



## COMMUNITY NIGHT FAQ

### *Thanks*

Very clear plan on the instructional day and logistics. Thank you!

I really appreciate the smaller class sizes and the desire to make school as “normal” as possible. RSD is doing a great job preparing for hybrid.

So organized and well prepared!

I like that you are being so intentional about the attestations

It looks like the district has thought of most scenarios and has a good plan for them.

It seems like the district and ABM have been very intentional.

Very impressed with the level of prep that has already been done!

Very organized. Clearly prepared for many unknowns.

I appreciate all the work that has gone into preparing for school.

I am grateful for the amount of planning you have done! The cleaning sounds so thorough - thank you!!!!

Thanks for all your hard work.

Looks like the district has done a lot to ensure the safety of both students as well as staff members.

So much work and detail to keep students and staff safe!

Thankful for the work that has been done and the early responsiveness. I feel as if we are ahead of the game as a district as a whole.

I am impressed by the detailed plan to return to school. Thank you all for your hard work in keeping our children safe.

# School Sites

## **Will students be able to join in virtual learning during an unexpected absence? Like if parents are being over cautious about sniffles and whatnot?**

No. If a student stays home they will not be able to participate in synchronous lessons; however, they will have access to asynchronous lessons. We ask families to commit to Hybrid or Remote for a full trimester at a time.

## **Will students receive “at-home” work if they have to be quarantined for 10+ days?**

Teachers will work with students required to quarantine to ensure they can access educational services.

## **How do you know if an attestation has been done before they get to school?**

Since attestation is completed in Skyward, completion reports can be generated.

## **Please talk more about the days of learning at home?**

Teachers will provide extension activities and asynchronous lessons that students can complete independently for the at home learning days.

## **Wouldn't it be easier to have student cohorts to go to school 2 days in a row?**

This option was discussed, but ultimately decided against as it would have created longer stretches of time away from in-person instruction.

## **Why is recess at the same time for all students - why not spread groups of students outside throughout the day to limit exposure?**

It is not. K-4 recesses will be scheduled so no more than 4 classes (each assigned to a separate quadrant) will be at recess at the same time.

## **Will the art teachers and music teachers come to individual classrooms or will the classes go to the specialists rooms?**

In order to protect cohorts, specialists will travel to classrooms to deliver instruction.

## **I have a kindergarten student, how lenient will you be with them about the rules? If they have trouble will you not allow them to come into school?**

As always, we first model and teach safety guidelines to students. If a student refuses to comply with safety guidelines they will be asked to continue learning through Ridgefield Remote.

## **There is likely going to be a student(s) that intentionally coughs on people. How will that be handled?**

This kind of situation becomes a disciplinary issue and will be dealt with accordingly. If a student refuses to comply with safety guidelines they will be asked to continue learning through Ridgefield Remote.

## **How will paras know what kids belong in what quadrant?**

Quadrants will be assigned by class, and paras will have a schedule identifying the classes they supervise.

**Will students eat lunch in their classrooms?**

No. K-4 lunch will be served in the cafeteria. Breakfast will be eaten in the classrooms.

**What about classes like band and choir?** These inherently involve more exposure.

K-4 music classes will be held in the classrooms in order to reduce exposures. For 5th graders, band and choir may look different in order to limit exposure.

**Are the individual desks for elementary schools only?**

No. All schools will have access to single seating arrangements.

**How will teachers enforce student wearing of masks?**

As always, we first model and teach safety guidelines to students. If a student refuses to comply with safety guidelines they will be asked to continue learning through Ridgefield Remote.

**Wouldn't an am/pm schedule be easier for kids to not have to wear masks for so long and to avoid recess and lunch issues?**

Generally speaking, we have observed students adjusting very quickly to the mask requirements.

**Will families all be in the same cohort?**

Yes. Unless a specific request is made otherwise.

**How will students be dismissed from classes?**

Dismissal will be scheduled with staggered times in order to reduce the number of students moving through campus at the same time.

**How will you ensure parent drop off is Covid safe?**

We expect parents to model appropriate safety guidelines during drop off and pick up. This includes staying in their car, completing the wellness attestation for their student(s), and wearing a mask. As always, pick-up and drop-off will be supervised by school staff. If a student refuses to comply with safety guidelines they will be asked to continue learning through Ridgefield Remote.

**Risk is low in classrooms, what about in public areas like the library and cafeteria?**

The library will not be open in the traditional format and only 4 classes will be seated and eating lunch in the cafeteria at one time.

**Are there going to be any shared play equipment at recesses?** ie - a basketball or tetherball. There are likely going to be some disgruntled students if they can't do the activities that they want and would add pressure to the para's.

Yes, play equipment will be cleaned and students will be asked to wash their hands before and after recess.

