



# Reopening Plan

Regional School Unit 57

2020-2021

*RSU 57 prepares respectful, responsible, creative thinkers  
for success in the global community.*

11/20/2020 – DRAFT

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# I. Executive Summary

In alignment with the RSU57 mission of preparing respectful, responsible, creative thinkers for success in the global community, our plan for 2020-2021:

- Holds the **health and safety** of students, staff and community as the primary consideration
- By design strives to ensure **equitable access** to opportunity for ALL of our students
- Is built to be **flexible** and to address multiple possible scenarios

RSU 57 schools will reopen in the Fall of 2020 providing full-time access to physical schools while offering a remote option to all families and students who choose it.

The 2020-2021 school year will be divided into segments of school days, after which each family can revisit their personal choice of in-person or remote school options based on the changing conditions and the risk mitigation strategy employed by the district.

RSU 57 will identify the District risk level by referring to the State of Maine's color-coded advisory system. Given the large and varied nature of counties in Maine, school districts within a county may adopt a District risk level that differs from the county-based categorization of COVID-19 risk issued by the Maine Department of Education.

In order to make the school system safe for students and staff, significant resources and important policy shifts are necessary to enable appropriate protocols. Some of the important shifts to current protocols include arrival/dismissal times for students and staff, limiting access to the school building whenever practical, enhanced cleaning procedures, etc.

Because of our commitment to the individual choices of our school community, our viability to provide an in-person school option will be subject to available staffing.

## II. Resources/References

The list below is a sample of the resources used in the development of this plan:

Resource	Link
Maine Framework	<a href="https://www.maine.gov/doe/framework">https://www.maine.gov/doe/framework</a>
CDC School Guidance	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html</a>
American Academy of Pediatrics Guidance	<a href="https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/">https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/</a>

## III. Foundations

The following are a list of foundational beliefs that are used to determine our key strategies and to guide our thought process. They are not meant to be exhaustive, but illustrative of the fundamental guiding principles.

- This school year is likely to be disrupted by COVID-19. While we cannot completely control the containment, mitigation, and response to COVID-19, we must prepare as if this entire school year and others in the future may be affected.
- Conditions and individual comfort levels are going to be dynamic and unpredictable and will vary by season. Conditions in our community, state, and country are likely to change rapidly and in an unpredictable way. As a result, we cannot in good faith create a plan for our entire school year, but must prepare ourselves to be adaptable to the changing conditions. In addition, the relative comfort level of our staff, students, and parents will likely adjust and change fluidly throughout the year.
- Overall guidance for safety protocols is the responsibility of the Governor and Maine Department of Education. We have the ability at the local level to determine the pathway for our schools, short of any direct executive orders by the Governor or decree by the Maine Department of Education. However, it is the responsibility of the state government to provide accurate, timely, and overall guidance upon which we should rely to make our local decisions.
- Remote learning must be rigorous and strive to be the same for in-person school. Some families may choose not to send their children to the physical school. We must acknowledge that remote learning is not an exact replica of the physical school environment but needs to provide similar outcomes for students whenever possible.
- Learning outcomes, standards, and progress must remain intact. We must not lower the bar of our learning standards and outcomes.

- Each member of the school community- families, students, teachers, administrators, and staff- must be committed to our objective for the year for us to be successful. While each of us must make choices for our safety based on our own comfort level, the success of the school community hinges on each of us doing our part.

# IV. Key Strategies

Based on our foundational beliefs, we will deploy the following key strategies to meet our objectives:

## A. Safety

Staff and students at RSU 57 will follow health and safety protocols developed by the Maine Department of Education based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control. Detailed Safety Protocols for each school opening status can be found in Section V- [Physical Health and Safety Preparations](#) of this document.

## B. School Year Segments

The school year will be broken into logical segments of time to allow flexibility for parents and students to adjust their personal preferences based on changing conditions, and allow schools to plan for capacity guidelines and transportation needs. Families who have chosen 5-day in-person attendance can opt to change their selection to 5-day remote attendance at any point during the segment and for the remainder of the segment.

