



RONDOUT SCHOOL *and District 72*

Rondout School District 72 Path to Reopening

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) released guidance encouraging schools to develop plans to open in the fall with a push for in-person learning to the extent possible. That guidance outlined several scenarios including:

1. a full physical return to school with multiple safety precautions and required mitigation strategies
2. Hybrid plans that combine in-person learning with remote learning to limit the number of children present, as well as the amount of time that they spend in close proximity to others.
3. remote instruction but with new requirements that will include the following:
 - Five clock hours of student engagement (a combination of online face -to-face instruction and independent student work for all grade levels)
 - daily mandatory attendance
 - a return to grading
 - as much live face-to-face virtual instruction as possible

After careful review of the guidance document, consultation with legal counsel and review of related guideline documents from the CDC (Center for Disease Control), AAP (American Academy of Pediatrics) and the AASA(American Association of School Administrators), IDPH (Illinois Department of Public Health) and the LCHD(Lake County Health Department) Rondout will be moving forward with a plan to open school in person on August 24- 2020. The plan integrates the safety measures and guidelines required by ISBE and IDPH that maximize the health and safety of the students and staff.

Staff input has been included through the work of nine focused committees, which have been meeting over the past several weeks to develop components of a plan that allows us to return to in person learning on a daily basis within an environment that prioritizes the health and safety of our school community.

Parent input during weekly virtual coffees, scheduled family chats with the Superintendent and district -wide data obtained from the ThoughtExchange process, which took place at the end of the remote learning period. That process identified several key areas that rose to the top of parents thoughts about the return to school. They included a desire to return to in –person instruction if possible, the need to focus on the social-emotional and mental health of our students and keeping the virus out of the school.

It is important to acknowledge that the in-person learning plan may be required to switch to the remote model should the numbers and the science related to COVID19 dictate that need.

Goals and Objectives of Reopening Plan:

The plan will strive to provide a safe in-person teaching and learning environment through a combination of mandatory:

- Social distancing in all classrooms, common areas, bus transportation and outside learning spaces.
- Protective measures, such as face coverings inside and individual desk barriers

The plan will also include:

- Social-Emotional Support through classroom instruction, school wide themes and activities and weekly coffee talks, along with frequent check in's with both staff and families within the school community.
- An enhanced academic program focused on meeting the individual needs of the students through differentiation, curriculum enhancements, interventions and leveraging face-to-face instruction
- A revised restructured remote learning plan, which results in a robust learning platform that extends the original remote learning/e-learning platform implemented in the initial COVID19 school closure.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of our students and staff is the number one concern of the plan. As a school community, we all need to be cognizant of the health risks associated with COVID 19. Everyone's choices and vigilance impact each one of us in the school community. Wearing masks, watching social distancing and washing hands frequently are all essential. The Lake County Health Department shared the following recommendation in their newsletter sent out on Friday July 17, 2020.

"We recommend that individuals returning from an area with widespread community transmission self-quarantine for 14 days and monitor their symptoms daily. This includes travel to the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Nevada, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Ohio, and Oklahoma."

We are requesting that families follow this health department recommendation to mitigate the spread of the virus and allow us to protect in-person learning.

The committees have carefully reviewed the COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols/Risk Reductions Chart, which looks at areas of general health, facilities, passage, storage, equipment, transportation and non-instructional activities. Each of these areas has been reviewed in detail related to proactive measures taken or planned, notices and signage and training for staff, students, parents and visitors. The details of that review have been incorporated into the plan and are shared in the document, which follows. In addition, the new COVID Protocols are outlined in the parent handbook. The excerpt from the handbook can be found at the end of this document.

Rondout's Return to In- Person Learning 2020-2021- Key Components

Arrival and Dismissal

Changes in arrival and dismissal will be necessary to insure entry screening, allow for social distancing and maintain occupancy guidelines on our buses. Students will arrive and depart utilizing one of these two options district provided bus transportation or self- transportation.

Parents will be asked to identify if they will be driving their children daily or if they will be using the district's bus transportation. We will be unable to honor requests for alternating between the two options. Parents will be asked to make a commitment through winter break and will be able to reevaluate the choices at that time. Parents will receive a transportation form to complete and return to the office by July 29th. Bus routes will be adjusted after responses have been received and will be emailed to parents as soon as possible.

Once students are screened and allowed to enter, they will proceed to their homeroom. Homeroom has been extended for grades K-5 until 9 a.m. to allow for screening time and morning meetings for classrooms.

Bus Transportation

Bus transportation will be available while operating under strict guidelines, which are aligned with recommended mitigation strategies. Students will be required to wear masks on the bus. Routes will be readjusted to limit the number of students on the bus at any one time. Bus schedules will be distributed to parents who select the bus option in early August. The routes will begin at 7:30 a.m. in the morning. Student temperatures and symptoms will be screened prior to students getting on the bus. Rondout staff trained in the screening process will be riding the bus each morning to complete the screenings. If one sibling in a household exhibits symptoms/fever all students from the family will be required to return home. Parents or guardians must wait with their children at the bus stop until the bus arrives and temperature screenings have been completed. If parents have questions they may contact the school nurse after 9 a.m.

