

Updated as of 9/4/20

RSU 57 Reopening Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Similar questions have been combined and categorized for the sake of efficiency. Any unanswered questions will be updated in the document when possible.

TRANSPORTATION	
What is the spacing on the bus?	Current guidelines allow students to be placed one to a seat. Siblings are allowed to sit together. Students will be required to sit in an assigned seat, filling each seat from the back to front of the bus and getting off the bus from the front to back.
Will bus rides be longer due to safety measures? (My children already have a 65-minute ride.)	This is still being determined based on survey data. If we have fewer children riding the bus, we do not anticipate times being longer.
Will there be another adult on the bus to conduct health checks or monitor student distance/behavior so that the bus drivers can operate the vehicle without distraction?	At this time, we do not have other staff assigned to ride busses. Families will be expected to complete a self-check prior to boarding and students will be expected to sit in their assigned seats and follow the established expectations as always.
What if I can transport my child in the morning but not in the afternoon? How do I answer the survey?	Please reply on the survey that you do need transportation.
How will seating charts work on morning and afternoon bus runs? Who can sit together?	Transportation will design seating charts based on survey data. Current guidelines specify that siblings can sit together.
Will plexiglass be installed around the driver?	Drivers will be provided with additional PPE.
Will Pre-K have a bus orientation?	A video of the bus orientation will be sent to families.
NUTRITION	
Can students bring lunch from home?	Yes.

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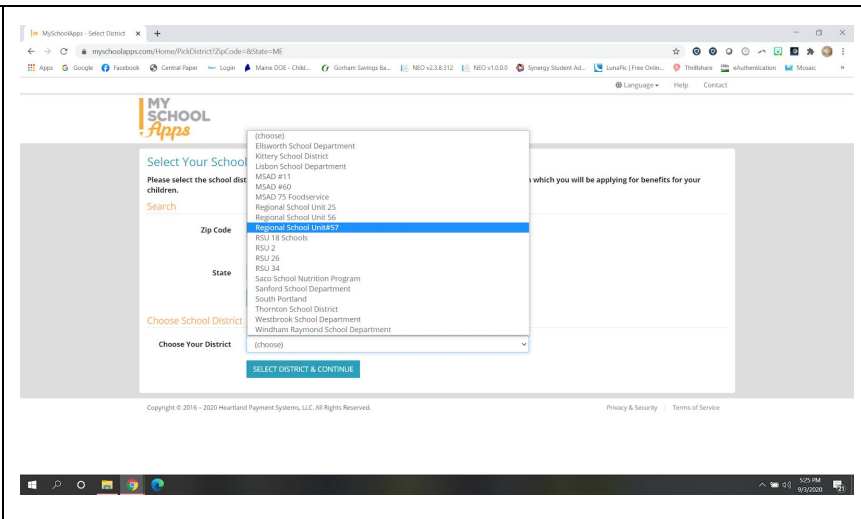
<p>Will breakfast and lunches be packaged for students?</p>	<p>Yes. Food Service Employees will pack all parts of student breakfast/lunch in a to-go box/bag and place it on a table/counter where students may then pick it up.</p>
<p>Will meals still be available and delivered?</p>	<p>Yes, meals will be available. Delivery will not be available, but will be available for site-based pick up.</p>
<p>How will students pay for breakfast or lunch?</p>	<p>School meals will be free of charge for all students until December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available. At that point, student(s) meal accounts will be charged according to the approval status of their 2020/2021 meal price benefit application (free & reduced application). If the student does not have a current 2020/2021 school year meal benefit application on file they will be charged full price for all meals received.</p> <p>We encourage all families to use the “My School Bucks” app or website to deposit funds in advance for their child(ren). Staff will use a roster to check off students purchasing a meal and enter this information into our computer system. This will eliminate student contact with our keypads. Payments should be made online at: http://www.myschoolbucks.com as much as possible.</p>
<p>How do I submit my application for free/reduced meal prices? Will my student be able to purchase extra items such as snacks and milks (a la carte)?</p>	<p>School meals will be free of charge for all students until December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available. At that point, student(s) meal accounts will be charged according to the approval status of their 2020/2021 meal price benefit application (free & reduced application). If the student does not have a current 2020/2021 school year meal benefit application on file they will be charged full price for all meals received.</p> <p>A free online application is available now at www.myschoolapps.com Families can submit/resubmit an application at any point during the school year if they experience a change in income or household size. Paper copies of the application can be requested prior to the start of</p>

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	school by contacting the School Nutrition Department (207) 247-3221 x2257 or by emailing vanessarichardson@rsu57.org
Will my student be able to purchase extra items such as snacks and milks (a la carte)?	At this time only the High School will be selling a limited amount of a la carte items. No a la carte items will be sold at the Elementary or Middle School level. If a student brings a lunch from home they will need to include a drink as there will be no drinks available for purchase.
(9/4) Are meals free for remote learners?	Yes, meals are free for all learners (remote and in-person) until December 31st 2020, or until USDA funds are no longer available. The USDA is reimbursing School Nutrition Programs for the cost of school meals for students until December 31st 2020, or until USDA funds are no longer available.
(9/4) Will my student(s) meal account be back charged for any meals that they received from now until December 31st 2020?	No, school meals will be free of charge for all students until December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available. At that point, student(s) meal accounts will be charged according to the approval status of their 2020/2021 meal price benefit application (free & reduced application). If the student does not have a current 2020/2021 school year meal benefit application on file they will be charged full price for all meals received.
(9/4) Do I need to fill out a free & reduced application in order to receive the free meals until December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available?	No, you do not need to fill out a meal price benefit application (free & reduced application) in order to receive the free student meals from now until December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available. However, if you do not submit a meal price benefit application for the 20/21 school year by December 31st 2020 or until USDA funds are no longer available, then your students meal account will be charged full price for any meals received.

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<p>(9/4) Is it daily pickup for remote learners?</p>	<p>No, meals will be picked up two times a week. Most weeks it will be a Monday & Wednesday pick up. In the event that there is no school on a Monday, meals will be picked up on Tuesday and Thursday.</p>
<p>(9/4) If my student is going to receive free meals until December, why do I need to submit an application for free or reduced meals?</p>	<p>The district receives funding based on the economic need of our community. The Maine DOE uses free and reduced data to determine the amount of funding each school district receives. This funding impacts many programs of great importance to our District</p>
<p>(9/4) My student does not want to receive school meals, but I believe I would qualify. Should I submit the application?</p>	<p>Yes, The district receives funding based on the economic need of our community. The Maine DOE uses free and reduced data to determine the amount of funding each school district receives. Even if your student does not want to receive meals you can still help your school by filling out the application. Once approved for free or reduced meals you are approved for the entire school year. Should your student change their mind and want to receive meals they will already be approved.</p>
<p>(9/4) I know we don't qualify for free or reduced lunch, should we still submit the application?</p>	<p>No, if you know your income is well over the income guidelines then there is no need to submit the application. However, if your financial situation changes at any point during the school year you can reapply at any time.</p>
<p>(9/4) Am I required to submit a meal price benefit application (free & reduced application)?</p>	<p>No, families are not required to submit an application. However, we highly recommend that families submit an application for benefits if they feel they may qualify.</p>
<p>(9/4) How do I apply for meal price benefits (free or reduced meal prices)?</p>	<p>You may submit a confidential application online at www.myschoolapp.com When visiting this website you will search by your child's school zip code, state or district.</p>

	
<p>(9/4) My child is remote learning and I did not receive the email to sign up for meal pick up, what should I do?</p>	<p>Contact the School Nutrition Department directly by calling (207)247-3221 x2257 or email vanessarichardson@rsu57.org</p>
<p>(9/4) If you've already applied once and got denied can you apply again?</p>	<p>Yes, If your household size increases or your income decreases you can reapply for meal price benefits at any point during the school year.</p>
<p>(9/4) I received a denial letter after submitting an application. Does that mean meals are not free for my student?</p>	<p>No, it means that once all USDA funds are used or after December 31, 2020 (whichever comes first), your student will be charged. At that point, student(s) meal accounts will be charged according to the approval status of their 2020/2021 meal price benefit application (free & reduced application).</p>
<p>ATHLETICS/CO-CURRICULAR</p>	
<p>Will there be Middle School Athletics?</p>	<p>Middle school athletics are currently scheduled to resume on 9/21.</p>
<p>How will the masks come into play with school-related sports for players and spectators?</p>	<p>We will soon release the "RSU 57 Return to Athletics Guidelines" that are based off of the recommendations of the MPA.</p>
<p>HEALTH AND SAFETY</p>	

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<p>Are students required to wear a mask 100% of the time they are in a classroom?</p>	<p>In-person learning will require adherence to the safety guidelines, which currently include distancing and the mandatory wearing of a mask/face covering by all students and staff. Current guidance per the Maine Department of Education Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction, states that face shields are not an alternative to mask/face coverings unless there are “medical, behavioral, or other [documented] challenges.”</p>
<p>Are masks required at recess?</p>	<p>We will start the year with the expectation that students do not need to wear face masks on the playground as long as they stay 6’ apart. At the start of the school year the entire playground will be open to students. Access to non-structural shared equipment will not be allowed per MDOE guidance. If students are not able to generally maintain a physical distance of 6’, they may be required to wear masks on the playground.</p>
<p>What cleaning processes have been developed?</p>	<p>Please see detailed information in the Physical Health and Safety Preparations section of the RSU 57 Reopening Plan.</p>
<p>Does RSU 57 have updated ventilation?</p>	<p>RSU 57 updated all district fresh air ventilation systems over the course of the last two years. The system is monitored electronically and remotely for air flow and oxygen levels and can be adjusted at any time.</p>
<p>Can mask breaks be taken indoors? If so, how will the area be sanitized after a student uses it? Who will do this?</p>	<p>If a student requires an individual mask break, they may step outside the room and into the hallway where they may remove their mask for a brief “mask break,” making sure they maintain 6’ foot distancing from others while the mask is removed. This will be a standing break with nothing to touch or clean.</p>
<p>Many school districts have removed all soft surfaces, rugs, curtains, pillows, teacher chairs. Has this district done the same thing? What about those schools who have carpeted classrooms? Will backpacks be allowed (also not allowed in other districts)?</p>	<p>Backpacks will be allowed. The district is removing any unnecessary items from classrooms.</p>
<p>What will happen with children who have disabilities and are unable to wear masks or shields?</p>	<p>In-person learning will require adherence to the safety guidelines, which currently include distancing and the mandatory wearing of a</p>

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	mask/face covering by all students and staff. Current guidance per The Maine Department of Education Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction, states that face shields are not an alternative to mask/face coverings unless there are “medical, behavioral, or other [documented] challenges.”
Will students and staff be required to check temperatures and do a symptoms survey before coming to school each day? I know we have to do that in Biddeford as a parent.	Yes, students and staff need to conduct a self-check every morning.
Can the older kids carry their own small hand sanitizer bottle during school?	Yes.
Will children be bringing outside belongings from home including backpacks and lunches?	Lunch boxes and water bottles will be allowed, as will a backpack and a change of clothes for our younger learners. We are working on how these will be kept safely. High school students will not be allowed to use lockers and will need to keep all of their belongings with them in their backpack.
Will children be checked for symptoms by a staff member before entering the bus or school building in the morning?	At this time, a family “self check” in the morning is required. Once students have arrived at school, classroom teachers or other staff may refer a student to the nurse based on the observation or student report of any health concerns.
Where will they eat? If it is in the lunchroom, how will it be adequately cleaned between groups? If it is in the classroom, how will their spacing be increased from 3’ to 6’ ft?	Locations may vary based on building logistics and if required spacing can be met for a given space (i.e. classroom). Eating locations will be cleaned before and after each use and established distancing for eating will be maintained. When masks are off students must eat while observing 6’ distancing guidelines.
Is student spacing to be 3 ft or 6ft?	Per DOE guidelines, we will maintain a minimum of 3ft distancing between students, more when possible, and 6ft from staff.
How often will classrooms, bathrooms, railing, doorknobs, etc. be cleaned and how?	All surfaces will be cleaned regularly throughout the day. Our custodial staff will be trained on all expected protocols and additional custodial staff is being added for this purpose.