With the potential for our school year being disrupted, it is possible that we will need to make adjustments to our school year calendar including suspending school for a period of time, adjusting vacation schedules, shortening or lengthening our school year, etc. However, our goal is to always make changes in line with the segment schedule posted above and to provide families and staff as much notice as possible.

Segment	Start Date	End Date	# of School Days	Family Request Date	RSU 57 Decision Date
I	September 8th	October 2nd	19	September 30th	October 2nd
II	October 5th	October 30th	18	October 28th	October 30th
III	November 2nd	January 22nd	47	January 20th	January 22nd
IV	January 25th	April 2nd	45	March 31st	April 2nd
V	April 5th	June 11th*	44	-	-

\*or last student day

## C. Professional Development

Our teachers and staff will receive professional development in order to implement the reopening plan. We will be providing professional development leading up to the school year in August and on-going professional development throughout the school year. It cannot be overstated that our success hinges on our faculty being prepared, feeling valued, and provided with support during this time.

We will be offering seven full days of summer teacher professional development for all teaching staff prior to the start of the school year. Teachers will be expected to join our professional development sessions from their assigned building. Our RSU 57 Reopening PD Summer Institute will include both synchronous sessions as well as individual and small group work time. Professional development will focus on social emotional learning, curriculum work, instructional design, and technology.

## D. Create Logical Social Distancing

Extensive analysis of all of our physical spaces has been conducted to determine capacity per social distancing guidelines. Given current Maine Department of Education guidelines, RSU 57 schools are able to accommodate all of our students on a daily basis. Keep in mind that some classroom and common spaces may be repurposed for instructional needs. Whenever possible, we will encourage the use of the outdoor grounds for classes to allow for additional social distancing. Teachers will be given flexibility in regards to use of school buildings and grounds to support additional spacing between students and teachers.

# V. Status Protocols

Given the changing and unpredictable nature of conditions in our community, RSU 57 will adopt status protocols to easily indicate the corresponding set of safety protocols and instructional design that will be in place for our schools. Maine’s Department of Education, in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control, expects all School Administrative Units to outline specific plans to be approved by all local school boards in August to meet new physical health and safety requirements for students and staff. Furthermore, each SAU must have approved educational plans in place for the 2020-2021 school year to address three possible reopening scenarios that are determined by Maine DOE and CDC and dependent on local health conditions:

Green	Categorization as “green” suggests that the county has a relatively low COVID-19 risk and that in-person instruction can be adopted, although a SAU may opt for hybrid instruction if its buildings or readiness make adhering to the Required Health and Safety Measures for All Schools a challenge.
Yellow	Categorization as “yellow” suggests that the county has an elevated risk of COVID-19 spread and that hybrid instruction models should be adopted.
Red	Categorization as “red” suggests that the county has a high risk of COVID-19 spread and that in-person instruction should not be conducted.

Our schools will be ready to open this fall in one of these three models and also be prepared to switch from one model of instruction to another depending on local/county health data and ongoing directions from Maine’s Department of Education and Centers for Disease Control.

## A. Physical Health and Safety Preparations

The following preparations apply to all reopening scenarios (Green, Yellow, Red) and will be in place prior to school opening:

<p><b>Preparing the Facilities</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify and procure necessary equipment, materials, and supplies for supporting health and safety guidelines: Personal Protective Equipment for staff; supply of extra face coverings for staff and students; plexiglass for high traffic areas, offices, cafeteria, Central Office; hand sanitizer and additional hand washing stations; and classroom cleaning supplies.</li> <li>● Thorough deep cleaning of all buildings prior to school opening. Training for all custodial staff on enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols.</li> <li>● Remove any furniture, toys, rugs, and other items that cannot be easily cleaning each day.</li> <li>● Protocols in place to consistently disinfect high-touch areas during the day: door knobs/handles, desks, faucets, etc.</li> <li>● Mark six foot standing spaces on the floor near doors, bathrooms, cafeteria serving stations, or other areas in the school where students may need to line up.</li> <li>● Mark one-way directions/signage for hallways to encourage safe flow of students in the building.</li> <li>● Post signage in all common areas of schools to remind students and staff of health and safety routines: maintain social distance, wash/sanitize hands frequently, wear face masks/coverings.</li> <li>● Install plexiglass shields to protect staff and students in high traffic/close proximity areas: school offices, health services, cafeteria food service, special education work and testing areas if applicable.</li> <li>● Set up additional hand-washing and/or hand sanitizing stations in common areas throughout each school.</li> <li>● Ensure all ventilation systems operate properly and increase introduction and circulation of outdoor air as much as possible in each school.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Educating Staff, Families, and Students</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training for all staff, including substitute staff, on all health and safety guidelines for in-person instruction.</li> <li>● Training for all staff in teaching and reinforcing health and safety guidelines to students within their purview.</li> <li>● Staff will utilize the <a href="#">Child Feels or Appears Unwell Flowchart</a> as needed</li> <li>● Food services staff trained on new protocols for on-site meal</li> </ul>

	<p>service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Custodial staff trained in enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols.</li> <li>● Offer virtual opportunities and accessible materials to families to explain new health and safety guidelines and procedures.</li> <li>● Establish clear expectations for wearing face masks/coverings for all staff and students.</li> <li>● Communicate expectations of staff and students for conducting a daily health screening and self-check prior to reporting to school.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Responding to a Positive Case of COVID-19</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone exhibiting COVID-like symptoms while at school.</li> <li>● Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick to their home or a healthcare facility.</li> <li>● Consult with health officials, Maine DOE &amp; CDC immediately following notification of a positive case, while maintaining confidentiality and other applicable federal and state privacy laws. Appropriate next steps could include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consult with DOE/CDC to determine need for school or campus closure.</li> <li>○ Close off areas used by a sick person until a thorough cleaning and disinfection has been completed.</li> <li>○ Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met CDC criteria.</li> <li>○ Inform those who have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms and to follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Physical Distancing Considerations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All staff and students are expected to wear a face mask/covering during the school day.</li> <li>● Determine maximum occupancy for classrooms based on seating arrangements for appropriate spacing between students and staff, per Maine DOE specifications.</li> <li>● Determine safe occupancy limits for common spaces: cafeteria, gymnasiums, office areas, etc.</li> <li>● Plan for keeping student cohorts as separate as possible during the school day.</li> <li>● Plan for lunch locations to maintain gathering limits and proper physical distancing.</li> <li>● Plan for motor break, recess, and playground usage: stagger times and disinfect, and/or close off sections per Maine DOE/CDC specifications.</li> <li>● Limit any large gatherings of staff and/or students.</li> <li>● Restrict access to school buildings for nonessential visitors, volunteers, and/or other groups during the school day.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Establish physical distancing protocols at bus stops and while riding the school bus.</li> <li>● Establish protocols to maintain physical distance during arrival and dismissal.</li> <li>● Protocols in place for staff and student bathroom use.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Education Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Standard Operating Procedure</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Symptom Screening</a> Before Coming to School</li> <li>● Students (parents/caregivers) and staff members must conduct self-checks for symptoms prior to boarding buses or entering school buildings each day. Schools should provide information to families in their primary language to support them in conducting this check.</li> <li>● Any person showing symptoms must report their symptoms and not be present at school.</li> <li>● Schools must provide clear and accessible directions to parents/caregivers and students for reporting symptoms and absences.</li> </ul> <p>Physical Distancing and Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adults must maintain 6-feet of distance from others to the extent possible. Maintaining 3-feet of distance is acceptable between and among students when combined with the other measures outlined in this list of safety requirements.</li> <li>● 6-feet of physical distance is required for students while eating breakfast and lunch, as students will be unable to wear masks at those times.</li> <li>● A “medical isolation room” must be designated for students/staff who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms during the school day.</li> <li>● Schools should evaluate their existing ventilation capabilities and ensure that they are maximizing their current capacity. Adequate ventilation is required for classrooms, with schools having flexibility in implementation such as using properly working ventilation systems, outdoor air exchange, or using fans in open windows or doors .</li> <li>● Groups in any one area, room, or classroom must not exceed the Governor’s gathering size limits.</li> </ul> <p>Masks/Face Coverings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Upon entering RSU 57 property (parking lots, playgrounds, walkways, entryways, etc) all employees, parents, and visitors <u>must wear a face covering at all times</u>. “Gaitor style” face coverings and handkerchiefs/bandanas are not acceptable for use. In addition, masks with exhalation valves or vents also cannot be worn.</li> <li>● As described in the U.S. <a href="#">CDC guidance</a>, a cloth face covering covers the nose and mouth and fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face; is secured with ties or ear loops;</li> </ul>