Students will have assigned seats on the bus and will sit in alternating rows. Students will be assigned to sit alone or with siblings and seat locations will be dependent on where students are on the route. The first students to board the bus will be seated in the back and rows will be filled from back to front. The bus will drop off students at the South entrance each morning.

There will be no daily changes to bus routes, drop off or pick up locations or seating. We must keep track of who is seating where each day and with whom in the event that contact tracing becomes necessary.

Bus dismissal will be internally staggered to maintain social distancing in the hallways. One bus will be loaded at a time at the North entrance. There will be three buses at each arrival and dismissal time. There will now be three buses at the K-2 dismissal time and three buses at the 3-8

dismissal time, There will not be a 4:15 activity bus as there will not be any after school on-site extra-curricular programs until further notice. BASE students may ride the 3:30 bus home but will need to be picked up by parents if they will be staying beyond 3:30 p.m.

Self- Transportation Option

A number of parents have indicated that they will be driving their children in lieu of utilizing the bus. During the COVID19 period of in-person learning, parents who choose to transport their child may be eligible to receive reimbursement for mileage from home to school and school to home at the IRS rate. ISBE allows for such arrangements. Parents are encouraged to consider this option if possible, which will allow limited numbers of students on the bus. Parents must make a decision about this option and continue through the first semester (until Winter Break). This reimbursement is allowable since all students are eligible for bus transportation. A form will be sent out the week of July 22, 2020 and will need to be returned by July 29, 2020.

Students arriving in vehicles must follow similar entry screening requirements. All students must be screened at the main entrance prior to parents leaving. Drivers may pull up in the lane closest to the building and parents must wait until their child has been screened and cleared for entry. They may not drop off children prior to screening being completed. Screenings will begin at 7:55 a.m. each morning at the North entrance. Anyone exhibiting symptoms will not be allowed to enter. Siblings will also be required to return home. We are unable to make any exceptions to this requirement.

Facilities and Green Space

The planning process included a review of multiple factors regarding our facilities including space, square footage, HVAC parameters, traffic flow patterns, entries and exits, restroom facilities available, number of lockers, furnishing composition, ventilation and availability of greenspace options for learning, recreation and breaks.

Our goals in planning were to explore opportunities to optimize both indoor and outdoor space to allow for the required social distancing in the regulatory guidelines.

All classroom space have been reorganized to allow for the 6 foot social distancing as much as possible. Furnishings which are difficult to disinfect and sanitize (such as rugs and cloth based furnishings) have been removed and/or replaced. Each student will be provided with a foldable plexiglass study carrel for his/her personal use. Plexiglass screens will also be installed at teacher desks and other learning stations.

Traffic flow within classrooms was configured into each layout to allow for access to sinks for handwashing and access to hand sanitizer stations. All spaces have hand sanitizer dispensers. We are equipped with hands free soap and paper towel dispensers and are replacing contact required hand sanitizer dispensers with hands free versions. All desks will be facing in the same direction to mitigate contact.

Classes will generally remain in their own homerooms with some exceptions. During literacy and math there may be some movement to cluster support teachers learning spaces. Students will also leave the class for Art, Music, Band and PE. Spanish and Library will push in to classrooms.

Restrooms

Classes will have assigned restrooms in the building and some restrooms will become unisex, as only one child at a time will be allowed in the space with one child waiting. Any restroom emergencies will be directed to the nurse's office if a child is not able to wait for access to his/her assigned restroom. Restrooms will be sanitized and disinfected throughout the day and touch free dispensers/tools will be available as much as possible.

Hallways

Hallways will be marked for social distancing throughout the building with special colorful dots. Travel will be staggered and recommended pathways will be shared with the students.

Lockers

Guidance provided by ISBE and IDPH suggests not using lockers if possible. Locker use will be limited and locker assignments will be staggered for classes to allow space between lockers in use. Backpacks and reusable lunch containers and storage will **not be allowed**. Students need to bring their lunches in totally disposable containers. Students will each have a plastic coated take home folder, which will be used to bring papers back and forth when necessary. Students in the Upper School will focus on using digital assignment strategies.

Students in K-2 may bring an extra set of clothes in a zip lock bag marked with their name, which can be left in their lockers. All students will keep their lunches and gym shoes (if they are not wearing them to school each day) in their lockers along with any weather related outerwear. Extra supplies will generally be kept in their classrooms and within student supply boxes, as there will be no sharing of supplies in the class. Students will should also have their at home supplies so they will not need to carry supplies back and forth. All student lockers will be checked regularly to eliminate the accumulation of items.

Drinking Fountains

While drinking fountains will be maintained by the custodians based on recommended guidelines to keep the water lines refreshed regularly. Drinking fountains will not be used to mitigate the potential spread of the virus. Students may bring two disposable water bottles with them each day and additional water will be available in classrooms should the need arise. No reusable water bottles will be allowed to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus.

Multi-purpose Room

The multi-purpose room will serve as the location for band each morning. Plexiglass dividers have been constructed and donated to the school for general use by the band program. BASE will also meet in the multi-purpose room using the desks that have been set up for lunch.

Lunch Procedures

Individual desks will be set up with chairs for student seating during lunch. Students' lunches will be delivered to their seats by lunchroom supervisors based on student orders placed during homeroom. There will be three lunch periods which do not overlap and have time built in between sessions to allow for traffic flow and disinfecting of spaces. Peanut free/nut-free seating will be available.