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<p>What if our son asks a question but the teacher can't understand due to his mask and he takes it off to ask a question, will he be in trouble? More generally, what happens if the child is having a hard time functioning with a mask on if indeed needs to be worn 100% of the time?</p>	<p>A child may not be in trouble for a singular incident, as we will need to work with students on how to be understood other than taking a mask off. Students who repeatedly take off masks despite teacher efforts will have to be addressed from a "safety for all" standpoint. Repeated refusal to wear a mask could lead to disciplinary measures.</p>
<p>If we have already received notification earlier this summer that our physical space cannot accommodate the number of students in the district, how is it possible to return to 5-day in-person learning?</p>	<p>The current spacing guidelines from the Maine DOE/CDC have been updated since the referenced communication. Guidelines are now 3-feet between students, allowing current capacity.</p>
<p>Why are face shields not being allowed as an option for all?</p>	<p>Due to the DOE guidelines they are not an acceptable face covering.</p>
<p>Will we be allowed water breaks with mask breaks and allowed to have their own water bottles?</p>	<p>Students are able to drink water from their own water bottles. Students should be 6 feet away from others when a mask is removed.</p>
<p>Can we try wearing the mask at school and if not taken well, can we switch remote learning?</p>	<p>Families can change their preference from 5-day in-person to 5-day remote learning at any point during the instructional segment.</p>
<p>Should families provide additional masks to the school for their child to use in the event they need a mask change?</p>	<p>Yes, supplying additional masks is recommended if you are able to do so. Each school will have a supply on hand in case a student needs a mask change, or if it is misplaced, etc.</p>
<p>What are the expectations of kindergarteners with respect to hygiene and mask wearing?</p>	<p>Masks are required for in-person learning. We understand that this may be difficult for some students. Teachers will provide direct instruction on appropriate mask protocols and hygiene.</p>
<p>What are mask breaks and when and where will they take place?</p>	<p>Mask breaks are when students can remove their masks and will occur at the teacher's discretion. Students must be able to be 6 feet apart to take a mask break.</p>
<p>Will children who have to quarantine be allowed to immediately jump into remote learning or will that time be considered an absence?</p>	<p>If a student is able they can access remote learning. If they are unhealthy then the time will be considered an excused absence.</p>
<p>Will families that do not have a thermometer be able to receive one from school?</p>	<p>No, we will not provide thermometers.</p>
<p>Will all schools have a nurse? I know many elementary schools share them.</p>	<p>All schools will have health care professionals on site.</p>

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<p>If students come in and have their own 3 by 3 foot box to stand in, sure, but what about any sort of transition point around, in or out of the room? How will we be expected to maintain these distances in our hallways and when moving about the building?</p>	<p>Signage and markings will indicate appropriate distancing measures.</p>
<p>SCHEDULING</p>	
<p>Will there be flexibility with times of day and duration of ipad learning?</p>	<p>Students attending remotely are expected to attend all instructional times that take place during the school day. RSU 57 will run a synchronous schedule with attendance taken at the start of each day (or class period at the middle and high school level). We anticipate students having offline time built into lessons or the day, depending on the teacher’s instructional plan and student needs.</p>
<p>Can we change our selection— remote or face to face? Will there be a time frame for such a change if necessary if one or the other is not working?</p>	<p>Yes, the year will be broken down into segments at which time families may revisit their choice. A 5-day in-person selection can be changed to 5-day remote at any time.</p>
<p>Will students be allowed to attend a couple of days and stay home to learn remotely for a couple days per week to avoid wearing a mask 5 days per week?</p>	<p>No, families need to choose 5-days remote or 5-days of in-school learning.</p>
<p>Are the only choices full time or full remote? Is there a hybrid option for a partial week in and out of school? If not, is RSU 57 specifically MMS and MHS, currently prepared to move to that model if York county moves to code yellow?</p>	<p>The options are full time remote or in-person with the five segments housed in the school year to accommodate transition requests.</p>
<p>Will paper packets be an option?</p>	<p>The fall opening plan will have some changes from the spring remote program. Packets, like last year, are not part of the current plan. Further information regarding the online option will be forthcoming.</p>
<p>What will be the absence policy for a child doing remote learning, regarding if they are unable to be on for the full school day?</p>	<p>Attendance will be taken daily, regardless of in-school or remote learning.</p>
<p>Will children be staying in their classrooms or switching classes during the day?</p>	<p>Elementary: Students will stay in classrooms as much as possible. There may be some who receive special services that have to leave and precautions will be taken in these instances. Students will have</p>

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	<p>specials in their classrooms. Lunch, recess, and any whole class breaks will be out of the room and will follow established guidelines.</p> <p>Middle and High School: Students will switch classrooms. Hallways will be one way directional only in order to maximize social distancing. Please see school handbooks for procedural information.</p>
<p>Will elementary students have recess? If the answer is yes, how will they have indoor recess on days with bad weather?</p>	<p>Yes, students will have recess. When indoor recess is necessary, indoor spacing guidelines will be followed and masks will be required.</p>
<p>Will the same teacher be conducting the in-person and remote-learning lessons?</p>	<p>This will likely be the case in many instances and will also depend on staff availability and the number of students attending in person vs. online.</p>
<p>When will I find out who my child’s Kindergarten or Pre-K teacher will be? Will I be able to speak with this teacher before school begins?</p>	<p>We need screening information and accurate enrollment data before doing scheduling teachers. Once placements are set, teacher communication will be established as soon as possible. This will also likely be right at the beginning of school.</p>
<p>Will open houses occur?</p>	<p>Open houses will not occur due to gathering restrictions. Every effort will be made to acclimate students to school.</p>
<p>When will you do K screenings and how?</p>	<p>Screenings will be held the week of September 8th at the East Building of the high school campus. Information regarding this will be forthcoming from our Central Office.</p>
<p>What does pick up and drop off look like for students?</p>	<p>Each building’s process will vary based on the building and parking lot set up. Please see individual school handbooks for procedural details.</p>
<p>Will IEP and 504 meetings continue to be conducted on Zoom?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>
<p>Will fire and lockdown drills still occur?</p>	<p>Social distancing requirements remain in place regardless of circumstance, so if drills take place, they will do so within required guidelines.</p>
<p>Will there be Learning Works after school and Y-Care for students before and after school?</p>	<p>This is to be determined.</p>

ACADEMICS	
Will students be allowed to have paper packets vs. constant ipad use?	The mode of instruction will be synchronous with options of face to face or remote.
How will vocational students be affected?	Students attending SRTC or BRCOT will have in-person instruction. Specifics regarding the individual school's plans have been evolving and will be forthcoming.
Will the teachers be both remote and in-person teaching simultaneously?	Yes.
Are band, drama, and chorus still available if students participate remotely?	Yes. Band instruments that require respiration and chorus have stringent limitations outlined in the guidelines by the CDC. After school activities are still TBD.
How will pre-K and kindergarteners receive developmentally appropriate education if they cannot use toys and other manipulatives in their learning process?	Manipulatives will be used. We will have individual sets of materials as much as possible and any common use items will be sanitized between use according to the guidelines we are given. This is the case for all grade levels.
If there is not enough physical space to allow for all of the children in a class to be in one classroom, how will you decide who is with the primary teacher and who is with an associate teacher or helper?	Given current spacing guidelines and return to school survey responses, we believe we can accommodate all who have expressed the desire to return. The teacher is responsible for instruction. When support staff is available, any instruction they give is under the direct guidance and planning of that teacher.
How will children receive their special services (speech, PT, OT, reading or math assistance, etc) if they choose the remote option? Or the in-person option for that matter?	The Special Education Department is in the process of developing/ implementing a plan for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure that our identified students receive their entitled services (exact frequency & duration) outlined in their IEP documents. Students will have the option to participate in their services either remotely or in person. The Special Education Department will be providing families and staff with a newsletter very soon.
What do we do with accelerated students? If we do remote learning, what will we have for materials and how will that be managed?	Students will be instructed in a remote learning environment that mirrors the in-class experience as much as possible with all children

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	having opportunities to continue on a learning path based on who they are as a learner. This is a new environment for teaching and learning that is subject to change at any time so we will also rely on the understanding of our families as we continue to do our best to support all students.
If my child attends school via distance learning will they still have the same teacher?	This may be the case in some instances and will depend on staff availability and the number of students attending in person vs. online.
What is the grading process? Will GPA be affected?	Grading will be back to the traditional format and GPA will be calculated.
Also if they decide to remote learn will that affect their college applications in any way?	Remote learning will not affect student college applications.
Will students who are participating in the remote learning option be required to be on Zoom the whole day?	We do not anticipate remote learners being on Zoom all day. This will be determined by the teacher and based on the teacher's instructional plan and student needs.
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL/BEHAVIOR	
What are your behavior and learning expectations for the start of school?	All of the learning and behavior expectations will be the same as previous years. Please reference our updated family handbooks for more information. These can be located on our school-based website.
How will you help children cope mental/behavior wise with the start of school and the new regulations and restrictions? For example separation anxiety, feelings of control or loss of control, feelings of fear?	Our staff have created a district guide to support our students social and emotional needs. We will be providing lessons to all of our students that deal with these issues. Additional resources are available for those that need more support.
COMMUNICATION	
Are school board meetings open to the public? If so, how can I stay informed? Can I attend school board zoom meetings or access meeting minutes?	Yes. These are posted with dates, times, and Zoom links on our district web page at rsu57.org

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Will the Superintendent hold a Zoom Q & A meeting for parents and caregivers to answer questions or offer more details about the back to school plan?	Yes. These are posted with dates, times, and Zoom links on our district web page at rsu57.org. This was also addressed in the most recent communication from the Superintendent.
How will families be contacted if an outbreak or exposure occurs in the classroom, building, or district?	The Maine DOE has designated a CDC liaison for all Maine schools. Should a positive case in school occur, all next steps will be directed by the Maine CDC.
If a student developed covid 19 symptoms at school, does the school test?	State guidance is evolving and we will be adhering to State guidance as it relates to notification protocol.
What is the plan for district and building communication?	The district will publicly share the RSU 57 Reopening Plan, presentation made to its School Board, and host community information sessions. Additional building communication will take place regarding school opening procedures.
TECHNOLOGY	
Will teachers have training on managing new technology and procedures?	Yes, staff will have multiple days of training.
How will confidentiality be protected?	Enhanced technology support will support student confidentiality.
With some virtual access occurring in all rooms at all times, has bandwidth been checked to ensure that all classrooms will be able to video conference equitably and simultaneously?	Yes, bandwidth has been analyzed and can support proposed needs.
Will students take technology home daily in case of snow day or self quarantine occurring unexpectedly?	Procedures will be put in place to attend to specific events.
TRANSPORTATION	
Are students required to wear a face mask on the bus?	Yes. Students are required to wear a face mask on the bus at all times.
Will hand sanitizer be provided on the bus?	Yes. Sanitizer will be provided by the Transportation Department. Students are required to sanitize their hands as they enter and exit the bus.