includes multiple layers of fabric; allows for breathing without restriction; and is able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to its shape.

- All students are required to wear a mask/face covering that covers their nose and mouth. While masks are recommended for ages two to four when developmentally appropriate, per DOE, RSU 57 requires masks to be worn by all in-person students and staff.
- Masks/face coverings must be worn by all students on the bus.
- Face shields may be an alternative for students with medical, behavioral, or other challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings. Face shields worn in place of a mask/face covering must extend below the chin and back to the ears.

#### During mask breaks, individuals:

- Must be stationary, ideally seated – or standing still if outdoors. Mask breaks should no longer take place during free-play/recess.
- Must be at least 6 feet from one another
- Should be facing the same direction
- Should not engage in conversation or other activity that could spread the virus (silent reading or a writing prompt or other individual activity is ideal).

#### Hand Hygiene

- All students and staff in a school must receive training in proper hand hygiene.
- All students and staff must wash hands or use sanitizing gel upon entering the school, before and after eating, before and after donning or removing masks/face coverings, after using the restroom, before and after use of playgrounds and shared equipment, and upon entering and exiting a school bus.

#### Personal Protective Equipment

- Additional safety precautions are required for school nurses and/or any staff supporting students in close proximity, when distance is not possible, or when students require physical assistance. These precautions must - at a minimum - include eye protection (e.g., face shield or goggles) and a mask/face covering.
- Classrooms and/or areas that have been used by an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 must be closed off until through cleaning and sanitization takes place.

#### Return to School after Illness

- Sick staff members or students must use home [isolation](#) until they meet criteria for returning to school.

	<p>Return to School after <a href="#">travel</a> (Effective November 16th)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Per the office of the Governor, effective Monday, November 16, 2020, <a href="#">Massachusetts is no longer exempt</a> from Maine’s quarantine or negative test requirement. People coming here from Massachusetts must either quarantine for 14 days or receive a negative COVID-19 test with a sample taken no longer than 72 hours from arrival in Maine. This protocol applies to Maine residents returning from Massachusetts or another of the non-exempt states.</li> <li>New Hampshire and Vermont remain exempt from the 14-day quarantine or negative test requirement.</li> </ul>
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## B. Framework of Instruction

RSU 57 will offer online and in-person learning throughout the school year, unless ordered to close our facilities. Our online learning program will look and run differently than during the initial school closure of Spring 2020. Students will participate in the same schedule as the in-person students physically present at school. This is known as “synchronous learning.” Our teachers will instruct students in both environments in order for all students to experience similar educational programming. Daily class attendance will be required and recorded, and grading will be reflective of the current grading structures of the District. In-person learning will require adherence to the safety guidelines detailed in this document and by [Maine Department Of Education Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction](#).