Green Space

Rondout is fortunate to be situated on five acres of green space. The plan includes provisions for the use of the green space for outdoor classrooms, breaks and recess. The purchase of tents is in process to allow for utilization of the outside spaces weather permitting. Existing furnishings have been identified to support outdoor learning and sanitizing procedures/seating options have been reviewed and planned for. Teachers will schedule outdoor space utilization to avoid overlap between groups and allow for disinfecting in between use.

Playground equipment and the GaGa Pit will not be in use at this time. A recess guide with multiple options is being developed and options for each cluster will be shared with students and supervisory staff. Student input will be gathered once they have returned to school in order to include their ideas and suggestions. Amplification for outdoor instruction, seating and whiteboard access have been reviewed and included in the planning.

Curricular connections will include use of the woodland area, wetland area and the garden. Natural remedies for minimizing mosquitos are being researched with local experts to make the outdoor space more conducive to extended use. Preliminary information received regarding strategies that will not impact our students' well-being along with the health of the eco-system (including bees) is promising. We are also planning outdoor activities and challenges that will be engaging and fun for the students.

Waste Management and Recycling

Recycling and composting will continue and used PPE will have its own receptacle in each classroom so that it does not mix with the regular garbage. This is not required but it will be another added layer of mitigation in the event that students go into the trash to retrieve something discarded by mistake.

Building Access

Building access will be limited to staff and students, Visitors will be extremely limited and will only be allowed in for emergencies or regulatory events. Parents will not be allowed in the building. Items to be dropped off must be left at the main front doors near the flagpole. Parents will buzz the office and identify themselves. The items they are dropping off will be left on a shelf near the entryway. Office staff will retrieve those items and get them to the students.

Students who are being picked up will be brought to the main entrance and parents will sign them out at the door. Students who arrive late must wait with their parent in order to be screened for symptoms including a temperature check prior to being allowed to enter.

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not be able to accept deliveries of lunches by outside vendors such as Jimmy John's, Chipotle etc.

The buildings and/ or grounds will not be available for use by outside groups this year until further notice.

Staff will be assigned to enter at a designated entryway. Staff mailboxes have been moved from the office to outside classrooms to minimize foot traffic. The faculty lounge and other workspaces will have limits to the numbers of occupants allowed. Alternate spaces for teachers to work in will be set up during times when their classrooms are occupied by other teachers instructing in their classes.

Extra furnishings will be cleaned and placed in to storage until these mitigation strategies are no longer necessary.

Lunch Program

The lunch program will to be available for students and staff. There will be three lunch periods with no overlap between sessions and time for disinfecting between sessions. Students will have seats assigned for the week and there will be peanut free seating areas, Students will be seated at individual desks that are socially distanced with 6 feet between seats. Students will be eating without masks so they will all be facing in the same direction.

Students will order their lunches in the morning from the menu of items available as well, as how the daily offering can be customized for student preferences (i.e. cheese on the sandwich etc.). Bottled water, chocolate and 2% milk will be available. There will be a two-week rotating menu for hot lunch based on student favorites and serving restrictions. There will not be a salad bar. Some of the salad bar items may be found on the customizable menu. Lunchroom supervisors will deliver lunches to the students at their individual tables.

All lunches brought from home must be packed in disposable containers. Students will not be able to bring reusable containers to take back and forth between home and school. As time goes on,

we may be able to relax these requirements however; at this time, we must take every precaution to mitigate the transmission of the virus. We will also be using disposables for the hot lunch program to eliminate the sanitizing of reusable dishes and utensils. More suggestions for lunch and snack will be shared in our informational videos scheduled to be launched the first week in August. Microwaves will not be available for heating lunches.

Lunchroom supervisors will be equipped with masks, face shields and gloves. Students will not be responsible for disinfecting their table and chair. This will be handled by staff.

Using hand sanitizer and handwashing will be a regular part of the process for preparing for lunch each day. Student lunch periods will be as follows:

K-2 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. includes recess

3-5 12:15 p.m. to 1 p.m. includes recess

6-8 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. includes recess

Social Emotional Learning

Students' mental health and social emotional well-being will be a primary focus of our plan as it was one of the key areas that parents were concerned about along with the impact of the COVID19 restrictions on their children's mental health. A major focus of our initial return to school activities will be the reintegration of students into the school setting and supporting students' adjustment to being in the school setting, which has changed considerably since the last time they were in school in March.

We have been checking in with parents and staff to get a sense of the level of need. Individual interventions have continued through the summer for children who have demonstrated levels of anxiety and nervousness. These efforts will continue through the work of our classroom teachers, the social worker and the psychologist as well as the rest of the faculty/administrative team.

We will be continuing to utilize the Second Step Curriculum across the grades. Teachers will be working on integrating activities related to trauma informed practices and mental health first aid to support everyone's successful return to school. We are building in breaks throughout the day to support children's social emotional well-being including mask breaks, movement breaks and regularly scheduled school wide interventions to support students overall well-being.

We ask that parents continue to be our partners in supporting their children and keeping us informed of areas of concern in order to craft support for individuals and the larger community.