# *Nursing Services*

## **Are students going to be excluded for consistently failing to follow health requirements?**

We will always attempt to facilitate compliance through non-restrictive measures first, but if students continue to consistently fail to follow health requirements they will be asked to continue learning through Ridgefield Remote. Our first priority is always to protect the health and safety of all students.

## **Are there risks if requiring masks at recess? Will the kids get other chances to have “mask breaks?”**

Wearing a mask in public spaces is a requirement per CDC and DOH protocol for reducing the spread of COVID-19. This protocol is especially important during recess because students will expel respiratory secretions in increased quantity and at increased velocity during rigorous play. Additionally, students may unintentionally break the 6-foot social distance protocol during play at recess. These factors put students at increased risk for respiratory droplet transmission during recess as compared to other times in which their movement and proximity to each other is more easily maintained at the required infection control parameters. In conclusion, the risks associated with not wearing a mask during recess are higher than any risk associated with wearing a mask.

## **What is the plan when someone is Covid positive?**

Ideally, no COVID-19 positive individual will enter a RSD building or campus. If someone has reported any COVID19 symptoms or close contact on their daily health attestation they will stay home and follow the steps outlined in the Washington State Department of Health flowchart guide for returning to school/childcare/work. In the event that a student, employee or visitor to RSD tests positive for COVID-19, the Department of Health will take over the task of identifying and notifying any individuals who may have been in close contact with that person during the initial infectious period of the disease.

## **What is the plan for contact tracing?**

We follow the guidelines provided by our local Department of Health (DOH) for reporting positive cases. The DOH is responsible for contact tracing. RSD will provide the DOH with information upon request for the purpose of contact tracing. The DOH will alert individuals who may have been exposed. RSD and the DOH comply with all laws applicable to privacy and confidentiality of personal health information during COVID-19 contact tracing processes.

## **What are the contract tracing protocols?**

The Department of Health(DOH) is responsible for contact tracing. Once we report a positive case, the DOH will dictate protocol and we will follow their recommendations. The Districts' role is limited to reporting requested information and following recommendations by the DOH representative who is dispatched to manage the case. The DOH will notify any potential contacts and provide steps for what to do next.

## **What is the attestation process for employees?**

The attestation process for employees is very similar to the attestation process for students. Each day employees must attest to not having any symptoms of COVID-19 and not having had close contact with anyone who has an active case of COVID-19. If

employees have any symptoms or have had close contact, they must stay home from work and follow the steps outlined in the Washington State Department of Health flowchart guide for returning to school/childcare/work.

**Will you require staff to be tested on a regular basis?** Asymptomatic carriers are upwards of 40% according to CDC.

The District is following all required guidance, which currently does not require regular testing of staff.

**Are the daily attestations online?**

Daily attestations for both students and staff are in our Skyward Student Information System. Families can login through the website or the mobile app to complete the daily attestation.

## *PPE*

**If there was so much high risk PPE equipment purchased, why do we have to wait to move to hybrid schooling?**

High risk PPE has been purchased to support those staff working in high risk situations. The District is required to follow the Department of Health's decision tree when determining a return to in-person instruction.

## *Maintenance*

**I'm curious how the MERV 13 compares to a HEPA filter, and why the district is not using individual HEPA grade filters in each classroom?**

MERV 13 is the filter being recommended by CDC and industry experts. From the vendors and mechanical contractors we are working with it is our understanding that MERV 13 filters will effectively and efficiently remove virus and other pollutant loads.

## *Meal Service*

**Can students bring their own lunch to school? I want to be able to manage my child's nutrition.**

Yes, students can bring their own lunch to school.

**Do students sit in the same spot each day at lunch?**

Students will have assigned seating during lunch. This is to ensure the continued safety, while making lunchtime as efficient as possible.

**Have you considered more kid friendly food items? For example, twist milk bottles rather than the tear and fold. Kinders often require a lot of help.**

There are multiple factors driving the products and process. Procurement guidelines,

availability of a usable replacement, product size and storage capacity, product cost as it relates to budget, and environmental issues in regard to paper versus plastic, and waste disposal capacity.

**Are there any special cleaning procedures or protocols for lunches brought from home?**

No, there are no special cleaning procedures or protocols for students bringing in lunch from home. As always, students will not be allowed to share or trade food. In addition, students will be socially distanced and tables and chairs will be disinfected between lunch service.

## *General Questions*

**What is the rollback plan if there is an exposure?**

The District will follow guidance from Clark County Public Health and the Department of Health should there be a COVID case.

**Feels like a missed opportunity to limit learning on the none in-person days. Can we use Zoom for more connection for our kids?**

Please remember, that each classroom is split into two groups (Group A and Group B). The non in-person days for one group are in-person days for the other group. The classroom teachers are focusing all of their attention on those students they have with them in-person to maximize those instructional minutes.