Synchronous In-person/Remote	Synchronous In-person/Remote	Synchronous Remote
<p><b>Learning platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 3rd: Seesaw</li> <li>4th- 12th: Google</li> </ul> <p><b>Classroom Conferencing platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoom</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 3rd: Seesaw</li> <li>4th- 12th: Google</li> </ul> <p><b>Classroom Conferencing platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoom</li> </ul>	<p><b>Learning platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 3rd: Seesaw</li> <li>4th- 12th: Google</li> </ul> <p><b>Classroom Conferencing platform</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zoom</li> </ul>
<p><b>Instructional day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 5th: 9:00 AM - 3:05 PM</li> <li>6th- 12th: 7:40 AM - 1:40 PM</li> </ul>	<p><b>Instructional day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 5th: 9:00 AM - 3:05 PM</li> <li>6th- 12th: 7:40 AM - 1:40 PM</li> </ul>	<p><b>Instructional day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PreK- 5th: 9:00 AM - 3:05 PM</li> <li>6th- 12th: 7:40 AM - 1:40 PM</li> </ul>
<p>The school year will be broken down into grade and content area weekly/multi-week instructional units, daily/multi-day lessons, and daily instructional blocks</p>	<p>The school year will be broken down into grade and content area weekly/multi-week instructional units, daily/multi-day lessons, and daily instructional blocks</p>	<p>The school year will be broken down into grade and content area weekly/multi-week instructional units, daily/multi-day lessons, and daily instructional blocks</p>

(multiple per day).	(multiple per day).	(multiple per day).
<p>Instructional units will address grade level learning expectations, academic interventions, and social emotional learning needs.</p> <p>Instructional blocks will be scheduled throughout the student day and will begin with check in, introduction to learning tasks, and structured support to accomplish learning outcomes.</p>	<p>Instructional units will address grade level learning expectations, academic interventions, and social emotional learning needs.</p> <p>Instructional blocks will be scheduled throughout the student day and will begin with check in, introduction to learning tasks, and structured support to accomplish learning outcomes.</p>	<p>Instructional units will address grade level learning expectations, academic interventions, and social emotional learning needs.</p> <p>Instructional blocks will be scheduled throughout the student day and will begin with check in, introduction to learning tasks, and structured support to accomplish learning outcomes.</p>
<p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p>We expect to follow our established diagnostic and instructional assessment schedule to the extent that the instruments are viable and relevant in the learning environment and support teaching as well as learning.</p>	<p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p>We expect to follow our established diagnostic and instructional assessment schedule to the extent that the instruments are viable and relevant in the learning environment and support teaching as well as learning.</p>	<p><b>Assessment:</b></p> <p>We expect to follow our established diagnostic and instructional assessment schedule to the extent that the instruments are viable and relevant in the learning environment and support teaching as well as learning.</p>

# VI. Resource Allocation

## A. Outdoor Shelter

In order to maximize the use of outdoor space, our plan is to allocate funds to purchase large outdoor tents which will allow access to outdoor spaces during inclement weather and for varied instructional use.

## B. Cleaning & Sanitization

Our custodial staff will be trained to ensure they can adhere to strict cleaning and disinfecting guidelines. Additional custodial staff will be necessary to handle cleaning and disinfecting, both during the school day and after hours to ensure readiness for the subsequent school day.

## C. Technology

To ensure appropriate remote options persist, each student will be provided with a device for 1:1 access. Also, the district will work with families to ensure Internet access in each home can be used for school purposes.

## D. Air Quality

The indoor air quality in each of our schools meets standards. A District-wide energy project has brought Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) systems up to new construction standards and will ensure appropriate air quality.

## E. Bus Transportation

Bus routes may need to be extended to allow for our staggered start/end times which may result in additional expenditures.

## F. Policy Adjustments

Policies that allow for the enforcement of safety protocols and access restriction to school buildings based on illness need to be considered by the RSU 57 School Board.