The Village program will continue for grades 3-8 with modifications due to the need to conduct many activities digitally within the school. Keeping us connected, as a K-8 community will be accomplished through creative uses of digital collaboration tools and conferencing mechanisms.

Technology

Rondout will continue to leverage the one-to-one technology environment for K-8. Efforts to strike a balance between digital and human instruction will dominate our plan. Some homework may be digital while some will be paper-based. We have reviewed all of our applications and have settled on those which most enrich our students' learning experience. On-line versions of our curriculum have been obtained to ease the switch to remote learning if needed. We have identified two key platforms, which will form the basis for our remote and in-person platforms. We will be using Microsoft Teams and Seesaw and parents and students will receive training along with staff to be sure that everyone has the capacity to utilize these tools with confidence should we move to remote learning. This training and use of the tools will begin during in-person learning. Training videos and tutorials will be available to assist parents beginning in the first trimester.

Rondout will be launching a new mobile application, a new website and a new student management system (Powerschool) at the start of the new school year. Students will also have ease of access on their devices through a single sign on system using Clever. More information will be shared with parents regarding access to these new programs and applications at the start of the school year.

Disinfecting protocols have been developed to sanitize and disinfect the devices that will be used by individual students. Students will only use their assigned devices. There will be no shared devices, all devices have been configured to allow for a seamless transition should a switch to remote learning become necessary.

Parents will be asked to complete the Technology Loan agreement at the start of the school year to be prepared for transition to remote learning if needed. All students will receive their assigned device if a move to remote learning occurs.

Curriculum and Instruction

All curricular areas and related materials have been reviewed to align in -person and remote learning options. Additional on-line resources have been obtained to support student learning in both in-person and remote learning.

There will be an emphasis on the identification of students' strengths and areas of need to plan for cluster groupings and instructional differentiation. Each cluster has a team of teachers assigned for language arts and math, which include homeroom teachers and interventionists. These teams will work together during the first few weeks of school to assess students, make individualized learning plans and group students for instruction. The list of cluster teams is included in information regarding staffing later in the document,

Parents will receive feedback on the screening results and grouping plans as they become available. Our goal for differentiation will be supported by a program called Education Modified, which was designed for special education can be used for general education students to create personalized learning profiles. We

have also added some new intervention/enrichment tools such as Dreambox for Math that will enhance the instructional program. Additional instructional technology tools such as Edpuzzle, Peardeck and the Show Me App will be used in age appropriate grades.

Staff has also reviewed strategies for eliminating the sharing of books and materials and planning for items which may be kept at home to support learning both during in-person and remote instruction. The Science program will continue to utilize the on-line programs available with Discovery Ed (6-8) and Mystery Science (K-5). Specialists (Art, Music, PE, Library and Lifestyle Literacy) have been reviewing and restructuring their offerings to be congruent with the COVID19 mitigation guidelines. The library program will be held in the classroom and bags of books will go home with students at prescribed intervals for them to read at home. The books will be returned in the distribution bags, quarantined and returned to the shelf after a minimum of 72 hours and sanitizing. A new set of books will be provided at regular intervals for each student based upon their interests and with help from Mrs. Jacob as well as the on-line catalog.

An overview of the curriculum materials that are basic to each of the grade levels will be shared with parents during intake conferences and at the virtual curriculum nights, which will take place early in the school year.

Our goal is to provide a rich, robust and enriching program which will keep students engaged and excited about learning while also laying the foundation for a return to remote learning if necessary.

Assessment /Accountability

Assessment and accountability will be cornerstones of the learning program for in-person and remote learning. The initial work of collecting diagnostic data, establish learning plans for students and subsequent monitoring of growth will be a critical component of our first trimester together. Academic screenings will include looking at language arts and math using a number of tools such as Fountas and Pinnell, Star Math, Benchmark testing from curricular programs and the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. We will focus on comprehensive identification of students' learning profiles, needs and instructional plans.

We have established guidelines for accountability that will cover both in-person learning as well as remote learning. Accountability during the initial remote learning period last year was impacted by the directive from ISBE related to grades and grading. We believe there is a need for enhanced accountability for all students during remote learning as well as in-person learning. While there will be differences among clusters, what is absolutely essential is that everyone have clarity on the expectations for the students including parents, students and their teachers. The framework in place for the upcoming year that will address the challenges of assessment within a remote learning setting and inform our practice and understanding of our students as learners.

Iowa Testing will continue as will the development of the ISLIP data, which will allow us to track student progress over time. We anticipate there may be some changes in growth as a result of the shut down last year but these standardized results will allow us to better understand the pathway to continued growth and remediation that might be needed. We will be moving Iowa (ITBS) testing to the end of September to provide for additional transition back to in-person learning time.

Special Education/Education Modified Program

All students in special education and general education will have a learner profile developed using the Education Modified program. These student profiles will be based upon newly attained diagnostic data and past performance for general education. Students' IEP data including accommodations and services will be added to the student profiles of the special education students.

Special education services will continue to be provided as identified in students' IEP's during in-person instruction. Case managers will be contacting each of the parents of each of their students to review modifications that may be necessary if we move to remote learning. We will be doing this proactively to create IEP amendments to address student needs in the remote learning setting to provide students with a remote program that honors the parameters of their individual IEP.