**Are there going to be Para's at school? Will teachers have extra para support?**

The District is committed to ensuring that all students are supervised by school employees while at school.

**What is the hybrid plan for grades 6 and higher including high school?**

Information related to hybrid instruction for secondary students will be released well in advance of implementation.

**Does enhanced cleaning or other safety protocols mentioned this evening change security procedures?**

No. All additional ABM employees who are on our campuses have to pass all existing background checks for school employees.

**How is a classroom setting a low risk? Can you tell us what a medium and high risk setting is for comparison?**

According to the table on page 8 of the Employer Health and Safety Requirements for School Scenarios, "the general instructional setting, in office settings with 6 feet of distance or in food service with 6 feet of distance." The idea being that in a classroom students will be seated at their desks, with masks on, and properly distanced from one another and the teacher. Please see the same table for examples of medium, high and extremely high risk situations, as well as negligible risk situations. The table on the following page outlines the necessary PPE for each situation.

**Will subs (daily/long-term) be hired if teachers need to quarantine?**

As with our current practice, substitute teachers will be used when needed to fill in for a staff member that is not able to be at work.

**There are some families who don't believe COVID is a legitimate threat. Are they held liable if they are found to be skipping the daily attestation?**

Students who have not completed the daily attestation will not be able to attend school that day.

## *Transportation*

**How is the district going to address sick students going on the bus?**

The attestation process starts at home with the family. The expectation is that the family is being a responsible partner in protecting public health. Parents are expected to keep their child(ren) home if they do not pass the attestation.

Should KWRL find that students board with symptoms we would radio ahead and notify the school. If KWRL is not aware of a student with symptoms the school policy and procedures will address the situation accordingly.

In regard to bussing, how do you handle the extra routes that will need to be added? The State of Washington and OSPI recognize that it is not feasible to accomplish the same social distance standards in the classroom on a school bus. It is not financially feasible to fund or acquire the volume of school buses that would be needed to match classroom social distance expectations on the school bus. The State of Washington is mitigating social distance on school buses with policy and procedure recommendations.

**What is the modified bus capacity number?**

OSPI and the State of Washington have not mandated a reduction in bus seating capacity and have instead prescribed protocols and procedures for transportation. Across the State of Washington school buses are to prioritize bus seating by:

1. Seat family/households together
2. Alternating seats
3. Staggering seats
4. Progress to filling empty seats when no longer able to stagger and alternate
5. Add additional students to seats only when a single student per seat is no longer available

The intent is to minimize the duration of time that social distance is reduced, or not possible and to limit that period of time to the end of the route when the bus is approaching the school.

**How will students exit the bus? Will they all hold the rail?**

Use of the handrail is a safety issue. It is not safe to tell students not to use safety equipment; however, we also understand that the use of the handrail is a personal (family) choice. High touch point areas will be cleaned after routes and the entire bus will be disinfected each day.

## **How often will the restrooms in kindergarten classrooms be cleaned?**

The restrooms in each kindergarten classroom will be cleaned and disinfected each night. In the event that there are multiple sessions in one class, the restrooms will then be cleaned and disinfected in between the two sessions.

## **What is the cleaning frequency in classrooms for high touch areas e.g. light switches, door knobs etc.?**

All touchpoints in classrooms will be thoroughly disinfected each evening. Additional bottles of EPA approved disinfectant have been placed in each classroom to be used at the teachers discretion while learning is in session.

## **What will the cleaning protocol be if someone gets COVID?**

- ABM and school administration will trace to ensure that all possible exposed areas are addressed.
- All hard surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected using an EPA approved disinfectant which has been proven to combat Coronavirus.
- Depending on the size of possible exposed areas, the use of an electrostatic sprayer may be utilized to ensure all areas are properly disinfected.
- Protocols are in place to ensure that all areas would be ready for a safe return for students/staff the next day. A special Sub24 response may also be utilized to ensure that spaces are safe for reentry the same day.

## **How long does it take to clean the school after a day with students in it?**

On a typical day, each school can take anywhere from 7 to 8 hours to clean. The benefit of having an additional dedicated Enhance Clean team, is that this dedicated team of disinfection specialists will be spending the same amount of time to ensure that all desk surfaces and high touch points are thoroughly disinfected for a safe return the next day.

## **Is there any history of these cleaning chemicals triggering allergies/asthma?**

There is no history of these products triggering allergies/asthma. These disinfectants are widely used throughout healthcare as well as education facilities across the globe. While particular individuals could be sensitive to a particular chemistry, there are options in a change of chemistry if this should happen.