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<p>How will students be seated on the bus?</p>	<p>Students will load the bus from back to front and sit one per seat in designated spots to insure proper social distancing. Exceptions will be made for siblings who will be seated together.</p>
<p>How will PreK students be seated on the bus?</p>	<p>PreK students will be seated in fixed safety seats at the front of the bus. Parents will assist PreK bus riders with seating/buckling. Parents must also sanitize hands as they enter and exit the bus. Parents must also wear masks.</p>
<p>What if a student fails to follow the Transportation protocols?</p>	<p>If a student fails to follow any of these protocols, they will be referred to the school Administration and no longer be allowed to ride the bus.</p>

<p>OTHER</p>	
<p>Will you be hiring extra staff for the need and to get ready for staff calls outs?</p>	<p>We are currently recruiting to meet this need.</p>
<p>Will there be designated online and/or in-person teachers?</p>	<p>Not at this time, but we continue to evaluate instructional needs based on staff availability.</p>
<p>How is this going to work for special ed teachers/ed techs who will all be teaching in the same room. For example, there will be three adults plus kids in my classroom</p>	<p>We will practice cleaning and distancing guidelines in all areas.</p>
<p>When will teachers know if they're in class or remote instructors?</p>	<p>Our current plan is for all staff to be in the building unless there is a medical/physical reason preventing them from doing so. This is constantly being looked at and reevaluated.</p>
<p>What will happen with snow days?</p>	<p>We plan to utilize our remote learning infrastructure as much as possible in lieu of snow days. Power outage would be taken into consideration prior to a determination.</p>

New question staging area...

Staff Q&A

Nicole K to Tim O regarding ISN Specialists

Regarding confidentiality in our model, the staff are protected. They could certainly create a document for parents to sign however, it really isn't necessary. Under the current system, the computer is considered an extension of the classroom setting. Therefore, if parents were to view other students in the learning environment (i.e. computer screen & classroom) then it is the parent/guardian who is breaking confidentiality. It is not our failure. FERPA applies to educational records but in this case it is not an issue. FERPA

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only becomes an issue if staff are recording their instruction. If that were to occur then we would need to maintain a strict process to safeguard confidentiality because all of the students would then become part of each other's educational record. Let me know if you have any further questions.

Anonymous Attendee 02:26 PM

Will primary students be able to share manipulatives or will they each need their own set? If so what about shortages as students have shared these items in the past? Will these items be sent home to remote learners? **Sharing will be limited. The school district is developing a sanitation process for items that must be shared.**

Anonymous Attendee 02:30 PM

Will this be the same equipment we will be using to live stream our classrooms? What happens when we have similar issues during the day as we are trying to teach? **No not the same equipment.**

Anonymous Attendee 02:32 PM

Will the district be purchasing desks for K/prek classrooms? **We will assess needs. New classrooms have just purchased new furniture.**

Kelly McBean 02:32 PM

With groups of kids passing between buildings at the High School will students be required to be wearing masks between this passing time?

Tina Letellier 02:34 PM

Did the 70% of parents realize so many students would be in a classroom with so limited space to move/interact? Was a hybrid model discussed? **Yes. The 3' was embedded in the survey at the point of responding.**

Clinton Nash 02:38 PM

Even though York county is currently Green, several school districts have adopted the hybrid model, bringing students on to campus 2-3 x per week and engaging in remote learning otherwise. Can you describe the differences between our district and others that led to the different approaches?

Christina Hoar 02:39 PM

Will all of this technology be ordered/delivered/set up in time for the teachers to have ample time to be trained in how to set it up? **This is our expectation.**

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Anonymous Attendee 02:42 PM

What is the recommended social distance between students and adults? Per DOE, *“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. 6 feet of physical distancing is required for students while eating breakfast and lunch, as students will be unable to wear masks at that time.”*

Anonymous Attendee 02:43 PM

Is this power point available somewhere? *“News”* landing page of website

Anonymous Attendee 02:44 PM

How/who will deal with students who refuse/cannot maintain mask wearing. We will apply MTSS-B strategies (pre-teaching expectations, intervention) for supporting expected behavior. However, masks are not optional and those who refuse cannot come to school. For students with IEPs, we will adhere to the Manifestation Determination meeting process to address the pattern of behavior.

Leanne Pouliot 02:44 PM

How can we teach outdoors when we will be tied to our rooms with the cameras for our remote learners? Each classroom teacher will have an iPad as well/Phys Ed./Wellness - gopros. Students joining at home can observe virtually, or take their device outside to join.

Christina Hoar 02:44 PM

If we're still under the 50 person limit for indoor activities set by the Governor, how will the Staff Inservice days look? Will they all be building based? *Building based.*

Leanne Pouliot 02:45 PM

How are we working around confidentiality for students with the cameras in the classrooms?

With regard to confidentiality, current procedures/standards will apply. To ensure that we safeguard student confidentiality, educational staff must be mindful to not verbalize personally identifiable information (examples: a student's full name, birthdate, disability, etc), identify a specialized service (examples: Speech, OT, PT, Special Education, RTL, etc) or project images of students while filming instruction. What is viewed on the screen will be able to be controlled by educational staff.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Can you explain what the mask breaks would look like at the high school? Teachers can have a space in the room where a student can maintain 6' foot distancing in order to take a short break or teachers can bring their classes outside for a few minutes (again with 6 foot distancing) as long as we stay under the DOE and CDC guidelines for group gatherings.

Instructional time does not happen the same way in a high school class as a prek/k class. Is a 4/5 year old expected to be watching a screen from 9-3? We do instruction every 10 minutes. They would miss instruction if they were not watching all day.. mini lesson, practice, mini lesson, etc. Schedules are building and program specific, but there will be breaks and transitions similar to regular schedules - actual direct instructional time will not be 9-3, no.

Do you have the percentage of homeschool last year vs this year? Trending about 5%, some previously identified, some new, many families new to homeschooling have not filed homeschool paperwork.

How do we help young children with shoes, pants, zippers, pants in the bathroom, face masks falling off, etc. I am on camera with people at home, I cannot break 6 feet.? Good question! we will want parents to dress children with more independent clothing - elastic, slide on shoes, etc., if possible

Leanne Pouliot 02:52 PM

What are the distance requirements between adults and students? Per DOE, *“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. 6 feet of physical distancing is required for students while eating breakfast and lunch, as students will be unable to wear masks at that time.”*

Tina Letellier 02:53 PM

What happens when it is 80 degrees plus in a classroom? Does new system cool? Can we use fans? september tends to be quite warm. ?? I don't believe so....

Christina Hoar 02:54 PM

So students will be required to have their cameras on during Zoom? What about the safety/privacy concerns that were expressed in the Spring? Along with the internet/bandwidth issues? Students will be expected to attend in person. Technology staff are supporting individual needs.

Darla McCann 02:55 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

How can we teach effectively while enforcing mask usage, hygiene, social distancing, camera and mic use, taking attendance, responding to behavior and emotional disruptions and trying to answer in-person and remote questions, comments, concerns? This is the balance we will be working to support.

I am also questioning how I can teach effectively without using partner and small group work. Group work can be aided by the hybrid of some attending synchronously in the remote modality. However, group work will need to be carefully reconsidered.

Deanna Bridges 02:56 PM

How can I see the FAQ? Posted on the rsu57.org website.

Jennifer Paquin 02:56 PM

Will you please share cafeteria /lunch safety? DOE dictates at least 6' distance while unmasked and eating. Lunch information will be shared at building levels.

Theresa Gaetjens 02:56 PM

Are the two masks given to staff washable? Yes

Hilary Chase 02:57 PM

Who is supervising students when they are on mask breaks? I am very concerned, as I have a few health conditions that put me at higher risk. I do not want to supervise students who are unmasked. Is that possible? Building admin are working on mask break structures. Mask breaks will ideally be outside with at least 6' distancing.

Christina Winn 02:58 PM

Can you please explain how student drop and pick up would happen (by a parent and not by bus). Building will have protocol.

Natalie Blackington 02:57 PM

With the reduction of instructional time for safety purposes, will there be adjustments to assessment calendars? Thank you. Yes. Most buildings have published their draft schedules and adjustments are under way. There will be a focus on formative assessment

Audrey Curry 02:57 PM

What items should we take out of our classrooms? Building admin will review any needed item removal - carpets, upholstered furniture, plush animals, etc. as well as any items that can be removed in order to space students to meet guidelines

Updated as of 9/4/20

Audrey Curry 02:57 PM

What items should we take out of our classrooms? Building admin will review any needed item removal - carpets, upholstered furniture, plush animals, etc. as well as any items that can be removed in order to space students to meet guidelines

Dorothy Haws 02:58 PM

What is the protocol for when a student or staff member gets the virus? How many cases before plans to shut down? The DOE has designated CDC representatives for school districts in the event of a positive case. Maine CDC will advise any next steps.
Who is responsible for sanitizing manipulative resources between uses?

Jennifer Paquin 02:58 PM

If it will be a beautiful day, are we able to bring our own pop up shelter, or will we only be able to use the pre-approved outdoor tents you mentioned? Good question. We will discuss what may or may not be possible.

Melissa Knight 02:59 PM

Will HS students have extended travel time between classes? Staff will be giving them ample time in order to get to their classes. Although the schedule does not have travel time built in, we will discuss what this will look like.

Darla McCann 02:59 PM

How will we maintain social distancing guidelines in hallways and common areas such as bathrooms? During individual mask breaks? Will we have additional support staff to help monitor these areas? Buildings are devising protocols and procedures for all common areas.

Will classrooms be assigned certain times to use the bathroom, outside area? Building specific protocol

Tina Letellier 02:59 PM

Is the hybrid model still being considered? (The 2 day a week, 2 groups) I worry about the ability to move/reach each child/hold classroom meeting etc with 15-20 students as opposed to 10-12 students. I worry about the social emotional aspect for students with so little mobility. At this time, we are not taking a 2/2 approach.

Beth Jones 03:00 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

How will tier II students that are remote learning get individualized services? Each building team has designed RtL service models/schedules

Audrey Curry 03:00 PM

Maine has the largest Covid 19 related racial disparity in the nation. How do we plan on supporting our BIPOC families and students? Our most at-risk populations are receiving specific outreach through processes of identification.