Staffing

The following staffing adjustments will be made to accommodate the plan.

- Staff Supervision added for morning and after school supervision
- Custodial hours adjusted and extended to allow for updated cleaning protocols
- Training for staff on technology platforms, protocols from the safety plan and additional curriculum tools
- Bus temperature screening and symptom checks added to schedule for program assistants and additional staff time for coverage of one bus
- Recruiting substitutes who will be trained in the health and safety protocols and remote learning plans to be available as needed
- Additional staffing adjustments will be brought to the attention of Board of Education for implementation as situational needs demand.

Homeroom Partners

Homeroom staff partners will be assigned to support morning supervision as students go directly to homeroom after arrival. Staff will share the responsibility of monitoring students at lockers and in the classroom to focus on reminding students about social distancing and wearing a mask.

- K Caroline Tesar & Teaching Assistant
- 1 Julie Reynolds & Vicki Bertso
- 2 Jeanine Sweeney & Karin Freeburg
- 3 Julie Coronelli & Arisbet Figueroa
- 4 Becky Zurek & Susie Sendejas
- 5 Lindsey Bornholdt & Kathy Jackson
- 6 Becky Whalen & Robin Jacob
- 7 Andi Marks & Janet Parkerson
- 8 Katie Kerrigan & Scott Rosen

The following chart highlights the cluster instructional teams discussed in the Curriculum section. These staff assignments may be modified over time.

Rondout School District 72 Cluster Instructional Teams 2020-2021

K-2 Literacy Caroline Tesar Julie Reynolds Jeanine Sweeney Vicki Bertso Susan Sendejas Kathy Jackson Diane VanDonselaar Karin Freeburg Program Assistant - TBD	3-5 Literacy Julie Coronelli Becky Zurek Lindsey Bornholdt Susie Sendejas Karin Freeburg Kathy Jackson Diane VanDonselaar	6-8 Literacy Andi Marks Katie Kerrigan Becky Whalen Scott Rosen Karin Freeburg Susie Sendejas Kathy Jackson
90 Minutes	90 Minutes	75-90 Minutes
K-2 Math Caroline Tesar Julie Reynolds Jeanine Sweeney Vicki Bertso Kathy Jackson Karin Freeburg Program Assistant	3-5 Math Julie Coronelli Becky Zurek Lindsey Bornholdt Karin Freeburg Kathy Jackson TBD	6-8 Math Andi Marks Becky Whalen Scott Rosen Karin Freeburg Kathy Jackson
45-60 Minutes	45-60 Minutes	45 Minutes
Specialists K-2	Specialists 3-5	Specialists 6-8
Anna Ausmann Music 2x week	Anna Ausmann Music 2x week	Anna Ausmann Music 2x week
Jodi Barasky Daily PE	Travis Williams Daily PE	Travis Williams Daily PE
Deborah MacAyeal 2x week	Deborah MacAyeal 2x week	Deborah MacAyeal 2x week
Robin Jacob 1x week Library/Digital Literacy`	Robin Jacob 1x week Library/Digital Literacy`	Robin Jacob Library/Digital Literacy
Arisbet Figueroa Daily Spanish	Arisbet Figueroa Daily Spanish	Arisbet Figueroa Daily Spanish
	Anna Ausmann Beginning Band	Ilysa Grossman Lifestyle Literacy 1x week
		Anna Ausmann – Band
Student Services K-8		
Beth Shabelman Ilysa Grossman	Karin Freeburg Scott Rosen Kathy Jackson	Chet Caruth Jennifer Burkhart Lora Kellie
Support Services K-8		
Diane Van Donselaar- Reading Specialist		Susie Sendejas- ELL

BASE- After School Care

The after-school childcare program will continue to be available for families who require after school care. All the guidelines established for in-person learning apply to BASE participants including all safety precautions including wearing masks and social distancing. Each participant will have a BASE activity box with individual supplies and materials to prevent sharing of materials.

Bus transportation will only be available at 3:30 p.m. There will not be a 4:15 bus route so parents must pick up their children if they require care after 3:30 p.m.

Pick up procedures will change, as parents will be required to meet their child at the entrance and sign them out without entering the building. BASE schedules will not be able to be modified on a daily basis.

The program will operate until 6 p.m. daily.

Remote Learning

Remote Learning at Rondout will resume if it is no longer feasible to conduct in person learning for the school as a whole, if individual classes must be under quarantine and if disciplinary interventions or medical excusals are necessary.

Remote learning maybe either long-term or short-term. The long-term move to return to remote learning would be based on directives from ISBE, the Governor's office and or IDPH. Short-term return to remote learning would be as a result of class/cluster quarantines, individual disciplinary interventions or short term medical excusals.

Preparation for remote learning has been simultaneous while planning for in-person instruction. Teachers are working on setting up potential teaching stations at home to support remote instruction. Remote learning boxes are being put together which will include print resources, guidance and supplies and materials for at home use. All devices have been set up to be able to go to remote learning immediately with no lead-time. Each child will have their own device included in their remote learning box. We have also added new on-line instructional tools and are integrating new instructional platforms into both in -person and remote learning plans. Staff have been reviewing best practices for on-line learning and remote instruction. We will be limiting our on-line communication tools to Microsoft Teams, SeeSaw and Zoom.

