

Frequently Asked Questions: Return to School 2020

In-Person Instruction	
Is there a way for the lower grades to at least virtually meet their teachers before school starts?	Teachers are sending home introduction videos.
When will students bring supplies to school?	Teachers will be working next week to develop a plan for staggering the supplies that need to be brought in for the start of the school year. See the list provided in the newsletter.
When are staff/student pictures?	We will hopefully be able to have picture day in October during the school day.
When will I get my schedule or know my teacher or homeroom?	Currently posted on Skyward.
Can students share resources such as Kleenex boxes, supplies, etc.	<p>We will be limiting the sharing of supplies as much as possible. Small groups/partnerships can share resources but will sanitize/wash hands.</p> <p>In terms of materials such as Kleenex boxes, pencil sharpeners can be shared as the health department has advised us that the virus is not spread through touching surfaces.</p>
Can partners share supplies	Students can share supplies with a partner, however partners should stay consistent and students should wash/sanitize before and after use.
Will students need to wear masks?	Yes, students in 5K-8th grade will be required to wear a mask. Masks in 4K will be optional. Once the mandate is lifted we will assess the situation and make a recommendation at that time.
How often will students get a break from wearing a mask?	Students will get at least one full recess along with two other shorter breaks outside. Classes such as PE will be held outdoors whenever possible as well.
Who will be traveling into classrooms since we are keeping cohorts together throughout the day?	Specialists, coaches, paraprofessionals will travel to classrooms to provide instruction/support.
What is the cleaning expectation of teachers between classes? Tables and the chairs?	Teachers have access to disinfectant wipes and should utilize cleaning practices as needed. Especially at the middle school where cohorts will travel to a few content specific classrooms. Tables and chairs should be wiped down between classes. Some classes may utilize the new sprayer systems to disinfect rooms as well. Students who are older may support wiping down tables and chairs if comfortable doing so.

What's the plan for classrooms with tables? Will we be getting plexiglass? There is not 3-6 feet distance between students at our tables.	We are looking at portable options for the table where students can have their own space with a clear divider. Plexiglass dividers will be provided in intervention/SPED rooms.
Do we have enough chrome books for everyone so they do not have to share?	We have enough chromebooks for 2-8 grade and students in 4K-1 will have shared carts. There will be enough chromebooks for families should we go virtual as some families do not require a school device.
Can parents purchase chromebooks to send with their kid(s)? Or does it have to be from school?	At this point in time the school will provide devices and devices from home should not come to school.
Where will students be eating lunch?	Students will be getting hot lunch from the lunchroom but will eat in their homeroom.
Will there be enough textbooks for all students in classes where paper textbooks are used?	Yes, digital textbooks will be used and students will have their own copy when needed.
Will we still be able to use bean bags? Not sure what sanitation looks like for things that aren't plastic. Can we use a rug for a meeting area?	Flexible seating options can remain in classrooms, but must be sanitized between use. All classroom rugs will be taken out unless approved. Rugs cannot be used to gather kids close therefore taking them out will assist in social distancing efforts.
Any update on sports?	Currently focused on our academic reopening plan. Meeting with the conference today. WIAA is discussing potentially delaying some sports until the spring.
Has DPI given any "waivers" or new language as far as # of minutes per school day/year? Like they did in the spring, basically will we be held to those minutes like we would be in a "normal" school year?	We are held to those minutes but we can apply for a waiver if it is needed.
For parents choosing to bus their students when will we receive route information?	You should have received this information early the week of 8/24/20
How will it work with students who are virtual and in accelerated math? If the decision is made for the students taking high school math to meet in the library, will they be allowed to take a chromebook home?	Currently, we are investigating 2 possible options all would be virtual: 1. Virtual (setting at RMS Spanish room) 2. Virtual (setting in students home)
Will all grades 5-8 have gym, music, art, guidance, health and Spanish some time in the academic year?	Yes, for 5-6. Music and Art are electives in grades 7-8.

How are medications to make their way to school?	Parents should complete the authorization form and bring medications to school. You can drop them off in the office.
How many students make up a cohort? Sussex's cohorts are like 4 students I am understanding your definition of cohorts is an entire class.	Our definition of a cohort is a classroom of students. Typically our class sizes range from 15-20 students. This may be lower if virtual students are divided evenly across all in-person sections.
How are teachers going to get the assistance they have gotten in the past years from parent helpers?	Parents can still support classrooms by offering to help with projects at home. At this point in time we cannot have any parent volunteers in the building.
Will parents be able to come into the school?	No, we will not allow visitors into the school at this time.
Will clubs or outside groups be able to host events at the school?	No, at this time we will not have any organizations using the school building. This will be reviewed at trimester.
If parents are picking up in the Flipper zone, what entrance do we use?	Dolphin Zone - Last names A-K - Use 164 entrance Flipper Zone - Last names L-Z - Use 167/Holy Hill entrance
Is advanced math still at RMS?	Yes. Students will access advanced math virtually from the RMS library.
Will we be getting revised school supply lists (RMS)?	Yes, this is linked in the Ryley's Rapid Review newsletter.
What will kids do with the mask at recess?	Masks are not required outdoors. Therefore students will have masks with them but will not need to wear them during recess.
Virtual Instruction	
Will there be seesaw/google training for families?	Yes, the district will provide instructional resources for parents.
Will virtual families need to be available with their students from 8:10 - 3:15?	There will be some flexibility in the schedule for virtual students however, scheduled opportunities will take place throughout the day to tune into live classroom lessons.
How will reading evaluation be conducted virtually?	Teachers will provide conferences with students to conduct 1-on-1 assessments and feedback. Typically students in need of reading intervention will meet 1-on-1 with a specialist or interventionist.