Kelly McBean 03:00 PM

will there be a limit to the number of students allowed in the bathroom and if so, how will this be monitored in particular the High School? We are still discussing how we will handle this at the high school level.

Jenn Elsaesser 03:00 PM

Was it considered that teachers will need a 6 ft walking space down middle of the room, especially for PK/K/1st to assist students 6 feet away? We will be working on Early Childhood classroom layouts specifically.

Darla McCann 03:01 PM

How will we deal with snacks and water? Masks will need to be removed in these instances. Students will be spaced at 6' when eating/drinking

Lena Wright 03:01 PM

Will the beginning of the year trainings be in person or Zoom meetings? Meetings will be facilitated with zoom support, but we will not convene as a whole group or in excess of the guidelines

Ian Villmore 03:02 PM

How will situations where a student refuses to wear a mask in the classroom be handled by administration? As we would with an unsafe behavior, we would use our MTSS guidelines in order to work with students in a way that ramps up if the behavior continues. The bottom line is that they must wear them.

Thomas Crews 03:02 PM

Is PE class only allowed outdoors currently? No. (for elementary it will be outside and in the classroom)

Christina Winn 03:04 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

In regards to attendance, if a student is not well enough to be at school, would they be able to do remote on those days in order to not be counted as absent? **Remote**

Susan Sinnott 03:03 PM

10 year olds have been shown to transmit as adults - Shouldn't 10 year olds plus be 6ft? **We are following the Maine DOE guidelines, as developed with the CDC and AAPA.**

Debbie Blattstein 03:03 PM

Will Pre-K students be expected to buckle themselves in the 5 point harness in the bus seat? **At this time, Parents are still allowed to assist/seat their children in keeping with guidelines.**

Jennifer Callahan 03:03 PM

Will online students get paper packets sent home **Not with the intention of asynchronous learning.**

Julie Noyes 03:03 PM

Will students be eating lunch in the cafeteria or in their classroom? **This is building dependent, but spaces other than the cafeteria will be utilized.**

kelli Karish 03:04 PM

How will group work look next year for students? Will they be able to work together or must they stay at their desks? **Group work is possible but students need to maintain 3' distance.**

Christina Winn 03:04 PM

In regards to attendance, if a student is not well enough to be at school, would they be able to do remote on those days in order to not be counted as absent? **There may be some concerns with this at the elementary grades.**

Lisa Burgess 03:04 PM

If one child is diagnosed in the middle school, will the entire pod need to quarantine? Will the team all go to remote leaning for that time? **School districts would follow the recommendations made to us by the CDC in the event of any positive case.**

Katherine Carroll 03:05 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

How are high school students moving classes as there is not passing time built into the schedule? We will talk about as a staff what this will look like. We did not put in passing time on purpose given that many students will take advantage of all of the time and then some.

kelli Karish 03:06 PM

Will we be able to bring in air conditioning since we are having to wear masks full time? It is miserable to wear mask in very hot conditions

Vicki Decker 03:06 PM

Chromebooks were not collected - is there a procedure to make sure technology that the kids have will be functioning prior to the start of school? Especially those doing remote learning? Chromebooks do regularly go home with kids in summer. Tech support will require outreach to tech department.

Natalie Blackington 03:06 PM

Are service providers/SpEd teachers still teaching in their rooms, or are they going into the classrooms?

Darla McCann 03:06 PM

How will the staff of the WES modular buildings maintain 6ft distancing while specialists are using their room? Will we need to relocate to the main building? This will waste valuable planning time.

Brian Laich 03:07 PM

Why are we not allowed to ask questions anonymously?

Dorothy Haws 03:07 PM

CDC guidelines encourage doors and window open. It is shared that our ventilation system works when doors and windows are closed. Seems that is for general use and normal circumstances. These times are other than normal so isn't it wise to open doors and windows for ventilation as CDC suggests. Our ventilation is designed to function with doors and windows closed. Open doors and windows would render our ventilation system ineffective.

Kimberly Rollins 03:07 PM

Current information on group gatherings: The number of individuals that can gather in a shared space must not exceed the limit established by the Governor's Executive Order, currently set at 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Further breaking a gathering up into smaller groups is encouraged to reduce potential exposure.

If a space cannot accommodate the gathering limit without complying with the six-foot distancing requirement, occupancy must be limited to allow for such compliance.

Jenn Elsaesser 03:08 PM

Although I can juggle...I think being responsible for two different classrooms of five year olds, one in building and one remotely, is asking too much from PK, K, and first grade teachers whose students have trouble with independence. Especially for classrooms without an ed tech, it seems difficult to ensure student safety of students in the building, while at the same time looking at a monitor and communicating with remote students. How can this be done safely?

Kimberly Corrigan 03:09 PM

will we have enough cleaning wipes for students to clean up their own desk/work space so teachers do not have to clean every desk between classes?

Darla McCann 03:10 PM

What will happen to the students of teachers that were granted remote teaching? Will those students be absorbed by other classrooms if we are unable to find enough subs/1 year teachers?

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:15 PM

How can I meet the the social/emotional and academic needs of my young learners, when I have to maintain a distance of 3-6 feet?

Samantha Rodriguez 03:11 PM

So if I am teaching a lesson on my camera, with 15 kids, and someone has a tantrum (it happens frequent in the lower grades and now with restrictions it will happen faster) I am expected to mute myself, worry about my camera angle, then go tend to the student, 6 feet away? Without saying the kids name on the camera.. then who comes to assist with the unsafe classroom? what if they are throwing objects? again.. common in a classroom..

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:15 PM

How can I meet the social/emotional and academic needs of my young learners, when I have to maintain a distance of 3-6 feet?

David Pope 03:11 PM

Is it OK to use fans in classrooms? Would they need to be placed in certain locations?

Updated as of 9/4/20

Catherine Leavitt 03:11 PM

Has the mpa or others given guidance on theatre programs continuing?

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:15 PM

How can I meet the the social/emotional and academic needs of my young learners, when I have to maintain a distance of 3-6 feet?

Catherine Leavitt 03:11 PM

Can you explain what the mask breaks would look like at the high school Teachers can have a space in the room where a student can maintain 6' foot distancing in order to take a short break or teachers can bring their classes outside for a few minutes (again with 6 foot distancing) as long as we stay under the DOE and CDC guidelines for group gatherings.

Darla McCann 03:12 PM

Will we be able to share physical papers with our students or will all student work be electronic?

Catherine Leavitt 03:12 PM

Can you explain how the transitions at the high school will look? there is no time in the schedule and classes are 45 minutes long. In all reality, classes will most likely be about 35-40 minutes long. We did not put in travel time as many students will take advantage of it and then some. We will discuss as a staff what travel time should look like.

Susan Sinnott 03:12 PM

Please explain how recess at elementary will look - distance and mask use?

Marianne Stephenson 03:12 PM

For the teachers who receive approval to teach remotely, how are their classes being taught/covered? Especially at the high school level?

Terri Milne 03:12 PM

What are the thoughts about how library services could be performed at the elementary level?

Updated as of 9/4/20

Isabel Rodriguez 03:12 PM

What about the classrooms that have carpet as flooring?

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:15 PM

How can I meet the the social/emotional and academic needs of my young learners, when I have to maintain a distance of 3-6 feet?

Samantha Rodriguez 03:13 PM

CDC came out today saying that the neck face shields are no as effective. Are we still allowing those?

Emily MacKinnon 03:13 PM

Will the carpeting in rooms at MHS East be removed?

Catherine Leavitt 03:13 PM

Will we need to provide materials (manipulatives) to remote students? MHS Art is concerned about being able to purchase supplies for each students with the high numbers we have in classes

Heather Koelker 03:13 PM

What are the options for teachers who have kids in other districts that are hybrid and have no other childcare available? Will they be able to teach remotely on the days they have to be with their own children?

Marianne Stephenson 03:13 PM

If a teacher wakes up with a symptopm (like a sore throat), they shouldn't come to test until tested, correct? If the teacher is feeling okay, can he/she teach remotely without using a sick day? (Yarmouth is allowing this). If so, how would this work regarding coverage in class?

Catherine Leavitt 03:13 PM

Where will we be for the opening days? Will we be asked to be in large groups? **We will be building-based for Opening Days.**

Jenna Vukelic 03:13 PM

I am concerned about the items that need to leave our rooms. I don't have storage and I don't want my things to disappear. Will there be storage available to us? **Buildings do have some storage available. Please reach out to your administrator for specific concerns.**

Updated as of 9/4/20

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:15 PM

How can I meet the the social/emotional and academic needs of my young learners, when I have to maintain a distance of 3-6 feet?

LETICIA FOSS 03:13 PM

Student and teachers restrooms ventilation, lids on toilets?

Michele MARTIN-MOORE 03:13 PM

There was some mention of the Aug 24th date earlier, but the sound was cracking up....could that be repeated, as I have had several questions in the last week about this

David Billings 03:13 PM

if a student and/or staff is found to be covid, will the others in that room have to quarantine? if so, will that go against their sick time and/or attendance?

Catherine Leavitt 03:13 PM

What is the guidance on music programs?

Darla McCann 03:14 PM

Will teachers be expected to provide sub plans if they are quarantined? If they or a family member are sick? Will those days be deducted from our sick days?

Hilary Chase 03:14 PM

Will staff and students be informed if people in their building are determined to have COVID? [We will follow CDC guidelines on this, while maintaining confidentiality of the individual who has tested positive \(to the best of our ability\).](#)

Denise Kearns 03:14 PM

Will each bus driver be given a battery operated disinfectant spray bottle as seen in other district bus instruction videos of what's ahead?

Jennifer Callahan 03:14 PM

Are students allowed to use books from classroom libraries.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Heather Koelker 03:14 PM

What will the teacher day hours be, assuming they will be different from the student day? **The teacher day will be as outlined in the CBA.**

Ms Babb 03:14 PM

what are the protocol for handling the masks? What will students do with masks when they are not wearing them? Will they have something to put them into? **Guidance is that students refrain from touching masks as much as possible. A paper bag is an ideal storage place, as it will not retain moisture.**

Cheryl Finn 03:14 PM

Some districts are having teachers specifically in charge of the remote learning while other teachers are in charge of the face to face teaching. Was this considered? It seems to make sense. There is so much being added to our plates and I am not sure people realize this.

Shannon Thompson 03:15 PM

Since students will be allowed to have their backpacks with them throughout the day, will their backpacks be searched upon entering the school to ensure they are not carrying any weapons with them? **No. Students currently bring backpacks to school each day. Searches may only legally take place if a reasonable suspicion presents itself.**

Kris Bear 03:15 PM

Can I see the example of the mask? Can we get masks with clear windows?

Kristina Crowley 03:15 PM

Are the 7 days before kiddos start for teachers all in person?

Deborah Wintle 03:15 PM

A lot of things in my classroom belong to me. I'd really appreciate it if things were marked that had to be stored. Please do not throw out anything until we can see it. **You will have time in your classroom during Opening Days to sort through items, identify what you wish to take home, etc.**

Emily MacKinnon 03:16 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

Will desks at MMS/MHS be quickly cleaned as classes rotate through? Same desk used by several students over the course of day? Desks will be cleaned in between classes.