# VII. Building Level Plans

## A. Staggered Start Dates

To support our students as they transition into the school year, we will be staggering the first day of school start dates for our learners. The first days of school will apply to in-person and remote learners. This will allow us to introduce learners to new buildings, teach new processes, ensure health and safety measures, and put new procedures into practice with smaller cohorts of students.

	<b>Monday, 9/14</b>	<b>Tuesday, 9/15</b>	<b>Wednesday, 9/16</b>	<b>Thursday, 9/17</b>	<b>Friday, 9/18 &amp; Monday, 9/21</b>	<b>Tuesday, 9/22</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	School Bus Orientation Pre-K  Grades 1-5 <b>(in person only)</b>	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  School Bus Orientation Kindergarten  Grades 1-5 <b>(in person only)</b>	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  Grades 1-5 <b>(remote and in person)</b>	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  Grades 1-5 <b>(remote and in person)</b>	PK & K <b>(in person only)</b>  Grades 1-5 <b>(remote and in person)</b>	PK & K <b>(remote and in person)</b>  Grades 1-5 <b>(remote and in person)</b>
<b>Middle School</b>	6th grade students only	6th + 7th students only	6th + 7th + 8th (All)	All	All	All
<b>High School</b>	9th and Voc	9th, 10th & Voc	9th, 10th, & 11th	All	All	All

## B. Elementary Schools

### **SUMMARY**

The following provides general information regarding the opening of our elementary schools in the fall 2020. Our schools will accommodate all students in a daily program, with families choosing to access the classroom either in person or remotely with a common start and end time for both. Modifications to our arrival and dismissal procedures will minimize the gathering of large groups of students. Students will generally stay with their class for the full day. More detailed school-specific information can be found in your school's family handbook.

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Students in grades PreK-5 will remain in self-contained classrooms for the core academic content including reading, writing, and math instruction. Special educators will deliver services to identified students remotely and in-person. All students will have specials weekly, including art, music, library, and physical education. They will also have social-emotional learning built into their weekly schedule.

Breakfast and lunch will be offered to students, and there will be a daily opportunity for students to have a snack and participate in a recess.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

To mitigate the spread of germs, we will follow the Maine Department of Education (Maine DOE)/Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) social distancing guidelines for schools and require masks. Outdoor spaces will be used for physical education, recess and classroom breaks when possible.

### **GENERAL SCHOOL DAY INFORMATION**

For those who require transportation, buses will transport RSU 57 students to and from school. In order to maintain recommended social distancing measures on buses, we ask for the cooperation of families in transporting their children to and from school if possible. According to Maine DOE guidance, students will be required to wear masks on buses for the duration of the ride. We will adhere to safety protocols for all students to safely enter and exit our building.

Students will follow a routine schedule and special care will be taken to support their social and emotional needs in cooperation with our school counselors and services. In most cases, specials will take place in the classroom. Physical Education will be held outdoors if weather permits. While our library specials will be held in classrooms, students will have an opportunity to check out books. Individual supplies (pencils, crayons, scissors, etc.) will not be shared. The sharing of classroom resources and materials will be limited and established guidelines for reuse will be followed.

Meetings with families will take place via Zoom, whenever possible. Examples include but are not limited to special education, 504, response to learning meetings, parent-teacher meetings, etc.

WIN (What I Need) block consists of intervention or enrichment based on what each student needs.

WIN will enhance our instructional programming by:

- Sustaining high achievement and high growth
- Boosting high achievers with low growth
- Providing timely and intensive support for students with low achievement and low growth with frequent progress monitoring
- Continuing to challenge students with low achievement and high growth as they work toward grade-level proficiency

At the end of the day, bus students will be monitored as they walk directly to their waiting buses. All bus students are required to wear masks. Bus dismissal will be announced by the office staff. Bus dismissal will start at 3:05. Student pick-ups will take place prior to bus dismissal and visitors are asked to stay in their cars (see school's family handbook for details).

