

Blue Ridge Learning Models

7/23/2020

The goal for the 20/21 reopening of schools is to meet the needs of our students in a variety of ways, regardless of the instructional setting. Learning may take place at home for some students, or at times, for all students. Learning may also involve a combination of on- and off-campus learning.

According to Illinois State Board of Education guidance, all K-12 student attendance days are required to be at least five hours in length, with Pre-K being 2.5 hours, regardless of learning location. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis in each type of learning environment. Grading procedures, unlike during the spring of 2020, will return to regular practices.

Table of Contents:

Phase 3/Phase 4 Knights	Page 2
Phase 3 Remote Learning 2.0	Page 2
Phase 4 K-12 th Grade Blended Learning Plan	Page 3
Phase 4 Pre-K Blended Learning Plan	Page 6
General Guidance for On Campus Learning	Page 7
Health and Wellness Guidelines	Page 8
FAQ Section	Page 12

Definitions:

Asynchronous learning: teacher and students are not interacting at the same time, nor in the same place.

Synchronous learning: teacher and students are interacting at the same time, but not in the same place.

Blue: students who attend in-person on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and have Remote Learning 2.0 on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Silver: students who attend in-person on Thursdays and Fridays and have Remote Learning 2.0 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

Knights: students who utilize the purchased online curriculum Monday-Friday, supported by designated Blue Ridge staff with daily office hours.

Phase 3/Phase 4 Knights

Weekly Plan

- Mondays-Fridays: students utilize purchased online curriculum.
- Daily office hours by designated Blue Ridge staff member.

Details

- Only offered for students K-12.
- Parents may select Knights as a learning option; no documented medical condition required.
- Parents must make this selection by August 7, 2020 during the registration process, and once selected, students will remain in the purchased online curriculum with a renewable one semester commitment.
- The online curriculum is yet to be selected. We are researching Edgenuity and Edmentum.
- Learning activities will be based upon IL Learning Standards, but activities may vary greatly from Blue Ridge curriculum, which is why the Knights will not be able to move from one plan to another, other than at a semester break.

Phase 3 Remote Learning 2.0

If the district needs to return to remote learning due to orders from Governor Pritzker or an outbreak in our community or school, the student body would move to remote learning supported by Blue Ridge curriculum and staff. This would be available for Blue and Silver students; Knights will remain with their purchased online curriculum.

Phase 4 K-12th Grade Blended Learning Plan

2 days on campus attendance

*Phase 4 Pre-K can be found below.

Weekly Plan

- Mondays
 - Blue and Silver have remote, asynchronous learning.
 - Students receiving special education and related services may receive supports in a variety of ways-online, in small groups, or in person.
- Tues and Wed
 - Blue attends on campus with 2:20 dismissal.
 - Silver has Remote Learning 2.0.
- Thu and Fri
 - Silver attends on campus with 2:20 dismissal.
 - Blue has Remote Learning 2.0.
- Tues-Fri After 2:20
 - Office hours for Blue/Silver students not learning on campus that day.
 - Sanitizing of learning spaces.
 - Instructional planning.

Schneider (K-3) - Classroom Population and Configuration

- Kindergarten and 1st grade classroom population of approximately 7-8 students per day, per classroom.
- 2nd grade and 3rd grade classroom population of approximately 10-12 students per day, per classroom.
- This learning model provides for the adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet with current seating arrangements and classroom configurations in all kindergarten through 3rd grade classrooms.
- This model allows for student movement around classroom spaces for various activities in which students may leave their desks or tables to participate in whole group or small group learning.
- School supplies to be used for on campus learning will be provided by the Partners in Education (PIE). Parent purchased supplies may stay at home.

Schneider (K-3) - Transitions and Specials

- This model allows for all students to have regularly scheduled breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria with adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet. Students will sit on pre-marked spots. Those students eating school-provided lunch will have their lunch delivered to them at their seat.

- Students will continue to travel through the building to attend P.E. classes.
- Other specials, such as music/art, library, and guidance, may be provided within the regular classroom with those Specials teachers traveling to the class rather than students traveling through the building to their special.
- Staff will be mindful of limiting the number of students in the hallways, bathrooms, or at lockers, but cannot guarantee the recommended 6 feet distancing.
 - Locker assignments will alternate by “blue” and “silver” students to allow for some extra distancing.

BRIJHS (4-8) - Classroom Population and Configuration

- 4th grade classroom population of approximately 12 students per day, per classroom.
- 5th grade classroom population of approximately 11 students per day, per classroom.
- 6th grade classroom population of approximately 10 students per day, per classroom.
- 7th grade classroom population of approximately 9 students per day, per classroom.
- 8th grade classroom population of approximately 7 students per day, per classroom.
- This learning model provides for the adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet with current seating arrangements and classroom configurations in all 4th through 8th grade classrooms.
- This model allows for student movement in grades 4-6 around classroom spaces for various activities in which students may leave their desks or tables to participate in whole group or small group learning.