Catherine Leavitt 03:16 PM

In regards to ventilation, will there be a written document outlining what is in each building and how it works? Has the ventilation in each room been tested and if a teacher would like it tested, will they be able to get that done? What is the expected policy if the ventilation goes down?

Kris Bear 03:16 PM

Can students have a stuffed animal to keep in their own personal space?

Susan Sturtevant 03:16 PM

Is there only 3 feet 360 degrees around each student's desk and chair? If so, 3 feet around desks doesn't allow room for a student/teacher/ed tech to move between desks and stay 3 feet away from students.

Cyrena Nielsen 03:16 PM

Are masks with clear plastic inserts allowed to be used by teachers who work with students who may need to see facial expressions (students with autism, for example) or mouth movements? Particularly in special education and resource room classes. Yes.

Marie Winchell 03:17 PM

How is it going to work with the Sanford voc with them being on a Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday
Also what if we are not fully staffed

Meredith Bolduc 03:17 PM

I have concerns about technology not working in the classroom consistently and trying to balance in class instruction and virtual instruction when that occurs.

Are we expecting K students to be online all day if they are remote learning when in the spring, it was 3 instructional hours online.
How will teachers support/monitor this?

Hilary Chase 03:17 PM

Is it possible for staff to get face shields in addition to masks if they desire? Yes.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Leanne Pouliot 03:17 PM

Has the quality of cleaning products changed at all? Or will they still be all natural with no alcohol content, such as the provided hand sanitizer? **All cleaning products will adhere to the DOE guidelines for health and sanitization.**

Frances Emery 03:18 PM

Will there be age-appropriate units available to help teach the science and reasoning behind our response to the virus?

Jennifer Callahan 03:18 PM

Can students use materials if we give them each their own set such as math materials dice, clocks, etc **Yes, with appropriate cleaning between use**

Catherine Leavitt 03:18 PM

If remote learning goes forward, will there be any consideration to some high school classes being in person only, such as lab courses, art, theatre, and music courses, since they are more effective in person? **This will be completely dependent on guidance**

Meredith Bolduc 03:19 PM

Will students have recess? Will they be able to use the equipment?

Suzanne OHara 03:19 PM

Are teacher workshop days via Zoom or in person? **They are building based.**

Shannon Thompson 03:19 PM

You mentioned that students at the middle school will be in pods to reduce exposure. What about those teachers who are specialists (e.g. special educators, teachers who teach specials) and are exposed to 3 or more teams? What measures is the district taking to ensure the safety and minimal exposure of these teachers? **This was addressed with the staff member.**

Isabel Rodriguez 03:19 PM

Will students who chose remote learning be able to receive their IEP/SPED services? **Yes**

Margaret Diman 03:21 PM

When will teachers who have requested accommodations be notified if they are acceptable or changes to the requests?

Updated as of 9/4/20

Tina Letellier 03:22 PM

Why were teachers not a part of this discussion/plan? We constantly hear that we are all in this together . We all want to return to school but safely. Like a classroom, we all need to be invested in a program and buy into it and it is hard to do without any input/say. Then you feel guilty about speaking up.

Hilary Chase 03:22 PM

Are teachers who are designated to be at higher risk able to have their own mini-refrigerators in their rooms so to not share that space with other staff members? *Haven't thought of this yet.*

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:27 PM

Are we going to send out a supply list for the students? Since we don't want students to share items, they will need their own. We were told not to send a supply list in June, and many of us don't have enough supplies to share with the entire class.

Christina Hoar 03:23 PM

The CDC just stated that neck gaiters are not effective...will students still be allowed to wear them? *We will adjust to any guidance we are given by MaineCDC*

Brian Laich 03:23 PM

In regards to ventilation, can the following questions be answered in a clear, written and publicly posted format: How has the new ventilation system been tested in every school room? What is the name of the filtration system in use, what is the name of the company that installed it, when was it installed and how long is it verified for? Who can teachers ask to have ventilation in specific checked to ensure that it is functioning properly in case of breakdown of the system? What is expected policy if ventilation goes down for various classrooms?

Jennifer Paquin 03:23 PM

If it will be a beautiful day, are we able to bring our own pop up shelter, or will we only be able to use the preapproved outdoor tents you mentioned?

Stephanie Letellier 03:23 PM

Will social work services be told how many students they can have in their rooms, respectively, per building with regard to groups? *Yes, admin has determined room capacity for each room in their building.*

Catherine Leavitt 03:23 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

What will opening days look like? This is tbd.

Deanna Bridges 03:24 PM

He said that staff concerned about mental health should ask about accommodations correct?

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:27 PM

Are we going to send out a supply list for the students? Since we don't want students to share items, they will need their own. We were told not to send a supply list in June, and many of us don't have enough supplies to share with the entire class.

David Pope 03:24 PM

The numbers that are participating in remote learning will not be equal throughout the grade levels. So a reduction of 30% of students doesn't mean every pod or team will be reduced by 30%. How will we deal with higher numbers at certain grade levels? Specifically middle and high school levels where students are as large as most adults.

Jenna Vukelic 03:25 PM

Are the results from the parent/teacher surveys public?

Leanne Pouliot 03:26 PM

Can we purchase additional handwashing stations? Keeping distance and washing hands in the bathrooms frequently is going to take a long time.

Isabel Rodriguez 03:26 PM

On days that are fully remote (Election day/snow days) are teachers expected to teach remotely from their classrooms or buildings?

Susan Richards 03:26 PM

Will there be opportunities for parents to connect to teachers for remote learning to continually aid them as needed?

Ellen ONeill 03:26 PM

Given the specialized needs that our youngest learners require and given the data on asynchronous and synchronous learning, has the district given thought to providing a separate teacher for remote learning?

KAREN ELLSWORTH 03:27 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

Are we going to send out a supply list for the students? Since we don't want students to share items, they will need their own. We were told not to send a supply list in June, and many of us don't have enough supplies to share with the entire class.

Suzanne OHara 03:28 PM

Can only attend teacher workshops remotely if you are in quarantine?

Catherine Leavitt 03:28 PM

What is the current guidance on theatre and music programs?

Catherine Leavitt 03:28 PM

Will the late bus still run? Will extracurriculars still happen? **This is still TBD.**

Ian Villmore 03:29 PM

Are after school activities, clubs, etc. be able to meet? Will there be a late bus?

This is still TBD.

ERICA FOSSETT 03:29 PM

We have only used Seesaw at our school, will we be getting any training on Google classroom since 4 grade and above are now required to use this platform?

Kris Bear 03:29 PM

Will we be able to have classroom libraries?

Susan Sinnott 03:29 PM

Please answer recess

Shannon Thompson 03:29 PM

Many research studies have show that kids 10 and up spread the virus just as much as adults. Why are these kids not spread 6 feet apart.

Emily MacKinnon 03:30 PM

If our questions are not answered here where shall we look? and thank you for this opportunity for Q & A! :)

Updated as of 9/4/20

Jennifer Paquin 03:31 PM

Adults need a 6' space, but sometimes you need to work one on one with a student. I'm assuming you can then be closer than the 6' spacing? What are the recommendations with these scenarios?

Patricia O'Day-Senior 03:31 PM

will nurses and nurse assistants have N 95 masks available to use and when will they be trained to use the masks? Special training is required.

Community Information Night

08/11/2020

FAQ

Sandra Howe 05:57 PM

Are you going to talk about the kids going to Voc and how Sanford is going to open for those kids too. [The latest plan that SRTC put is that they are going to continue with morning and afternoon sessions on M, T, Th, and F. Students will not attend on Wednesday as of right now. SRTC usually sends out a welcome message with more information.](#)

Eric Colgan 06:02 PM

Will there be a chance for the new kindergarten students to tour the school and meet their teacher before the official school year begins? [We will do a virtual tour of the school and classrooms.](#)

Jamie Newton 06:05 PM

Can my Junior drive himself to Sanford for Voc. and then do remote from home for his MHS classes? [This is still TBD. Once we hear more about the plan at SRTC, we will finalize our plans.](#)

Anonymous Attendee 06:06 PM

how can you reassure me that my child will be safe using the bathroom? will the number of kids using the bathrooms be monitored? [Each school is establishing protocols for bathroom use that considers capacity and addresses student need.](#)

Brigid Whalen Torberg 06:10 PM

If extra curricular can not happen in-person will they be offered virtually for the middle school and high school (I.e. game club, yearbook, etc)? [We will do our best to support this need. We will make an effort to offer any activity we have in the past that meets DOE guidelines on distancing and are working on some new options that follow DOE guidelines.](#)

Updated as of 9/4/20

Anonymous Attendee 06:10 PM

How many students are you anticipating for each classroom? This is building dependent, but will follow all DOE guidelines (at least 3' between students and 6' to adults).

Jennifer Park 06:11 PM

Will there be a late bus for high school students/athletics? If so, if a student is remote learning, can they utilize the late bus to get home from activities/sports? This is TBD.

boulanger 06:12 PM

Why did the district decide on those three options but not opt for a hybrid model like the majority of other districts? Our hybrid model is to offer in school and remote options, similar to that in other districts. We are able to offer 5-days/week for students given our building capacities, which not every district is able to do.

Anonymous Attendee 06:13 PM

As most people are asymptomatic with covid-19, and the spread is wide, and tests are based on anti-bodies that don't actually mean that they are contagious, sick, or even have the virus, how will you handle children who catch the flu but test positive to covid-19? What is the plan for that and how will the school react if most kids are already carrying antibodies?

We will be following the CDC and DOE guidelines for this. They will be releasing easy to interpret flowcharts for families. We encourage parents to contact their healthcare providers.

Anonymous Attendee 06:15 PM

Will you reject home-school high-school children credits if they come back next year. As with any home-school child, guidance will look at the transcript and curriculum of work in order to determine how many credits will be accepted.

Anonymous Attendee 06:15 PM

what about before school ycare? TBD. The YMCA is currently working with surrounding school districts to make this determination.

jess 06:16 PM

I understand the segments throughout the year, does this include if you choose to send your child to school to in class but then want to switch to homeschooling if things are going well? Is this an option? The dates for returning to in-person school from remote are set. Children may switch to remote from in-person at any time, though we do ask that parents contact the school prior

Updated as of 9/4/20

to the change so that teachers can prepare appropriately. At any time families can choose to homeschool by applying through the state.

Anonymous Attendee 06:17 PM

Why is 3' distancing ok for students but 6' is required for adults? This is the current guidance (minimum of 3 feet) currently provided by the Maine Department of Education as long as all safety guidelines are being followed (e.g. use of a mask/face covering). The DOE established those guidelines in conjunction with CDC and AAPA.

Anonymous Attendee 06:17 PM

If a family wants to change their survey answers after receiving this new information, or can't remember how they responded, how can they make changes? They should communicate directly with their building administrators. Contact information can be located on our website.