Procedures for remote learning will be reviewed with students' proactively during in person instruction

The updated remote learning plan will include daily teacher interaction. Students will follow the in-person daily schedule with modifications. There will be increased levels of accountability and greater clarity on items to be completed and assessed. Daily participation and attendance is expected and will be monitored. Students will be held accountable and received grades on expected assignments.

The changes and restructuring of the remote learning plan provides an enriched and more robust learning experience than previous models.

Return to School Plan Communication

The following timeline reviews the communication plan and timelines for return to school communication and activities.

July 21, 2020	7 p.m. Board of Education Meeting Presentation and Sharing of Plan Documents
July 22, 2020	Plan posted on the District website and emailed to Rondout Families Falcon Flyer- Review of plan details Virtual Parent Coffee via Zoom 3:30 p.m. Transportation Forms/Handbooks/Technology Loan Agreement Forms sent home via email. Bus transportation forms due by Wednesday July 29, 2020
July 26, 2020	Summer Scholars Flyer – Review of Details including guide to Videos
July 29, 2020	Falcon Flyer- Review of plan details Virtual Parent Coffee via Zoom 3:30 p.m. 7 p.m. Zoom for Rondout Families – Review of Plan and Q and A Bus Transportation Forms Due to the Main Office
August 5, 2020	Falcon Flyer- Review of plan details Virtual Parent Coffee via Zoom 3:30 p.m. Rondout Quick Informational Videos and Social Stories are Launched for Families to review together to get ready for the start of school. These will be available on the Rondout You Tube Channel and our website.

Topics will include:

- Welcome Back Overview
- Staying Safe at School- the 3 W's Wearing Masks, Washing Hands, Watching Your Distance
- Getting to and From School
- Arrival and Dismissal
- How Screening Will Work
- Classroom Procedures
- Lunchtime and Snack Time
- Recess
- Learning Outside

- Traveling in the Building/Restroom Practices
- Checking in with The Nurse- "Homeroom House Calls"
- What About Our Special Subjects?
 - Art- Music-Band-PE- Spanish-Library and Lifestyle Literacy
- Homework and Grading
- Mindfulness, Movement and Mask Breaks
- Remote Learning

August 9, 2020 Summer Scholars- Plan details reviewed

August 12, 2020 Virtual Parent Coffee via Zoom 3:30 p.m.

August 16, 2020 Back to School Flyer with Reminders

August 17, 2020 Parent Drop off of Student Supplies To Allow for Quarantine prior to 8/24/2020

August 19th and 20th Parent/Teacher Intake Conferences- Sign Up at PTC Fast

August 24, 2020 First Day of School

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS Parent Handbook Updated for COVID19

The following updates are found in the Parent Handbook and reprinted below as an integral part of the plan.

INTRODUCTION

As we begin the 2020-2021 school year, the coronavirus pandemic has required changes to the operation of the school. The District has adopted [name of plan] to address health and safety concerns while maintaining our focus on student learning. Considerations most relevant to students and families are outlined below. Additional details can be found in The Rondout SD72 Return to School Plan 2020-2021, available at www.rondoutsd72.org. This school year will be different and include new challenges, but together our school community will adapt and thrive.

Please be aware that the recommendations and requirements of the State and local health departments, as well as the State Board of Education, may evolve as we learn more about the spread of the coronavirus and as the rate of infection slows or accelerates. The District's protocols may also change in response to these developments. We will share updates and changes with families via our website, emails, and newsletter notifications. Please be on the lookout for new information.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social distancing must be observed whenever possible. Social distancing means there is six (6) feet of space between each individual in the school. Classrooms and other common spaces will be arranged to accommodate social distancing throughout the school building. Student seating will be arranged so that

students face in the same direction. Additional areas of the building will be used to increase the space available for instruction. Floor markings will be utilized to maintain appropriate distance when students line up and travel through the halls.

Locker rooms will not be available for student use during the 2020-2021 school year. In locker rooms and rest rooms, stalls, lockers, and other private spaces will be marked to maintain distance between individuals. In addition, capacity and access may be limited in order to maintain social distance.

Students will eat lunch in the Multi-Purpose Room, outside, or other space to accommodate distancing. Students will be spread out and expected to maintain social distance while eating. Students who do not observe social distancing protocols will be redirected by a staff member. Students who do not comply with this redirection will be escorted to a separate area, where they will be supervised but away from other students for the duration of the lunch period.

Students will have outdoor recess, weather permitting. When 6 feet of distance can be maintained outdoors, students will be permitted to remove their face coverings. Outdoor recess groupings will be structured to align with the Illinois Department of Health guidance limiting outdoor groups to 50. Indoor recess, when required, will be held in spaces where social distancing can be maintained.

Physical education lessons and activities will be structured to facilitate social distancing. Contact sports and other activities that require students to be in proximity to one another will not be included in the physical education program. Floor markings will be utilized to help structure activities and class sizes will be monitored to provide adequate space for students to participate.

FACE COVERINGS

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, face coverings will be required for all District staff members, students, and visitors who are present in the school district building. Face coverings will also be required on school grounds in circumstances where social distancing (six feet of distance between individuals) cannot be maintained. Face coverings are masks or other cloth face coverings which cover an individual's nose and mouth. They should be fitted to the face and tightly woven, but permit breathing without restriction. Face shields may not be used in place of face coverings.