BRIJHS (4-6) - Transitions and Specials

- This model allows for all students to have regularly scheduled lunches in the cafeteria with adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet. Students will sit on pre-marked spots. Those students eating school-provided lunch may have their lunch delivered to them at their seat.
- Students will continue to travel through the building to attend P.E. classes.
- Other specials, such as music/art, library, and guidance, may be provided within the regular classroom with those Specials teachers traveling to the class rather than students traveling through the building to their special.
- Staff will be mindful of limiting the number of students in the hallways, bathrooms, or at lockers, but cannot guarantee 6 feet distancing.

- Locker assignments will alternate by “blue” and “silver” students to allow for some extra distancing.
- Teachers will implement the concept of “Homeroom Stay.” The teachers will switch spaces, and the students will remain in their homerooms.

BRIJHS (7-8) - Transitions and Lockers

- This model allows for all students to have regularly scheduled lunches in the cafeteria with adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet. Students will sit on pre-marked spots. Those students eating school-provided lunch may have their lunch delivered to them at their seat.
- Lockers will be assigned by “blue” and “silver” students to allow for extra distancing during passing periods.
- ELA teachers will utilize an alternative passing period when possible.
- Students will utilize normal passing periods and there will be approximately 55 students in the hallway.

BRHS Classroom Population and Configuration

- There are approximately 20 students per classroom at BRHS. All efforts will be made to split the population as evenly as possible, but with class rosters changing every hour, there may be some classes with greater than 10 in attendance on a given day.
- This learning model provides for the adequate recommended distancing of 6 feet with current seating arrangements.

BRHS Transitions and Lockers

- Students will change classes in the usual fashion.
- There will be approximately 105 students in the hallways during passing periods.
 - The recommended 6 feet of distance will not be possible during passing periods.
- Lockers will be assigned alternating Blue and Silver students and leaving spaces between assigned lockers as much as possible.
 - Students will not be penalized for carrying a small backpack or tote bag to class in order to eliminate frequent trips to their lockers.
- Students will be able to have their lunch delivered from the Schneider Cafeteria or may bring it from home.
- Students will eat in one of the following areas that will be monitored by a staff member and no more than 50 people will be allowed in each area: New Gym, Old Gym, Commons, Stage in Old Gym.

Phase 4 Pre-K Blended Learning Plan

2 day on campus attendance

Definitions:

Asynchronous learning: teacher and students are not interacting at the same time, nor in the same place.

Synchronous learning: teacher and students are interacting at the same time, but not in the same place.

Blue: students who attend in-person on Tuesdays and Wednesdays as well as Remote Learning 2.0 on Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays.

Silver: students who attend in-person on Thursdays and Fridays as well as Remote Learning 2.0 on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

Pre-K Weekly Plan

- Arrival and Dismissal
 - AM class: 8:20-10:20
 - PM class: 12:10-2:10
- Mondays
 - All Blue and Silver students have remote, asynchronous learning.
 - Students receiving special education and related services may receive supports in a variety of ways-online, in small groups, or in person.
- Tues and Wed
 - Blue attends on campus.
 - Silver has Remote Learning 2.0.
- Thu and Fri
 - Silver attends on campus.
 - Blue has remote learning 2.0.
- Tues-Fri between A.M. and P.M. sessions
 - Sanitizing of learning spaces.
- Tues-Fri After 2:10
 - Office hours for Blue/Silver students not learning on campus that day.
 - Sanitizing of learning spaces.
 - Instructional planning.

General Guidance for On Campus Learning

Transportation

- Students and drivers will be expected to wear masks while on district vehicles.
- Students will have their temperature taken prior to boarding the bus.
- Parents will need to provide contact information in case of emergency pick-up at the bus stop.
- Plans are still under development for students who are found to have a fever at a bus stop.
- Phase 4 allows for 50 students to ride a bus.
- Our estimates at this time show that we will be in compliance with the Blue and Silver Model.
- If the Blended Learning Model is chosen, once registration is complete, we will need to re-evaluate routes and make modifications as necessary.
- Daily sanitizing will occur on buses.
- Building principals will contact families regarding modified drop-off and pick-up procedures to reduce congestion in those areas.

Visitors

- Visitors will be limited to essential staff and personnel related to student services and instruction.

Extracurricular Activities

- At this time, we are waiting for additional guidance for athletics and clubs. Information will be shared with families as available.

Health and Wellness Guidelines

Masks

- All persons in the school building are required to wear a mask.
 - Masks may be removed only when:
 - Students are outside and socially distant
 - Students are eating or drinking and are socially distant
 - Students are expected to provide their own mask. It is recommended that students have multiple masks per day in case of contamination or breakage.
 - Refusal to wear a mask will result in the child being sent home from school for non-compliance of health requirements. In order to return to school, the student must comply with the mask requirement. Otherwise, they will be placed into the Knights program for the remainder of the semester.
- Students unable to wear a mask due to a physician-documented medical condition, will be required to have a meeting with building administration to determine a learning plan.

Daily Screenings

- Parents will be expected to comply with daily health screenings, keeping students home if they are not feeling well.
 - A complete list of the daily health screening components will be provided at registration.
- Students riding district transportation will have temperatures checked prior to boarding.
- All students will have their temperature checked upon arrival at school.
- Staff members will be expected to self-certify daily.