Crystal Holovacs 06:19 PM

I thought this would be interactive... much of this information has already been provided. Can we do interactive please - as a parent I feel i don't have a voice in this. Please ensure your questions/comments are included here so we can address questions and concerns specifically. We will address any questions not addressed this evening via the FAQ document, which will be posted on the RSU 57 website. Please also reach out to your building administrator if you would like to talk further.

Amanda Goldman 06:19 PM

What will the standard be for face coverings? Recent studies and the CDC has indicated that gaiters are not appropriate but as of last week's presentation and plans they were listed as acceptable. Can we expect an update or basic standard to be implemented by the district? We will need to always use current guidelines from the state. If the guidelines change, we will make adjustments accordingly and you will be notified.

lisa kheang 06:21 PM

What infection numbers change us from green to yellow/red? The Department of Education sets those guidelines. They are working with DHHS and the CDC to make these determinations.

Anonymous Attendee 06:23 PM

Will time be allotted in the day to have teachers ,in particular the High School, to wipe down desks and doorknobs after each block before new students enter their classrooms? Cleaning will occur between classes. Increased cleaning will take place throughout the day and each evening. Details regarding cleaning can be found in the Reopening Plan.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Anonymous Attendee 06:24 PM

How many hours a day are remote learners anticipated to be on ipad/laptops? And in-person learners? Remote for Elementary is about 4.5 hrs, in addition to breaks for lunch, recess, transitions/breaks (including mask breaks) and individual work time. The schedule for elementary students can be located on our website within each school's handbooks. Our handbooks can also be located directly on each building's website.

Bridgette Roy 06:27 PM

If social distancing is maintained in the classroom, why will students be required to wear face masks at their desks? If Larry Malone can take off his face mask during this meeting because he says social distancing is met then students should be able to do the same in the classroom. What is the difference? School is not currently in session and in order to open schools, the DOE is clear that masks/face coverings must be worn at all times. Supt. Malone was approximately 20 feet away from other administrators at the time. 3' distancing among students is allowable only when wearing masks.

Anonymous Attendee 06:28 PM

Question: My child throws tantrums sometimes during school. We are working on it and every year is different. How can you ensure the privacy of him, where parents at home are not watching or listening? Sometimes teachers will teach through it (ignoring the tantrum) and it will get better or sometimes he needs to have a break and is escorted out. Is this the teacher's responsibility to "turn off" their camera? And when he doesn't...? My child also receives in classroom social work... if parents are watching how is that going to be kept private when she is next to my child most of the time. How will it be kept private for him to go to speech and OT when at his age they come into the classroom to get him or teacher has to tell him when to go to his services?

Our staff will participate in training sessions in order to safeguard student confidentiality and their dignity especially when behavioral episodes/outbursts occur. Given the new technology being implemented into classrooms, teachers will have the ability to control images being displayed in the classroom. The focal point of the camera will center on the teacher and the instruction. Our Building Administration will address these concerns upon staff return to school. Due to confidentiality laws, staff cannot personally identify students via the camera nor verbalize specific, specialized services.

Anonymous Attendee 06:28 PM

What is the cut off date for the surveys? This Friday, August 14th. However, schools may start reaching out to families they have not yet heard from as early as tomorrow if they have not already.

Jaime letourneau 06:30 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

If I keep my kids out of school the first month, but plan to have them go in person in October, do I say I need bus transportation now or wait until October? Wait until they are going to in person. Transportation requests will be honored as RSU 57 is able based on CDC/DOE guidelines for distancing.

Christina Winn 06:32 PM

What will testing look like with students in school and students who are remote (NWEA, MEA, etc...) Our district assessment, NWEA, has updated their platform to support remote testing capabilities. Maine DOE has not released updated guidance to the annual MEAs. Our assessment calendar is TBD and will be published as a link in our district planning document

lisa kheang 06:32 PM

Will the younger kids be prepped on how to handle kids who aren't following distancing or what they should do in those cases? Yes, as part of our return to school routine, we will be explicitly instructing all students on all expectations, including proper wearing of masks and social distancing. Every effort will be made to support students in complying with wearing masks.

Karl Clapp 06:33 PM

A family needs to make a request? Does this mean it can be denied? How are families to handle this if the district denies it? We anticipate being able to accommodate shifting needs, but need to reserve the right to not honor a request if we cannot meet the room capacity/social distancing guidelines in a space by doing so. Space may be available at another school in the district if it is unavailable at the school your child typically attends.

tdearborn 06:34 PM

Does the segments also include changes in transportation needs? Yes. We will accommodate family needs as able as per distancing guidance from the Maine Center for Disease Control and the Maine Department of Education.

darsey 06:34 PM

Will you send out emails asking about changes or do we need to just call the school and let them know about our decision to change in or remote learning. Connect with the school and potentially transportation. We will send out district reminders as segment dates approach.

Melissa Eaton 06:34 PM

If a child has a cough or any of the other symptoms of a cold, but does not have a fever should they stay home and quarantine day by day as they have those symptoms, or would it be required for the child to quarantine for 14 days even if they never have an accompanying fever? Especially since many of the symptoms of a common cold are also symptoms of the flu and/or covid. We

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anticipate Maine DOE and CDC releasing guidelines on this to make it easy for families. We encourage families to reach out to their healthcare providers for guidance. Review the screening tool.

mperrone 06:35 PM

Can you also pull students out and choose remote learning at the segment change? You are able to choose remote learning at any time of the year. The segments are to return to in-person learning.

Dupuis 06:35 PM

How often will cleaning take place? What will be cleaned? Will the school be providing masks for students when the student needs to dispose of a mask? WHO guidelines state that face coverings and masks are one time use only and should be disposed of once touched or upon leaving a contaminated area. Will there be disposal bins for used masks? Increased cleaning will take place throughout the day and each evening. Details regarding cleaning can be found in the Reopening Plan. The school will have disposable masks on hand for students who need them, although we encourage families to send their students with multiple masks each day. Remember, reusable masks should be laundered at home nightly.

tdearborn 06:35 PM

How will mask requirements be enforced with older kids (middle and HS) ? Students will be explicitly taught expectations around mask wearing, hygiene, mask breaks, etc. They are required to wear masks. If students are unwilling to wear masks, then a student will have to access their education remotely.

Michelle Feliccitti 06:36 PM

Why can't parents bring their child into the screening for Kindergarten and PreK screening? If masks are worn by all and social distance is followed, why is this not being allowed?

For the health and safety of staff, students and their families, we must limit access to our school buildings. Our staff employ welcoming and emotionally sensitive strategies to support incoming students and families during this very important transition. Our staff will be happy to provide additional assistance should a child/family experience distress during this process.

kristen Carll 06:37 PM

I have split custody of my Sophomore. In previous years she has been able to ride the bus to our home one week, and her Dads the next as we alternate weeks with her. Will this still be permitted? We will continue to try to accommodate families as much as we can.

Karl Clapp 06:38 PM

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Why are we not splitting up the students or following what other districts are doing?

With guidance from the MDOE changing to at least 3' between students, we are able to house students given our current building spaces and still adhere to the safety guidelines. In addition, based on the survey responses 70+% of our families requested in person learning for this fall.

Dupuis 06:39 PM

What is the current rate of transmission among school age children? The CDC would have that information. Rates differ according to different geographic locations, even within the State of Maine. The Maine DOE will issue guidance as each county's color rating, based on current COVID levels. The DOE's guidance states that Superintendents/local districts may choose to make decisions that stray from their county's color guidelines if their distinct's needs/capabilities warrant.

Rowan Cable 06:39 PM

Can you speak specifically about what a remote synchronous learning day looks like for a Kindergarten student? Each classroom will have variations in schedules and instruction, but many of the practices will be the same. For example, remote students will be a part of morning meetings, whole class instruction, small group instruction, and even individualized instruction, when applicable. When the class is out at recess or having lunch, the camera will focus in on a placard noting what the class is doing and when they will be resuming, e.g., Mrs. Smith's class is having lunch. We will resume class at 12:00 p.m. This allows for a break for remote learners at the same time the in-person learners are having a break, lunch or recess.

Amanda Goldman 06:39 PM

Can remote learners utilize their own tech (i.e., computer, laptop) or will they be required to use school provided devices? They can use their own devices at home if families choose. We do push out learning applications on RSU 57 devices, so you'd want to ensure the learning apps being used are readily available on your home computer.

Shannon Banks 06:39 PM

How will SRTC fit into the adjusted schedule for the HS? As of right now, SRTC will continue with AM and PM sessions. This will still allow our students to access the other half of their day at MHS. Do you need to send notification to transportation if you only need transport to srtc? Will response to positive cases be addressed the same in Sanford as it will be in Massabesic? Schools have all been assigned a CDC representative to assist them should an outbreak occur.

kristan carroll 06:40 PM

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What are the open building hours for students at the high school, that is, if a parent is transporting a student, what is the earliest we can drop off and the latest we can pick up? Please see the MHS Student Handbook, linked in the Reopening Plan and on the MHS website. 7:10 a.m. - 1:40 p.m.

Anastasia 06:41 PM

How are these instructional blocks going to address students with IEP/504 plans? What is the plan to support these students?

The Assistant Director and Director of Special Education are working with the special education teachers to address this concern. We are responsible for providing the services currently listed on student IEPs/504 plans. If there are concerns or barriers, we will adhere to the IEP/504 Meeting process to collaborate and problem solve a solution. It is our legal obligation and intent to provide the services/accommodations as prescribed by IEPs/504 plans.

Rowan Cable 06:41 PM

How many hours will remote learning kindergarteners be on a screen? Classes will typically be live and in session approximately 4 to 4.5 hours per day at the elementary level (exceptions may include lunch, recess, and any teacher-led breaks). Remote students will need to be tuned into their classrooms during these times to access lessons and participate.

Amanda Goldman 06:42 PM

What happens when students want to return to the classroom but the schools are maxed out at capacity? What is the specific district plan for this possibility? The reason for the request is to assist us in closely monitoring our in-person numbers so that we can prepare in advance for the transition period. It may be possible that we reach capacity and will have to make adjustments as they become possible. If no in-person solution can be reached, then a student would continue as a remote learner. Again, we anticipate being able to accommodate segment requests. Another school in the district could be a possibility if space is unavailable at the school your child typically attends.

Jodi Laine 06:43 PM

How will remote learning occur when a teacher is utilizing outdoor space? Teachers will be provided with an iPad for portability.

R 06:43 PM

What are the legal issues in regards to live streaming classes with kids in the room. What about privacy law? Especially students in foster or with custody issues?

With regard to confidentiality, current procedures/standards will apply. To ensure that we safeguard student confidentiality, educational staff will be mindful to not verbalize personally identifiable information (examples: a student's full name, birthdate, disability, etc), identify a specialized service (examples: Speech, OT, PT, Special Education, RTL, etc) or project images of

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students while filming instruction. What is viewed on the screen will be able to be controlled by educational staff. Our staff will participate in training sessions to protect confidentiality.