**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HANDBOOKS** ([Common Draft](#): will be individualized by school)

- [Alfred Elementary School](#)
- [LINE Elementary School](#)
- [Lyman Elementary School](#)
- [Shapleigh Memorial School](#)
- [Waterboro Elementary School](#)

## C. Massabesic Middle School

### **SUMMARY**

Massabesic Middle School will continue to offer a high quality, student-centered academic experience that addresses the unique needs of adolescent learners. When determined by the RSU57 Board and Maine DOE, MMS will offer a full 5-day instructional program with the option of in-person and distance learning. In-person and at home learning will occur synchronously with common start and end times to the instructional day and individual classes. The social and emotional well-being of our school community is of utmost importance and will frame all of the work we do together. Connections, collaboration, and community will underscore our instructional approach and our daily interactions. We will support students and staff as they navigate a new normal, offering a high quality, developmentally appropriate, student-centered academic experience.

Details regarding building operations, procedures, and school information during COVID-19 are located in the [MMS Family Handbook](#).

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

Students will be assigned to a middle school team and also a unique daily schedule. The schedule will include a daily homeroom/advisory and six instructional blocks: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Response to Learning (RtL), and Specials. In-person and at home learning will occur synchronously—meaning, at the same time—through a digital platform selected by the district. At home learners may not be online for the full duration of the block, as determined by the teacher’s instructional plan and student needs. Details regarding the schedule, procedures, and school information are located in the [MMS Family Handbook](#).

MMS administration and teaching teams rely on electronic communication for all learners, and all students will utilize a RSU57 student email address. Parents and guardians should ensure that all demographic information remains updated in ParentVUE. Information in order to do so will be available in opening day paperwork.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

To mitigate the spread of germs, all RSU57 schools follow the [Maine Department of Education \(Maine DOE\)/Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(Maine CDC\)](#) guidelines for schools. This includes social distancing and required masks. All middle school classrooms allow for sufficient physical distancing of students and staff with our current attendance projections. Outdoor spaces will be utilized for physical education, movement, and classroom breaks when possible.

Students at MMS will utilize as many doors as necessary to enter and exit the building each day. Detailed locations and procedures are included in the [MMS Family Handbook](#). When in a classroom, the tables or desks will be set up to maximize the available distance between students. Students will access limited classroom spaces throughout the day. A true isolated student cohort model is not entirely possible at the middle level, and efforts will be made to limit interactions between students and teams.

In order to adhere to social distancing guidelines, students will not be assigned lockers. The students will be asked to use their backpacks to transport materials to class. Hallways will be marked for safe travel between spaces in the building, and lunch will occur in the classroom and outdoor spaces. This may be modified as conditions change throughout the year. Students needing to purchase a lunch will be able to do so via meal delivery to teams.

Movement throughout the day will be minimized. When movement between rooms does occur, it will take place under guidance of staff and timed to reduce contact with the rest of the student population. Students will be asked to use the hand sanitizing stations located in team areas.

### **GENERAL SCHOOL DAY INFORMATION**

For those who require transportation, buses will transport RSU 57 students to and from school. In order to maintain recommended social distancing measures on buses, we ask for the cooperation of families in transporting their children to and from school if possible. According to Maine DOE guidance, students will be required to wear masks on buses for the duration of the ride. We will adhere to safety protocols for all students to safely enter and exit our building. Details regarding procedures are in the [MMS Family Handbook](#).

Students will follow a routine schedule and special care will be taken to support their social and emotional needs in cooperation with our school counselors and services. Movement to classes will be limited to team areas and as the program allows. Physical Education will be held outdoors if weather permits. Lunch will be eaten in the team areas. Individual supplies (pencils, crayons, scissors, etc.), or items not easily sanitized, will not be shared. The sharing of classroom resources and materials will be limited and established guidelines for reuse will be followed.

