



EXTENDED COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN

December 2020 Reconfirmation Meeting Summary

(Approved by the Board of Education 12/14/2020)

Purpose

On September 28, 2020, the Rockford Public Schools Board of Education approved the district's Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan. The Board of Education must reconfirm the district's delivery of instruction under the Plan every 30 days thereafter. Following Board approval, the Reconfirmation Meeting Summary will be accessible through the transparency reporting link on the district's website.

Statute

Public Act 149 of 2020, Sec. 98a(1)(c). Thirty days after the approval of the plan under subsection (2), and every 30 days thereafter, the district must, at a meeting of the board or board of directors, as applicable, of the district, reconfirm how instruction is going to be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year. Public comment must be solicited from the parents or legal guardians of the pupils enrolled in the district during a meeting described in this subsection.

Public Act 149 of 2020, Sec. 98a(1)(i). The district shall publicly announce its weekly interaction rates under this subsection at each reconfirmation meeting described in subsection (c) and make those rates accessible through the transparency reporting link located on the district's website each month.

Reconfirmation of instructional delivery method for each grade level

Narrative describing modifications to the original Extended Learning Plan

Rockford Public Schools will continue to provide two choices of placement for our DK-12th grade students: 100% face-to-face arrangement or 100% virtual arrangement. Rockford Public Schools is committed to providing families educational choice by trimester throughout the 2020-21 school year. During the first trimester, 87% of our families chose the face-to-face option and 13% chose a placement in Rockford Virtual. Our district offered placement options for all students for the second trimester which started on November 18th. While some shifting occurred, similar district percentages remained.

Rockford Public Schools has updated our remote learning plan as written in the August Board-approved RPS Continuity of Learning Plan. The [Fall/Winter Remote Learning Plan](#) will be used throughout the year in the event that it is necessary for a school or district to close due to COVID-19. Additionally, RPS has added a secondary [hybrid learning plan](#) to our continuum of educational arrangement decision making.

On Monday, December 7, the MDHHS extended COVID restrictions prohibiting in-person instruction for high schools through December 20. Based on this and regional and local data,

Rockford Public Schools determined to continue with remote instruction for all DK-12th grade students through December 18. Presently, extension details are unknown, but our January continuity of learning plan is outlined below with the understanding it may be adjusted if MDHHS or county/local data necessitate a change (which would be communicated to our community and staff as soon as any changes are known).

Elementary (Grades DK-5th)

Effective January 4, 2021, all students enrolled in face-to-face instruction will return to face-to-face instruction unless the MDHHS prohibits in-person instruction or if indicated due to local/regional data.

Face-to-Face Program: Students attending face-to-face programming participate in daily instruction through a traditional model by their classroom teacher. In addition to the core curriculum, students participate in music, art and PE. All students have school-issued Chromebooks, and DK-1st grade students utilize the learning management system Seesaw to access curriculum. Students in grades 2nd-5th utilize the learning management system Schoology. In the event of a school closure or classroom quarantine, teachers use the district-adopted remote learning schedule, Google Meet and the learning management system to instruct students. As a result of closing face-to-face instruction due to COVID, elementary school students (grades DK-5th) are using the remote learning model from November 30-December 18.

Rockford Virtual Program: Students participating in virtual instruction utilize the grade-level learning management system, Google Meet and a combination of Savvas and RPS curriculum. Rockford teachers lead students through virtual instruction that includes synchronous and asynchronous lessons focusing on literacy and math for the first trimester. All students have a personal or school-issued laptop.

Secondary (Grades 6th-12th)

Effective January 4, 2021, all students enrolled in face-to-face instruction will return using the hybrid model described [here](#) unless the MDHHS prohibits in-person instruction or if indicated due to local/regional data. Of course, we need to also remain flexible and allow for the potential option of returning all students if advisable by MDHHS.

Face-to-Face Program: Students attending face-to-face programming participate in daily

instruction through a traditional model by their classroom teacher. In addition to the core curriculum, students participate in their chosen electives and co-curricular activities. All students have a personal or school-issued laptop, and all secondary students utilize Schoology to access the curriculum. In the event of a school closure or quarantine, teachers use the district-adopted remote learning schedule, Google Meet and Schoology to instruct students. As a result of closing face-to-face instruction due to COVID, Rockford High School students (grades 9th-12th) used the remote learning model from October 12-23 and are currently participating again from November 17-December 18. As a result of closing face-to-face instruction due to COVID, middle school students (grades 6th-8th) are using the remote learning model from November 19-December 18.

Rockford Virtual Program: Students participating in virtual instruction utilize Schoology, Google Meet and APEX curriculum. All students have a personal or school-issued laptop. Rockford teachers guide students through completion of asynchronous lessons across all content areas and engage them in school and community building activities.

Reconfirmation of whether or not district is offering higher levels of in-person instruction for English language learners, special education students, or other special populations

Narrative describing modifications to the original Extended Learning Plan

English language learners/homeless students

Our English Language (EL) population, whether in virtual or face-to-face, is serviced by our district EL-trained teachers and use the National Geographic English Language Curriculum. Likewise, our homeless students are monitored and supported by our district homeless liaison and building contacts. In addition to the direct educational support, students are given basic needed items as well as necessary school supplies to assist them in participating and being successful in school.

Special education students

Special education students continue to receive instruction specific to their IEP whether attending in-person or virtually. Special education teachers have written amended plans where necessary for students on their caseload to provide the most targeted educational support for their placement and situation. Additionally, an emphasis area for the district is to consider providing face-to-face instruction for special populations in the district in the event of a school closure. When looking ahead to January 4th, all elementary students that qualify for special services will attend during the full face-to-face arrangement. Additionally, all secondary students that qualify for special services will have the option to attend four days per week when their buildings are on the hybrid schedule. Full face-to-face includes all students.

Finally, school counselors and itinerant staff (social workers, psychologists, social-emotional behavioral coaches, mental health liaisons, interventionists, etc.) continue to support the social-emotional and academic needs of students whether virtual or face-to-face.

Public comments from parents/guardians about RPS' Extended Learning Plan

Parent name, address, general summary of comment

None.

Weekly two-way interaction rates

Recommended, but not required by legislation, to report on remote/not remote and by building or grade span

All students Remote, virtual, and in-person	Grades DK-5th	Grades 6th-8th	Grades 9th-12th
October 26-30	95%	94%	97%
November 2-6	94%	92%	91%
November 9-13	94%	88%	85%
November 16-20	94%	85%	96%
November 23-24	89%	97%	97%
November 30, December 1-4	98%	98%	98%
December 7-11	98%	98%	98%

Following Board of Education approval, this document will be posted to the district's website transparency reporting link and reported to CEPI in compliance with Public Act 149 of 2020