All students will be provided with a cloth face covering for use during school hours. Students must wear the District-provided face covering, or, if preferred, a face covering of their choice that adheres to the guidance published by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), available at <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/mask-use>.

Face coverings must be worn by students at all times in school buildings, on school busses, on school grounds when social distancing cannot be maintained, and at all school activities.

Students may remove face coverings to eat lunch. The District will provide designated indoor space, marked for social distancing and/or otherwise fitted with shields or other materials, for student use during lunch periods. The District will also provide designated outdoor space which allows for social distancing, to permit recess and other break periods for students where face coverings are not required. All lunch/recess/break periods will be supervised by District staff.

Students who are not wearing a face covering upon entry to school or a school bus or vehicle, or at any other school event where face coverings are required will be provided a disposable or clean cloth face covering for immediate use. Students who have not been provided an accommodation to the face covering requirement and who refuse to wear a face covering in the school building, on the school bus or other school activity where face coverings are required may be subject to discipline, including being sent home and excluded from instruction, transportation, and other school activities.

Students who cannot safely wear or independently remove a face covering due to their age, disability, or medical condition may be exempt from the District's requirements to wear face coverings or may be entitled to accommodations to the requirement.

Parents/guardians of students who have a medical condition or other disability which may prevent the safe wearing of face coverings and who are currently receiving accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) should confer with [their student's case manager/administrator/special education director]. Parents/guardians will be required to complete the District's "Face Covering Accommodation Form" which must be verified by the student's physician. Upon review of the completed and verified form, the District will schedule a meeting with parents/guardians and the student's Section 504/IEP team to review the form and consider accommodations for the student.

The District may verify all information provided by the student's parent/guardian and/or the student's physician through an independent review by a licensed medical provider of the District's choice.

Parents/guardians of students who are not currently served under Section 504 or IDEA who believe their student requires reasonable accommodation to the District's face covering requirement must complete the District's "Face Covering Accommodation Form" which must be verified by the Student's physician. The completed form should be provided to the Superintendent, who will contact parents to set a meeting to consider the accommodation request. The District may verify all information provided by the student's parent/guardian and/or the student's physician through an independent review by a licensed medical provider of the District's choice.

Visitors to school are limited to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Visitors who are permitted must adhere to the face covering requirements.

HAND WASHING AND CLEANING

Students will be prompted to wash hands frequently, including upon arrival to and departure from school; after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing; following restroom use; before and after eating; and upon return from the playground/ physical education. Students will be taught to wash their hands thoroughly using soap and warm water. Hand sanitizer will also be available for use.

Students may not drink directly from water fountains. Instead, students are permitted to carry transparent disposable water bottles throughout the school day. Bottles of water will also be available in classrooms should students need to replenish their personal supply.

Additional cleaning will be conducted throughout the school, especially of highly touched surfaces (door handles, desktops/ tabletops, light switches, pencil sharpeners, computer keyboards, hands-on learning

items, cubbies/coat and backpack areas, and sinks and faucets). For additional details on the new cleaning protocols, contact Dr. Wojcik. To the extent possible, supplies and materials will be assigned to individual students rather than shared.

HEALTH SCREENING

Prior to bringing or sending a child to school each day, the parent/guardian must check the student's temperature and determine if the student is exhibiting any symptoms associated with COVID-19, including fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Upon arrival at the school building, the building's school nurse or other designated staff members shall facilitate the taking of the individual temperature using a **non-contact, infrared thermometer**. To avoid individuals who are symptomatic from entering the building, screening will be conducted at the south and north entryways or in cars prior to parking for drop off. The Superintendent will identify the designated entry location for employees and students and may stagger entry times to avoid people congregating in large numbers and maintain employees' and students' private medical information. Any individual waiting to be screened shall maintain 6 feet of distance from others entering the building.

The screening shall be conducted as follows. The screener will

1. Take the individual's temperature as outlined below.
2. Make a visual inspection of the individual for signs of illness, which could include flushed cheeks, rapid breathing, difficulty breathing, or fatigue.
3. Ask the individual if they have had any symptoms on the screening list in the last 24 hours.
4. Ask if the individual if, in the last 14 days, they have had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with a person known to be infected with COVID-19.
5. Document the screening results [**electronically or on a paper form**].

In order to maintain the protection of the individuals undergoing and conducting screening, temperature checks will be conducted as follows:

By a screener who will be in PPE, including a face mask, eye protection (goggles or a face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face), and gloves, using a non-contact, infrared thermometer. The screener shall wash or sanitize hands and then put on the PPE prior to beginning screenings. The screener shall clean the thermometer with an alcohol wipe between uses. If the screener unintentionally touches the individual being screened, the screener will wash their hands and put on clean gloves before screening the next individual.

If an individual's temperature is less than 100.4, they do not exhibit or identify any relevant symptoms, and they have not had close contact with an infected individual, then the individual will be admitted to the school.

If an individual's temperature is 100.4 or higher, they exhibit or identify relevant symptoms, or they have had close contact an infected individual, then

1. If an employee or visitor, they will be sent home and advised to contact their doctor.

2. If a student, they will be sent home with a parent/guardian if present or remain in the quarantine room while the student's parent/guardian is contacted to pick the student up. The parent/guardian will be advised to contact their doctor.

