



Ridgefield School District Reopening Plan

July 30, 2020



Reopening Plan Update

- All reopening plans must closely follow the NJDOE-approved checklist
- The checklist has yet to be released to local school districts
- The due date for submission of the plan is Friday, July 31st
- The plan represents the District's approach for "Phase I" from September 8th - October 15th, after which adjustments can be made
- The plan should remain flexible and subject-to-change based on circumstances - flexibility is the key to organizational success

Key CDC Guidelines

- Physical distancing of at least six feet
- Face coverings
- Frequent handwashing and use of hand sanitizer
- Clean/disinfect surfaces
- Internal/external signage
- Stay home if sick





Key CDC Guidelines (cont.)

“The more people a student or staff member interacts with, and the longer that interaction, the higher the risk of COVID-19 spread. The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in school settings as follows:

- **Lowest Risk:** Students and teachers engage in virtual-only classes, activities, and events.
- **More Risk:** Small, in-person classes, activities, and events. Groups of students stay together and with the same teacher throughout/across school days and groups do not mix. Students remain at least 6 feet apart and do not share objects (e.g., hybrid virtual and in-person class structures, or staggered/rotated scheduling to accommodate smaller class sizes).
- **Highest Risk:** Full sized, in-person classes, activities, and events. Students are not spaced apart, share classroom materials or supplies, and mix between classes and activities.”

Signs of Emerging Consensus in Bergen County

- A rotating A/B schedule with roughly 50% of students in a class attending in-person at one time to accommodate social distancing guidelines.
- Early dismissal days for students in-person with the afternoons reserved for recoupment, checking in with teachers, meetings, etc. to avoid complications with lunch and recess.
- A “phased” approach:
 - Phase 1: September 1st - October 15th (reassess on October 1st)
 - Phase 2: October 15th - November 30th (reassess on November 15th)
 - Phase 3: November 30th - December 20th
 - ***Phase 0: Revert to full remote/virtual learning again if need be according to NJDOE or NJDOH guidelines***

A/B Days Across Grades (Option A)

Red Team (Grades 9-12): X X X X X X X X X X

Blue Team (Grades 9-12): X X X X X X X X X X

Students are divided equally, by grade, into groups for rotating in-person instruction district-wide. ****A/B groups will rotate on Fridays.***

The current model divides students by alphabetical order/family. ****These numbers will change when adjusting for students not returning to in-person instruction.***

Early dismissal schedules at each school - no lunch being served.

All students and staff will wear face coverings.

"A" Day Monday / Wednesday	Blue Team has in-person instruction
"A" Day Monday / Wednesday	Red Team has virtual remote, or project-based instruction
"B" Day Tuesday / Thursday	Red Team has in-person instruction
"B" Tuesday / Thursday	Blue Team has virtual remote, or project-based instruction

Remote/Virtual Learning (Option B)

Parents can also choose a completely remote/virtual educational experience, which will operate on the same schedule basic schedule as in-person instruction.

The District is still finalizing plans for how to best deliver both in-person and remote/virtual instruction simultaneously.

All students will be provided with a district-owned Chromebook device regardless of Option A or Option B.

Principals will notify parents shortly that they will need to make a decision on school options by **Friday, August 7th**, which will be in effect until **October 15th** (end of Phase I).



Additional Key Information

Physical Distancing:

- Principals and Mr. Malaquias have conducted walkthroughs of each classroom to determine seating arrangements separated by 6 feet.
- The District is ordering plexiglass shields for office areas and classroom spaces where social distancing cannot occur and/or classrooms will be relocated to larger spaces where possible.

Facemasks:

- All staff and students must wear facemasks with limited exceptions due to a medical or otherwise issue, which will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Signage/PPE:

- Internal and external signage is being ordered as have/is extra masks, gloves, face shields, and gowns for staff working with certain student groups.

Handwashing/Hand Sanitizing:

- Hand sanitizer stations have been ordered and will be placed in each classroom in the District.
- *Pandemic Response Teams* will develop building-based protocols regarding frequent handwashing for students and staff.

Additional Key Information

Daily COVID-19 Screenings:

- Non-hand-held temperature check stations have been ordered for multiple entry points for each school and any staff or student with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will not be permitted into the building.
- The District will determine a respectful system for removing students until they can be picked up by their parent/guardian.
- Parents will be required to certify that they will complete daily COVID-19 screenings for their children, which the District will provide more information on.

Before/After Care:

- Before/after-care will not be able to be offered during Phase I - the District does not have the ability to effectively staff the program.



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