Sanitizing Protocols

- Daily sanitizing will occur in classrooms and common spaces.
- For 7th-12th grade classrooms, where students switch classrooms, sanitizing will take place between class periods.
- Cafeterias will be sanitized between serving sessions.
- Buses will be sanitized between routes.
- Decisions about the use of playground equipment will be forthcoming.

General Information

- Healthy hygiene habits will be modeled, discussed, taught, and reinforced on a regular basis.
- Updates to health practices and protocols, developed in collaboration with the local health department, will be shared with community and staff as available.
- Bottle-filling water fountains will be available and used only in this manner in each building.
- One-way staircases, revised traffic flow patterns, and social distancing markings will be in effect.

COVID-19 Information

Definitions:

Isolation: separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.

Quarantine: separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick. These people may have been exposed to a disease and do not know it, or they may have the disease but do not show symptoms.

If you are sick and think or know that you have COVID-19, stay home until after

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared
- AND at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication
- AND symptoms have improved

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Fever
- Chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. Updates will be shared as available.

COVID-19 Symptom Response

- Individual will be immediately placed in a supervised isolation room.
 - Designated isolation areas will be assigned at all buildings.
- Parents or guardians will be contacted to pick up their student immediately.
- Impacted spaces will be sanitized.
- The local health department will be notified, may follow up with that individual, and will provide the school with additional guidance.
- Parents or guardians are expected to comply with contact tracing.

COVID-19 Exposure

- Those who have had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or is suspected of having COVID-19 infection should
 - quarantine at home for 14 days
 - check your temperature twice a day and watch for COVID-19 symptoms
 - notify school administration
 - if possible, stay away from those at higher risk
 - Close contact means the individual was within 6 feet of the symptomatic individual for more than 15 minutes.

Positive COVID-19 Diagnosis

- Stay at home until after 10 days have passed since your positive test or since symptoms first appeared
 - AND 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication
 - AND symptoms have improved
- Upon positive COVID-19 diagnosis (student or household member), school administration must be notified immediately.
- Notification to the families of potentially affected individuals will be provided by school administration and/or the local public health department.
- A separate communication will detail how each case will be handled. Student and family privacy will be respected.

Return to School from COVID-19 Symptoms or Diagnosis

- Individuals who were suspected of having COVID-19, whether they are tested or not, may return to school after being fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication **AND** 10 days have passed after symptoms first appeared.

To reference the guidance documents from the Illinois Department of Public Health, please visit <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/>. Some of the most pertinent documents are shared below.

Potential exposure: <https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/potential-exposure>

Quarantine versus Isolation:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gv389JK5j_zN4oH8XYfpyc8R9T9Necf/view?usp=sharing

Releasing from quarantine and isolation:

[https://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/Isolation%2BQuarantine%20Release%20Graphic 5.29.20.pdf](https://www.dph.illinois.gov/sites/default/files/Isolation%2BQuarantine%20Release%20Graphic%205.29.20.pdf)

FAQ section

What will happen when a verified COVID-19 case is identified?

Blue Ridge will follow the guidance from IDPH and the DeWitt-Piatt Bi-County Health Department. A separate communication will be developed in each new situation. Privacy will be respected.

What if my student has a medical exemption to the mask requirement?

A parent will need to provide written documentation from a medical doctor and meet with school administration to develop a learning plan.

How will mask wearing be enforced?

All staff will model expected behaviors, explain the reasoning behind the requirement, and provide reminders, especially for our youngest learners. Students who refuse to comply with the requirement will be sent home from school for non-compliance of health requirements. In order to return to school, the student must comply with the mask requirement. Otherwise, they will be placed into the Knights program for the remainder of the semester.

Will schools have to provide student masks?

No. Students are expected to have multiple masks available. Frequent washing of cloth masks is highly recommended. We will have extras on hand for emergency situations.

What professional development will staff be receiving?

Staff will be trained on cleaning protocols, mental health and wellness, and the enhancement of virtual instructional practices. The state has approved up to five e-Learning planning days that we will use at a later date to supplement our professional development time.

Will students be expected to change out for PE?

No. Locker rooms will not be in use at this time.

What about attendance and truancy policies?

Under district discretion, COVID-19 related absences will not trigger a truancy referral.

What can I do about childcare on remote days?

The district is pursuing a relationship with the Clinton YMCA to provide childcare in our area. Plans will be shared with families as they are available. At this time, we anticipate being able to start a program no earlier than late September.

District Reopening Committee Members

The District Reopening Committee represents a variety of members across various job classifications. We want to thank these individuals who have dedicated countless hours to researching, listening, and developing plans in the best interest of our community as a whole. This would not have been possible without your efforts!

Tracy Parson
Melissa Ward
Shawna Kollross
Dawn Stout
Don Anton
Debra Field
Greg Builta
John Lawrence

Laura Roehm
Leisha Beckman
Meghan James
Rob Duke
Lori Friel
Andrea Weedman
Dave Kramer
Katie Nichols

Michelle Wills
Kristin Wilkinson
Cara Wells
Leslie Whitehouse
Sara Wieber
Tonya Evans
Paige Trimble
Ryan Peyton