To facilitate this screening, parents/guardians who are present at school for drop off will be asked to remain on school grounds until the student completes the check and is admitted into the building. If the parent/guardian is unable to remain at the school or is not present at the school and the student is exhibiting symptoms, the student shall be placed in the quarantine room until the parent/guardian can pick up the student.

Students on Buses

For students traveling to school on the bus, the temperature check and screening shall be done by a District employee traveling on the bus. The screener will be provided PPE, including a face mask, eye protection (goggles or a face shield that fully covers the front and sides of the face), and gloves. The screener shall wash or sanitize hands and put on the PPE prior to beginning screenings. The screener shall clean the non-contact thermometer with an alcohol wipe between uses. If the screener unintentionally touches the individual being screened, the screener will use hand sanitizer and put on clean gloves before screening the next individual.

The screening shall take place before the student boards the bus. If the student is found to have a temperature or other symptoms, the student will not be allowed to board the bus. Parents/guardians must remain at the bus stop until the student completes the check and is admitted onto the bus.

Visitors

Visitors will be limited. Visitors with essential business in the building will be screened in the same manner as employees. All visitors must contact the building office upon arrival so that a screener can meet the visitor at the entrance and conduct the screening.

Symptom Screening List

Please identify whether you have any of the following symptoms. Please focus on new or unexpected symptoms (e.g. a chronic cough would not be a positive screen).

- Fever or feeling feverish (chills, sweating)
- New cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Chills
- Fatigue
- New or unusual headaches
- Congestion or runny nose

ISOLATION AND EXCLUSION

If an individual develops known COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea) while at school, they will be separated from the rest of the school population immediately.

The District has installed supervised quarantine space(s) for students and/or staff that experience COVID -19-like symptoms at school, while they await pickup and/or evaluation. The Superintendent of the school will identify, for the staff, the quarantine space(s) in the school building. The school nurse, or administrator or designee in the absence of nursing professionals, will have the discretion to determine who is placed in such quarantine spaces. The school nurse will document any student or staff member placed in the quarantine space.

Students experiencing COVID-19-like symptoms will be isolated in a quarantine space with supervision until a parent or guardian can be contacted to take the student home. Students will not be left alone in these quarantine spaces. The District will not allow use of school buses or public transportation to send a student home when exhibiting COVID-19-like symptoms at school.

The quarantine spaces have been set up to reduce the risk of transmission:

- Quarantine spaces have been designed to allow for 6 feet of social distancing between individuals and to provide restroom access and access to an exterior door, where possible, to avoid the need for a sick individual to move through the building to exit.
- When interacting with individuals in quarantine spaces, school nurses and/or the administrator or designee treating the individual will wear appropriate PPE, including gloves and face coverings. The District will provide this additional PPE to all employees.
- Additionally, treating staff will utilize appropriate hand hygiene and will follow standard precautions for patient care, as outlined by the CDC.

The District will also close off any areas used by the sick individual and will not permit use of those areas until after proper cleaning and disinfection. Windows will be opened, when possible, to increase air circulation in the area. The District will wait at least 24 hours prior to cleaning and disinfecting the area; if waiting 24 hours is not possible, the District will clean and disinfect the area after waiting as long as possible. All areas that were used by the individual who was sick will be cleaned and disinfected. The potentially infected area(s) will only be opened for use once proper cleaning and disinfecting has occurred.

If a student has laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 with symptoms or is suspected of having COVID-19 based on their symptoms, they may return to school when meeting the conditions of the symptom-based strategy or the test-based strategy

- Symptom-based strategy
 - At least 72 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever -reducing medications; and
 - Improvement in respiratory symptoms; and
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

- Test-based strategy
 - Resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications; and
 - Improvement in respiratory symptoms; and
 - Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected at least 24 hours apart.

If a student has laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 without symptoms, they may return to school when meeting the conditions of the time-based strategy or the test-based strategy.

- Time-based strategy
 - At least 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test
- Test-based strategy
 - Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected at least 24 hours apart.

If a student has symptoms of COVID-19 and it is subsequently determined by a medical provider that the student likely does not have a COVID-19 infection, the student can return to school when the following conditions are met:

- No fever for 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, and
- Either
 - Negative test for COVID-19 or
 - A note from a medical provider documenting no clinical suspicion of COVID-19 infection.

If a student has close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with a person suspected or diagnosed with COVID-19, they can return to school after 14 days. If symptoms develop, the family is encouraged to consult their doctor. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19, parents/guardians of students who had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with the individual will be notified of such contact but the individual will not be identified.

Remote learning opportunities will be provided to any student who is required to remain at home due to a diagnosis of COVID-19, suspected COVID-19, or having exposure to someone with COVID-19 or suspected COVID-19.

Resources:

ISBE IDPH Part 3-Transition Joint Guidance June 23, 2020
Starting the 20-21 School Year

CDC-Considerations for K-12 Schools: Readiness and Planning Tool

AAP – American Academy Pediatrics Guidelines

AASA – American Association of School Administrators -
Guiding Principles and Action Steps for Reopening Schools