

ROCKFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RETURN TO LEARN

2020-2021 OVERVIEW



DEFINITIONS:

FACE-TO-FACE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION is instruction with teachers and students physically at the school.

REMOTE INSTRUCTION is instruction delivered remotely from Rockford teachers via our RPS classroom learning management system and includes interaction among teachers and students.

VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION is instruction through a partner curriculum guided by Rockford teachers. Students would attend Rockford Virtual. [Information about Rockford Virtual can be found here.](#)

RPS INSTRUCTIONAL OPTIONS

FACE-TO-FACE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

Starting August 24th (Remote Learning)

- All students will receive remote instruction from their teachers in real time via interactive platforms
- This approach allows for live instruction between teachers and classmates
- Students will have access to various supports for technology, social-emotional, and educational and special needs
- Device distribution information will be provided prior to the start of school
- [Details of the phases can be found here](#)

Starting September 14th

- Available to students in grades DK-12
- Students attend school in person all day every day
- Safety protocols will align with the [MI Safe Schools Roadmap](#)

or

ROCKFORD VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION

Starting August 24th

- Available to students in grades DK-12
- Students participate off site and online with device provided by RPS
- Students will participate in online learning paths in a Michigan standards-based partner curriculum guided by an RPS teacher
- Details and information can be found at <http://www.rockfordschools.org/rockford-virtual/>



Rockford Public Schools

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OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS

FACE COVERINGS (PHASES 4-5)

- All staff and all students will wear face coverings at all times unless medically exempt or eating lunch
- Students are expected to provide their own mask, but the district will have a supply available
- Homemade masks must be washed daily
- Disposable masks must be disposed of daily
- Parents are asked to educate their child(ren) about the proper use of masks, not sharing masks or other items, etc.
- Face shields are not considered face coverings

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE (PHASES 4-6)

- Before and after care is available at all elementary schools
- Additional information provided upon registration

BUSES AND TRANSPORTATION (PHASES 4-6)

- Students must register for transportation
- Capacity on buses will be reduced and students will be assigned seats
- Driver and all students will wear face coverings at all times unless medically exempt
- Driver and students will utilize the provided hand sanitizer as they enter the bus
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized before and after each route

CLEANING AND SANITIZATION OF SCHOOLS (PHASES 4-6)

- Prior to school reopening buildings will be cleaned and sanitized, filters on HVAC equipment will be changed, and walk-throughs will be conducted to confirm they are ready for occupancy
- Throughout the school day, frequently touched surfaces such as light switches, desks, door knobs, and restrooms will be regularly cleaned with a disinfectant
- Learning environments will be routinely sanitized by custodial staff

COVID EXPOSURE OR ILLNESS (PHASES 4-6)

- Consistent guidelines will be followed for potential COVID reports in collaboration with the Kent County Health Department
- Parents/guardians are asked to screen their child(ren) at home prior to sending them to school
 - Anyone with a fever greater than 100.4 and/or exhibiting COVID symptoms is to be kept home and your physician contacted
- A separate care room for potential COVID cases has been designated at each school
- Students exposed to a person identified with COVID must remain in quarantine 14 days AFTER last close contact with affected person
- Students testing positive for COVID may return to school:
 - 10 days after symptoms onset AND 3 days fever free without use of medication AND significant improvement in symptoms OR
 - You provide a written letter from your medical provider stating the student is not contagious with an infectious illness
- Similar guidelines are in place for staff

GATHERINGS/ATHLETICS (PHASES 4-5)

- Large group events have been suspended until further notice
- Outdoor recess will be conducted on a rotating basis to allow for smaller groups
- The athletic department will remain in compliance with all directives and requirements set forth by the Michigan High School Athletic Association at www.mhsaa.com
- For information specific to Rockford events, please visit team websites linked from the district's athletic webpage

LUNCH (PHASES 4-5)

- All school provided lunches will be pre-packaged with one entrée offered daily
- Elementary lunches will be delivered to and eaten in the classroom
- Secondary students will pick lunches up in the cafeteria at their assigned lunch time and eat in the classroom
- Parents will be allowed to drop off lunches from home in the vestibule at their student's building

MENTAL AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELLBEING

- A student social emotional self assessment will be administered prior to the start of the school year
- We encourage parents to talk with, reassure, and support their children about the changes to expect at school and the importance of social distancing and wearing masks
- Utilize resources which can be found on the district website at <https://www.smores.com/801ta-rps-social-emotional-support>
- If your child is struggling and you're not sure what to do, please contact your family physician or [use one of these resources](#)
- If you have an emergency concerning your child's immediate safety or wellbeing, please call 911

VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS (PHASES 4-5)

- Access to buildings is limited to essential personnel unless invited by building administrator or staff
- Everyone entering the building is subject to all building protocols, health screening, and temperature checks



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