Will live sessions be recorded to watch later?	Some may be recorded; however participation in live classes would be preferred. There will also be an option for some pre-recorded lessons. As we will balance synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities for our virtual students.
How will staff balance in-person and virtual instruction for students?	Students will be divided equally into homerooms. Staff will work together to share the load and provide quality instruction for both in-person and virtual students.
<p>If a student starts virtual and it is not working out can they go to the school in person?</p> <p>What if my child starts in person and we no longer feel comfortable?</p>	<p>Students who commit to virtual learning will stay in this platform until the end of the trimester.</p> <p>Students who start with in-person can move to virtual instruction if at any point you are no longer comfortable with in-person instruction. Once you move to virtual, you will remain in this platform until the end of the trimester.</p>
For virtual students, and for all students if we are forced to all go virtual, will there be more required of the students to interact together? To help them build communication and social skills?	Yes, students may be assigned virtual partners in order to increase collaboration time. Students will also be required to join live meetings to interact with teachers and peers.
How are you going to grade virtual?	Students will be graded on the assignments provided by the teacher. There will be daily lessons for all subjects. Our typical grading system will be used for in-person and virtual students. These expectations have shifted from last year as we are now able to provide more opportunities for students and a consistent platform with google/seesaw.
Will "specials" be a requirement for virtual students?	Yes, specials will be required for virtual students.
In addition for those live streams, for kids who can't type yet (ie: kindergarten) how do they get recognized and called on?	Yes, students will be able to access Seesaw which is very interactive. They can record a video, voice recording, make a drawing, etc. to show their thinking.
We have not received our virtual assignments yet. When will a virtual schedule be shared.	Teachers will be providing this information in the very near future.
How will virtual students get their technology?	On Monday, August 31st our offices will be open from 8:00 am - 3:00 pm for families to pick-up Chromebooks.
About what percentage of students are doing virtual vs face to face?	At this point approximately 85% of students are attending in person.
Chrome books and hot spots will be made available for virtual, correct?	Yes.
Are virtual families going to get the school wide notifications of when there is a positive case so that we can keep updated incase we want to transition back at the trimester?	Yes, all parents will receive a letter with any positive cases. Those who were in contact with the person who tested positive may receive an additional letter outlining more details.

Will "specials" be a requirement for virtual students?	FLES- Specials will be offered. We will work with parents regarding requirements of specials. At this point in time, specialist teachers will provide resources and lessons. RMS- Specials will be scheduled on a trimester basis.
COVID Procedures	
What are the expectations of teachers if a student in their classroom tests positive? Will they have a choice to teach virtually to their class while they quarantine?	Yes, teachers could teach virtually if they are feeling well enough to do so.
Will families be notified if there is a COVID case at school?	Yes, families will be notified of a positive case, however the name of staff/student will not be shared.
What is the back up plan for teachers being symptomatic, who will take over for those weeks?	If a teacher is out and students remain in school, the district may have a sub cover and allow the teacher to do some virtual teaching if she/he is willing. The district is planning to hire a temporary building sub so additional subs are able to cover in these situations.
What happens when a student or teacher is positive? What will happen to those students?	There are a couple different things that could happen. The entire class may need to quarantine and learn virtually for 14 days. Otherwise if that is not the case, and students can remain in school, a sub may be hired OR students could be supervised by another staff member and the teacher could teach virtually if they are able. See guiding document included in newsletter.
A school wide shutdown happens when? Outbreak is considered 1 or 2? Or are schools going to have a percentage?	A site is identified as an outbreak location if two positive cases are confirmed. A percentage of confirmed positive cases will most likely be used to determine when the school building(s) need to close and move to virtual learning. We will also be following guidance from the health department. See guiding document in newsletter for more details.
Will the school know when a child tests positive through the health department and when they are eligible to return?	The health department will inform our district if one of our students tests positive.
Does the health department notify the specific identity of the student who tests positive or only that a student at the school has tested positive?	Yes, the health department will notify the school district of the specific identity of a student that tests positive. Then the district will do contact tracing and notify the families of a confirmed case.
If a child needs to self-quarantine for 10, 24 or 14 days, will they flip to virtual learning and then back to in person when they are able to return to school?	Yes.
What will be the procedure for taking a child out of school during the day and returning the student to school? Are parents allowed to	Parents are asked to write a note for the student to give to their teacher and call the office. Students will exit the building when their

<p>park or will the child be delivered and picked up from the car?</p>	<p>parent is visible. At Friess Lake parents may enter the first set of doors. Yes, parents can park.</p>
<p>Has there been any thought on implementing routine/scheduled handwashing/sanitizer use at critical times (i.e. before/after lunch, before/after transition to different classrooms, after recess or use of learning tools) to facilitate increased frequency hand sanitizing and ensure all kids are doing it?</p>	<p>Yes. This will be a practice that happens multiple times throughout the day.</p>