Dorothy MacFarlane 06:22 PM

If a child is out sick will they be able to do a remote day and avoid a tardy? We are still working out whether or not this can be done district wide due to tech availability at each level, K-12. If a child is well enough to attend school—for example is in isolation—students with tech availability can attend remotely.

tdearborn 06:44 PM

How is the district going to inform parents of a potential outbreak at a particular school? We will adhere to the MDOE/CDC guidance

darsey 06:44 PM

Also was wondering if you have a student that refuses to wear a mask, how will that be handled? Students who repeatedly take off masks despite teacher efforts will have to be addressed from a “safety for all” standpoint. Masks are required. Students may access learning remotely. Repeated refusal to wear a mask could lead to disciplinary measures. Should students with IEPs experience discipline measures (more than 10 days of suspension/removal) for behaviors related to wearing a mask, the IEP team will convene for a Manifestation Determination meeting to collaboratively address the behavior.

Marie Proctor 06:45 PM

What are the rules and guidelines of a child who has a parent who lives out of state and will visit frequently? We will need to adhere to the current guidance by the state at that time, which will take into consideration the location and transmission rates.

Jessica Agreste 06:45 PM

If our child starts off in school then we want to pull them for online learning, can this be accommated? Yes. Families are able to choose remote learning for your child at any time in the year.

Sonja Nielsen 06:45 PM

If I decided in the initial google form request for my child to go to in person classes, is it too late to change my response prior to the beginning of the school year? Please contact your building administrator and we will update your information within the survey responses.

Anastasia 06:45 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

On the other Q&A posted to RSU57 Website states that MHS will not be using lockers, What about MMS students using lockers? MMS students will also not be using lockers. Information can be found in the MMS Family Handbook which is posted on the school website and in the reopening plan.

Stacy Babb 06:45 PM

I know that you said the school plans to have PPE and other safety measures. Does the school have any of this equipment right now? Yes, the District has received PPE and is still receiving and placing orders based on determined needs.

Gina 06:46 PM

Will children be allowed to bring laptops home daily so that if there were an outbreak/change/feel ill, they can participate at home the next day even if they are part of the in person learning segment? Yes, at 6-12. We are continuing to look at this at PK-5.

Crystal Gewlas 06:46 PM

Will we be able to print materials at home or will all work have to be completed on the iPads? For those that have chosen remote learning, all necessary materials will be sent home at the beginning of the year to support the classroom instruction. Daily work will be accessed electronically through Seesaw or Google Classroom.

sandra 06:46 PM

If a student has a doctor's note for a face shield, will the school be supplying them? No, the school will not at this time.

Sarah 06:46 PM

My son will be a freshman this year and planned to take NJROTC. Will remote students still be able to participate in NJROTC even if it means they go to the school each day for that class? Yes, NJROTC will still be available for all students.

Jenessa 06:46 PM

How many mask breaks will kindergarteners get? Will they be stuck sitting all day? Teachers will respond to the needs of his/her class, so the number of mask breaks varies by classroom and student.

Shana Anthony 06:46 PM

What will happen with remote learners during specials, gym, art etc? Remote learners will still be a part of the specials block in the same way as the classroom.

Joyce Barker 06:47 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

I have a child who I feel will have a very hard time wearing a mask all day and being autistic I feel it will be the first thing thrown off. Should I keep them home or can I try to send them to school. I do not want to keep him home and if that doesn't work try to get him back in school and not be able to as I would lose daycare. **We want to help! Please reach out to your building administrator so we can talk through how best to support your child.**

Mona Kozloff 06:47 PM

If we have filled out the survey how can one be sure you have received it? **We will be reaching out to any families we do not hear from via the survey. You can also check in with your building administrator.**

Jamie Newton 06:47 PM

I will not fill out the survey until I have an answer to my question about my junior driving to SRTC then home for remote MHS classes. **At this moment, determining whether a student drives is complicated, given that we need to know what SRTC will allow and what we will allow.**

cfournier 06:48 PM

If there is no SRTC on Wednesday's will our child be able to go home early that day or come in late or will they be expected to be at MHS during that time?

Sharon Anderson 06:49 PM

Can materials be mailed to the home if you don't have a printer? **All necessary materials will be sent home at the beginning of the year to support the classroom instruction. Daily work will be accessed electronically through Seesaw or Google Classroom.**

Meaghan Huot 06:49 PM

What will nursing care access look like for children needing medications, daily's injections, etc? **Students will have access to healthcare professionals similar to in years past. Per DOE guidelines, this area will be separate from an isolation area for students who appear ill.**

Shana Anthony 06:50 PM

In middle school and high school, will the students log into each teachers' classroom for different subjects? **Yes, remote learners will log in to each teacher's zoom classroom link during their scheduled class time. Please see the MMS and MHS Family Handbook for detailed information.**

Crystal Gewlas 06:52 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

If I am choosing remote learning for my Kindergartener can the screening be completed via zoom instead of in person?

Due to the nature of the instruments we use as part of the screening process, we cannot conduct screenings over Zoom due to reliability/validity issues. These instruments are not currently normed for on-line use.

Dupuis 06:53 PM

Will there be additional staff on busses to enforce guidelines so that the drivers can focus on their job.....driving the bus? At this time, we do not have other staff assigned to ride busses. Families will be expected to complete a self-check prior to boarding and students will be expected to sit in their assigned seats and follow the established expectations as always. As in the past, if there is a behavior needing to be addressed, drivers will communicate with both families and building administrators for potential disciplinary action.

Dave Bennett 06:57 PM

What is the average class size? Especially for kindergarten This number varies slightly by school. Please contact your building administrator or main office for more details.

richa smith 06:57 PM

What happens if a student shows up to school with no mask on and refuses to put one on ? Will they be sent home or secluded from the other students ? We would begin by reaching out to the family of the student to discuss the concern and work together to complete a plan. If the student continues to refuse to wear a mask they cannot participate in in-person learning and will be asked to return home.

Karl Clapp 06:57 PM

Will RSU57 be making any decisions regarding fall/winter sports? And how will families be notified? What about sports that merge with other schools (i.e. ice hockey). Will the decision be made by the RSU57 or Biddeford? Decisions on athletics will come through the MPA, and follow DOE and CDC guidelines. All schools will be affected equally by these guidelines so all schools would be aligned in terms of the status of the competitive season. Our activities director will provide announcements as the decisions about each season are made.

Dupuis 06:58 PM

So if students can be 3ft with a mask and everyone will be wearing masks, then shouldn't we just forgo the 6ft part? The current guidance states that "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,

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including wearing masks. 6 feet of physical distancing is required for students while eating snack, breakfast and lunch, as students will be unable to wear masks at that time.”

Dave Bennett 06:59 PM

The remote option presented by rsu 57 seems impossible for both students and teachers. Some worries: if my child chooses remote and a tantrum is happening in the class, will my child witness it? Will parents witness it at home? I heard you say they'd turn off the camera, but realistically we know that will be difficult and likely not happen before a ferpa violation occurs. Will my child be recorded? Will my child lack adequate instruction as the teacher will be attempting to teach a student who is at home and be distracted by a new platform? Will parents at home be able to see my child at school or vice versa? How does this not violate FERPA?

Our staff will be engaging in training sessions in order to safeguard student confidentiality designed to address multiple levels. We provide Annual training to address FERPA guidelines to ensure staff are in compliance with these laws. Given the new technology being implemented into classrooms, teachers will have the ability to control the images being displayed in the classroom, including displaying only the teacher. The focal point of the camera will center on the teacher and the instruction. Students would not be recorded without express permission from parents. Our Building Administration will address confidentiality protocols/concerns throughout the school year.

Sandy Farrar 06:59 PM

Will laptops with webcams or iPads be provided to students? Technology is provided to students, yes. The type of technology is dependent upon grade spans (elementary vs. middle and high school).

Michelle Feliccitti 06:59 PM

Will teachers be able to comfort your child if they are hurt or scared? (Kindergarten, PreK)

Yes. It is not uncommon for students to experience a range of emotions during this transition. It has been my experience that our staff provide a supportive, nurturing and welcoming atmosphere.

lisa kheang 07:00 PM

The green/yellow/red numbers didn't answer my question. I can't seem to find how they're coming to us being green and what number would throw us into yellow/red. We should all be able to easily monitor that number and know what to expect. The Maine CDC/DOE determines this threshold and informs each county. The color code is based on current COVID levels in each county, and the state will reissue the color rating every 2 weeks.

mw 07:00 PM

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####Do we have all the PPE we need? Sanford said in their meeting last night stuff was back ordered.

Meaghan Huot 07:00 PM

What will recess look like for elementary aged children? Students will be able to access the playground. While each school is developing procedures specific to that playground, social distancing will still need to be observed. Students will not be required to wear a mask during outdoor recess as long as they are able to follow spacing guidelines. Hand washing before and after recess will take place as well. Recess will be staggered to reduce the number of children outside at once.

djordan 07:01 PM

If we filled out the survey that our child will be attending in person, when will we know if they got “accepted”, considering there will be a limit to the number of children allowed in one classroom? We expect to be able to accommodate all students who have indicated they will return in-person, if the survey is filled out by August 14. We may be unable to accommodate late requests.

Dave Bennett 07:01 PM

Wells is using faceshields-why can't we? We will be following the current safety guidelines, per the Maine DOE, which currently includes distancing and the mandatory wearing of a mask/face covering by all students (ages 5+) and staff. Current guidance states that face shields are not an alternative to mask/face coverings unless there are “medical, behavioral, or other [documented] challenges.

April Farrenkopf 07:02 PM

How many masks breaks a day and what will those look like. Teachers will respond to the needs of his/her class, so the number of mask breaks varies by classroom and student. Mask breaks may include, for example, a whole class break outside with appropriate distances or a quick individual break just outside the classroom.

Dupuis 07:02 PM

Why do the kids have to wear a mask? Kids are less susceptible to covid. Adults should wear masks or dress in full PPE if they fear covid. Mask should be a choice. This will be very unsuccessful to teachers addressing children to keep mask on all day. We will be following the current safety guidelines, per the Maine DOE, which currently states the mandatory wearing of a mask/face covering by all students (ages 5+) and staff. RSU 57 has determined that masks will be required for **all** learners, including 4 year old learners.

Kevin Freeman 07:04 PM

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A student going into kindergarten will have to be a tablet for 4 or so hrs a day if learning from home? They will have to have their device open and ready but may be working on an activity on paper or other project throughout the day. The device will need to be tuned into the classroom.

Dupuis 07:04 PM

NH schools are making mask a choice in schools. We have less cases and a lower death rate. This should be made a choice. We will be following the current safety guidelines, per the Maine DOE, which currently the mandatory wearing of a mask/face covering by all students (ages 5+) and staff. RSU 57 has determined that masks will be required for *all* learners, including 4 year old learners.

Lincoln Chelidona 07:06 PM

Maybe I missed this but will a questionnaire go out again before the second period? No. If you plan to change your selected option, please contact the school office prior to the request date for the next segment.

Sharon Anderson 06:43 PM

My child is 1 week at father and 1 week with me. Can I sign up for online for my weeks along with pick up and drop off for my weeks? Students need to be signed up for remote or in-person learning.

