other students, monitored by school personnel maintaining physical distance and wearing PPE until a parent/guardian arrives to pick them up at school. Any staff member exhibiting symptoms while working in the school should also continue to wear a face guard and self-isolate in a separate room, away from other staff and students. Students and staff exhibiting symptoms should go home as soon as possible. (Sources: Ohio Department of Education & Ohio Department of Health) Parents/guardians should ensure that there are multiple, pre-arranged methods of getting a student home from school if they become ill or exhibit symptoms during the day.

All exposed areas will be immediately cleaned and disinfected.

#### Q: What if a student, family member, or staff tests positive for COVID-19?

Individuals who test positive for or are suspected to have COVID-19 must follow the directives of the Cuyahoga County Board of Health. Because directives change, it will be dependent upon the recommendations at that time.

Individuals who are in the presence of someone that has tested positive for COVID-19 must follow all recommendations set forth by the local health department.

#### Q: Will COVID-19 testing be required of staff and students?

No. This would only change if ordered by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health or Governor DeWine. If staff or students have a confirmed COVID-19 positive diagnosis - doctor clearance will be needed before returning to school.

#### Q: Can RRCSD guarantee social distancing at all times?

No. We will need cooperation from all staff and students.

#### Q: Will students use lockers?

Access to lockers at RRHS will be permitted at the beginning and end of each day.

#### Q: Have Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) face guards and shields been purchased for staff?

Yes. Both face guards and face shields have been purchased for staff.

#### Q: Have Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) face guards and shields been purchased for students?

Yes. Disposable face guards will be available for students when necessary. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide face guards and/or face shields for their child. RRCSD will provide specialized PPE for students with special needs when needed.

#### Q: How will RRCSD address visitors and volunteers in each school?

It is recommended that schools should, as much as possible, prohibit visitors from entering school buildings. Visitations should be limited to those enrolling new students, or for emergency situations. Temperature checks and symptom checks should be required for all visitors. In cases where schools and districts have partnerships with community organizations, health care providers and local government agencies that provide additional educational and wraparound services to students, staff of such partners should be allowed into buildings following the same precautions as school personnel. (Source: Ohio Department of Education)

Items may be dropped off for students in the building main office if proper protocols, including social distancing and wearing a face guard, are followed.

Parents/guardians may be permitted in offices and clinics.

# Q: How will RRCSD balance security with the expanded need for many entry points and staff to supervise these while processing entry of students, parents/guardians?

We are not expecting any changes to the security operations and protocols of our buildings.

#### Q: Will students still have late arrival and early dismissal options at Rocky River High School?

Yes. The same protocol for morning and afternoon options will be available at RRHS.

#### Q: Will students have field trips and overnight trips such as Camp Fitch, Stone Lab, Washington, DC, Bridge to the World trips, etc.?

No. At this time, true field trips present too many risks that could compromise the health of participants. Therefore, field trips that involve students being in close proximity to each other, navigating large crowds, increased interactions with strangers and unpredictable circumstances should be avoided. Highly managed outings to settings that allow for safe distancing (such as nature preserves or isolated outdoor locations) can be included as part of the educational experience. Virtual field trips are an option to broaden the student experience without taking undue risk.

(Source: Ohio Department of Education)

#### Q: Will schools have assemblies?

No. Assemblies will not be an option until further notice.

Q: If RRCSD is in the Yellow (hybrid) model and transitions to Open (green), can students move to the remote learning option?



## Resources

COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools Planning Guide for Ohio Schools and Districts American Academy of Pediatrics: COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry

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