Meetings with families will take place via video conferencing, whenever possible. Examples include but are not limited to Special Education, 504, Response to Learning meetings, parent-teacher meetings, etc.

### **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CONNECTIONS**

MMS is committed to providing each student with consistent adult connections. Community, safety, and consistency are essential components to schooling and particularly in a time of change and in the presence of additional stressors. Students will have time built into their academic day for social-emotional learning through classroom instruction, daily homeroom, and weekly advisory lessons. Team-building has always been an integral part of effective middle school. Students will continue to be able to access social groups through our School Counselor's office, as well as individual-based support.

## D. Massabesic High School

### **SUMMARY**

The following provides general information regarding the opening of Massabesic High School, in fall 2020. Our schools will accommodate all students in a daily program, with families choosing to access the classroom either in person or remotely with one start and end time for both. Modifications to our arrival and dismissal procedures will minimize the gathering of large groups of students. More self detailed information can be found in our [MHS Student Handbook](#).

### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

All students, whether learning in-school or remotely at home, will share the same school schedule. Students will be assigned a unique daily schedule. Details regarding building operations, procedures, and school information is located in the [MHS Student Handbook](#).

MHS administration and teaching teams rely on electronic communication for all learners. All students will utilize an RSU57 student email address. Parents and guardians should ensure that all demographic information remains updated in ParentVUE. Information, in order to do so, will be available in opening day paperwork.

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS**

The space at Massabesic High School will allow for sufficient physical distancing of students and staff in accordance with the guidelines put forth by the State of Maine. Class locations will be determined prior to the start of each segment based on staff and student on-campus participation. Every effort will be made to limit teachers from sharing classroom spaces.

In order to adhere to social distancing guidelines, students will not access lockers. The students will be asked to use their backpacks to transport materials to class. Hallways will be marked for safe travel between spaces in the building and lunch will occur in the cafeteria, gymnasium, classroom, and outdoor spaces. This may be modified as conditions improve. Students needing to purchase lunch will have a staggered dismissal to the cafeteria. All students will be directed to where to eat in order to follow safe social distancing guidelines.

Movement throughout the day will be minimized. When movement from a room does occur, it will take place under the guidance of staff and timed to reduce contact with the rest of the student population.

To mitigate the spread of germs, we will follow the Maine Department of Education (Maine DOE)/Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Maine CDC) social distancing guidelines for schools and require masks. Outdoor spaces will be used for physical education and classroom breaks when possible.

### **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL CONNECTIONS**

MHS is committed to providing each student with consistent adult connections. Community, safety, and consistency are essential components to schooling and particularly in a time of change and in the

presence of additional stressors. Students will have time built into their academic day for social-emotional learning through classroom instruction, daily homeroom, and weekly advisory lessons. Students will continue to be able to access social groups through our School Counselor's office, as well as individual-based supports.

### **GENERAL SCHOOL DAY INFORMATION**

For those who require transportation, buses will transport RSU 57 students to and from school. In order to maintain recommended social distancing measures on buses, we ask for the cooperation of families in transporting their children to and from school if possible. According to Maine DOE guidance, students will be required to wear masks on buses for the duration of the ride. We will adhere to safety protocols for all students to safely enter and exit our building.

The student instructional school day will begin at 7:40 a.m. and end at 1:40 p.m. Students are expected to be in attendance for all of their classes whether in person or via Zoom. The building will be open at 7:10 and students are expected to pick up their breakfast in the cafeteria with a mask on and proceed to their first class of the day.

Students will follow a routine schedule and special care will be taken to support their social and emotional needs in cooperation with our school counselors and services. Physical Education will be held outdoors if weather permits. Individual supplies (pencils, pencils, scissors, etc..) will not be shared. The sharing of classroom resources and materials will be limited and established guidelines for reuse will be followed.

Meetings with families will take place via Zoom, whenever possible. Examples include but are not limited to special education, 504, response to learning meetings, parent-teacher meetings, etc.