Brooke Hansen 07:07 PM

Will remote learners have to share video on zoom or can it be the black screen with their name? In order to maximize the learning opportunity and interaction from the remote setting, students should both be able to see and be seen. Extenuating circumstances should be discussed with building administration.

shelly 07:07 PM

How will a child's IEP be implemented if they are remote learning? Will support be provided virtually? The child's case manager will collaborate with teachers to identify times to provide special education services. Should there be concerns with programming, the IEP process will be adhered to. The IEP team will work together to resolve the programmatic concerns. The same rights apply for enrolled students learning remotely as those learning in person with regard to IEP services/accommodations.

needed are compatible. MMS 6th graders will receive Chromebooks. MMS 7th and 8th graders will receive MacBooks.

reporter 07:08 PM

Has the school considered setting up any outdoor open-air classes if the weather is good?

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-----4 minutes remain----- Any questions not addressed this evening WILL be addressed via the frequently asked questions doc (FAQ), posted on the RSU 57 website.

Patrick Hamel 07:07 PM

what devices will be provided for mms students? Asking to be sure printer and accessories Yes. There will be opportunities provided for classes to hold outdoor learning sessions. Tents are being considered to allow for more flexibility in inclement weather. Physical education may also be held outside.

Anastasia 07:08 PM

If there is someone who takes the bus to and from school who then tests for Covid-19, what is the protocol for this? Does everyone who came into contact with this student become quarantined? Each school has been assigned to a representative from the CDC who will provide guidance for next steps, should this occur.

djordan 07:09 PM

What does recess and PE look like during these times? All students will be provided daily recess and specials, which include PE. We will be following the current guidelines which includes having students wash their hands before and after recess and maintain social distancing. When indoor recess is necessary, indoor spacing guidelines will be followed and masks will be required. Specific details around physical education are still currently being developed.

Marie Proctor 07:09 PM

I saw lockers will not be in use. Will there be a designated spot for backpacks and belongings or will kids be required to carry their backpack throughout the day? Mine is in middle school Students at the middle level will carry their backpacks throughout the day. They will put them under their desks or on the backs of chairs during class time.

Valerie Johnson 07:12 PM

Is the screening tool an actual app or site where we answer the questions and obtain a "pass"? Or is it more of a guideline for parents to use and ask themselves when determining to send their child to school? This is a self check tool that families will use at home and follow the guidance based on their answers.

Nicole Pratt 06:48 PM

Has the RSU verified that disinfectants are EPA N listed and provided training as required for staff members who may handle or apply them? are there any special considerations for handling and storage, particularly in regards to younger learners? Do new

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cleaning products introduce additional hazardous constituents to the classroom? Thanks for your time. All chemicals have MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheets) documents to ensure safety which address all of the concerns listed for each product used in the schools..

April Farrenkopf 07:12 PM

Will parents be required to transport to away games for MMS or MHS sports?

If we are able to have a season this fall we will offer transportation and schedules at all levels are currently being modified to account for abbreviated schedules and transportation requirements. Parents who prefer to transport student athletes will have that option.

Mindy Gray 07:14 PM

Regards to transportation. Are parents able to give written or verbal permission for non family (same household) members to sit together on the bus? Children who reside in the same home can sit together on the bus. We cannot accommodate individual requests for pairing at this time.

Karl Clapp 07:14 PM

if my kid misses the bus, can I bring them to school or do they have to be remote that day? What if I need to pull them out in the middle of the day for a Dr. appointment? Yes, you will be able to bring your child to school and pick them up, as in the past. However, you will need to call the office for tardies and dismissals, as the child will be walked outside the building to meet you.

tdearborn 07:16 PM

As a way to show school pride, will the district sell Masks with school logo, colors, mascot similar to the t-shirts? We have clubs who have reached out on this as a fundraiser option. We will discuss as a team to ensure there is consistency between schools on how this may be made available.

Sharon Anderson 07:16 PM

I know you stated bus trans can be altered but what about one week in school and one week remote schooling. Is this allowed? Answered above.

janice poirier 07:17 PM

Asking for a friend: Will my junior ever be allowed in the HS to do labs for chemistry class or computer science, etc & if not, how will he make those up if we are doing remote learning? Will there be after school opportunities to do this? Science teachers are

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planning on ways for remote learners to access this learning in a way where the teacher demonstrates and the online learner oftentimes will be paired with a student that is in school.

Sharon Anderson 07:19 PM

If we remote, will the links work? I know we all had to adjust last year but has that been addressed. Yes, staff have received training.

Kelly McBean 07:19 PM

How will Contact tracing for Covid-19 work within a school where students are moving about throughout his or her day? Answered.

lisa kheang 07:20 PM

Are the zooms being better monitored and requiring a password or an actual person to allow them into the zoom? I know this was an issue this spring. If you can log on and see class at lunch that doesn't seem very monitored.... There is a waiting room for Zoom links now, that requires the teacher to admit each participant.

Jenn Mayo 07:21 PM

If a child is showing symptoms, is a 14 day quarantine or a negative test to return to school? We will follow the current CDC and DOE guidelines on this.

Stephanie 07:21 PM

What will pick up look like for those parents who choose to transport? How will parent pooling in the lobby be handled? Drop off and pick up procedures have been developed for each building and can be found in the school handbooks. Parents are asked to consult the school's family handbook and follow the outlined procedure.

Marie Winchell 07:22 PM

How is Sanford vocational school going to work? Sanford Voc guidance is pending.

Julie 07:22 PM

For middle school students would we be able to send a note instead of coming to sign them out at the end of the day? It states meeting someone outside to sign them out...what about inclement and winter weather conditions? Great idea. We will look into this. Processes and procedures will be continually evaluated, so improvements and ideas are certainly welcome.

Keri Rinaldi 07:22 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

what happens if the cdc changes its guide lines in the middle of the school year Our response will match the requirements set by the Maine CDC/DOE. We will be prepared to move to all remote learning, if necessary.

Marie Winchell 07:24 PM

what are the requirements for special needs and the ed tech? are they allowed to move from class to class or stay in their room Ed tech support will continue to be provided per a student's IEP.

Almost every other district in our county recognizes that smaller class sizes is what's best for the social and emotional development of our children. Please explain how the team that developed this plan, came up with this option? Previously answered.

Karl Clapp 07:12 PM

Unfortunately RSU 57 did choose a hybrid option proposed by the DOE.. I think they chose the wrong bullet point though. Here is the link: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/framework/part-IV...> Under the examples of Hybrid Models, they should have chose bullet #2, but instead chose bullet #3.. No need to respond

Sharon Anderson 07:28 PM

I saw somewhere within info sent from Elementary that the children are supposed to wear disposable mask. Are the teachers also required to wear disposable? The handbook states: "Required: Multiple cloth or disposable face masks/coverings to rotate as needed due to moisture or soiling, labeled with student's name or initials, should be brought to school daily. Used masks will need to be washed at home after each use"

Amanda Buddemeyer 07:28 PM

While remote learning, will the children be required to be on camera while doing their work throughout the day? Yes If so, will the programs interfere with one another? No, they can be done at the same time.

Jessica Agreste 07:29 PM

will the ed techs have their own time on line to help children one on one who are learning on line Students who have Ed Tech support in their IEP will continue to have ET support if attending remotely.

Marie Winchell 07:29 PM

How will it be handled if someone comes to school and has symptoms of covid sent home to be tested and is positive? We ask that the parent notify the school nurse and/or administrator immediately. We will contact our CDC representative for guidance on next steps.

Updated as of 9/4/20

Heather Silva 07:30 PM

How will classes be cleaned between classes at MHS? How will hall traffic be handled for distance between classes? Will students be allowed to only eat lunches in the cafe? Even with the addition of lunches do we think we can manage 6ft distance when previously it was so full kids sat on the floors in went to classrooms to eat? **Staff will clean desks between classes. Students will eat lunch in either the cafeteria, gymnasium, or classrooms in order to meet 6' distancing while masks are off. We have added an additional lunch as well. Although some students sat on the floor previously, there was plenty of seating and they were asked to find a seat.**

Crystal Gewlas 07:32 PM

If I choose to homeschool (not to be confused with remote learning) can my children be enrolled at rsu57 for specials, via remote learning, like in past years? **Yes, that option will remain.**

grover 07:33 PM

If a child has an iep that includes a class aide how is this aide supposed to help the child from 6 feet away **We continue to receive guidance from the DOE regarding this concern. Depending on the nature of the student's disability and per the most current guidance, staff who are assigned to students per IEP determinations will have the ability to work with students in closer proximity. In order to do so, staff will have to wear additional PPE (gloves, mask/face coverings, gowns (in some unique cases such as supporting students with toileting needs). The IEP team will work together to meet the unique, complex needs of our students.**

Heather Silva 07:34 PM

If we already submitted a survey, how do we change our decision and keep our kids remote instead of in class? **Please reach out to your building administrator.**

Caleb Noyes 07:36 PM

If you start off the year homeschooling and situations with the virus start to improve partway through the school year or things aren't going well at home, can students re-enroll in public school for either in-person or remote learning in the middle of the year.

Yes

Michal 07:36 PM

Will the K and pre-k kids be able to use toys? **Shared items will be kept to a minimum, however students will share some manipulatives. The district has developed a sanitation process for these items.**

Updated as of 9/4/20

Jen 07:39 PM

Could you please talk about the new rules for a high school student having early release or late arrival? Specifically for a senior that only needs 2 classes to graduate. Students need to have a full time schedule. Seniors need to have 4 credit hours and juniors at least 5. Students can work with guidance and our ELO coordinator in order to develop a plan that best meets the needs of the student.

R 06:58 PM

Has the district considered having a virtual teacher specifically for EACH grade level? The district has explored a variety of options. Given current guidelines, we have opted for a five day synchronous model.

Michelle Felicitti 07:42 PM

Can we skip screening entirely?

If this is in reference to Kindergarten screening, per regulations, we must conduct a screening as part of our Child Find obligations. If you have significant concerns about the process and its purpose, please contact either Tim O'Connor or Nora Lantagne to discuss your concerns about the screening process. We will be happy to help clarify the value of screening as well as seek to problem solve your concerns. Nora and I can be reached at #247-3221.

Meaghan Huot 07:21 PM

How will lockdowns and fire drills be handled?

lisa kheang 07:46 PM

NO RESPONSE NEEDED. FYI People are hung up on the cameras because there was a graphic showing the class being on camera.... a front facing view. No response needed.

Kristina Mayo 07:52 PM

if the neck gaiters are not appropriate, what type of face coverings do you recommend. my boys like the gaiters. We will follow DOE and CDC guidelines, if this changes I would suggest trying several times to find one they can tolerate.

Jenn 07:53 PM

Updated as of 9/4/20

How will drop off & pick up work These protocols will vary by school. Please see your school's Family Handbook for specific details.

sandra mcdaniel 07:00 PM

How will the need for additional supports and/or limited participation/success with remote learning be addressed by the district?
Through MTSS-B/RtL/Individual plans

Sharon Anderson 07:57 PM

The remote not being week on or off is unfair for parents in a situation where they don't want their child in school due to COVID in one household. You are forcing my child to be in a potential harmful gathering. I ask you to revisit this option.