



School Year 2020-2021 RCSD Reopening Plan

Dr. Lesli Myers-Small, Superintendent
July 30, 2020



School Year 2020-21 RCSD Reopening Plan

Plan must be submitted to NYSED Friday

NYSED has directed districts to base plans on its guidance document provisions:

Teaching and Learning

Communication/Family and
Community Engagement

Health & Safety

Child Nutrition

Transportation

Social Emotional Well-Being

School Extracurricular and Interscholastic
Activities

Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism

Technology and Connectivity

Bilingual Education and World Languages



Teaching and Learning

We must prepare for three scenarios as part of the RCSD's plan to NYSED:

In-Person Learning

Hybrid (Distance Learning and In-Person Learning)

Distance Learning





Teaching and Learning

A hybrid model will be implemented in phases beginning with students in PreK-4, K-6 special classes and K-12 specialized programs. Students not in school for the hybrid model will receive instruction through the distance learning model.

IP In-person

DL Distance Learning

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	IP	IP	DL	DL	DL
Group B	DL	DL	DL	IP	IP



Teaching and Learning

In the event a parent does not want to send their child to school

RCSD will offer the opportunity to enroll in our RCSD Online Learning Platform

Parents must contact their child's school no later than Friday, August 14th to indicate their choice





Communication/Family and Community Engagement

Earlier this month the District created a survey to better understand concerns/ questions regarding the reopening of schools

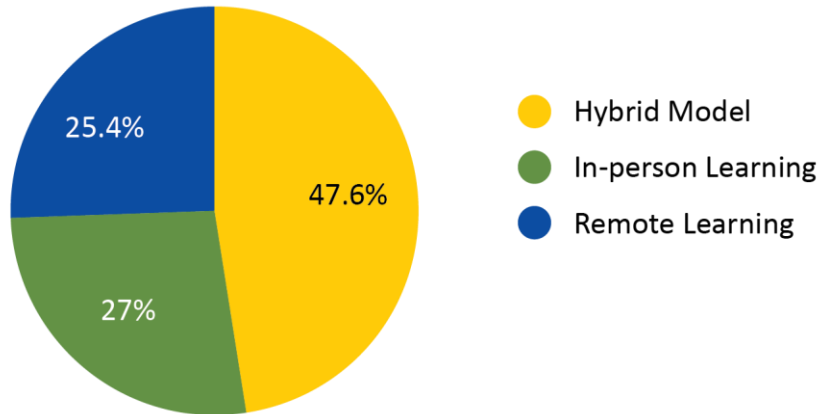
Survey results: www.rcsdk12.org/surveyresults



Communication/Family and Community Engagement

Staff

In your opinion, which model would best meet the needs of our students as we plan for reopening in the midst of Covid-19?

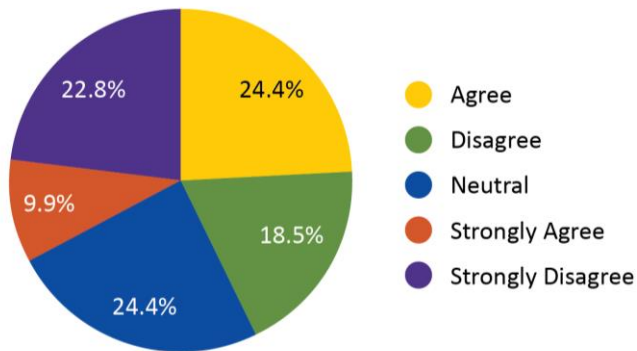




Communication/ Family and Community Engagement

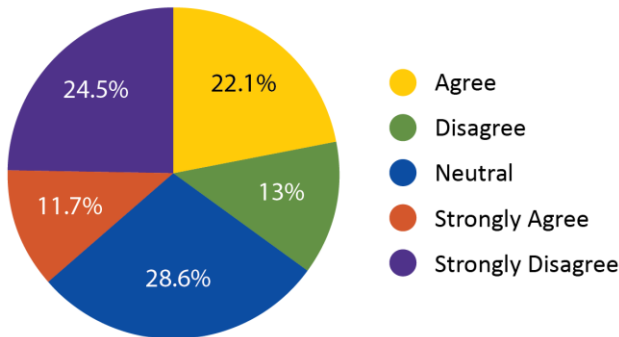
Family

I believe in-person school should resume in September, with a modified schedule in place that includes both in-person and remote learning.



Student

I believe in-person school should resume in September, with a modified schedule in place that includes both in-person and remote learning.

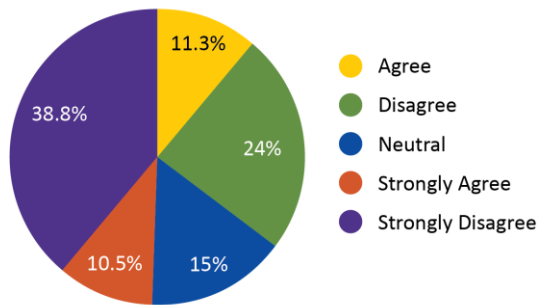




Communication/ Family and Community Engagement

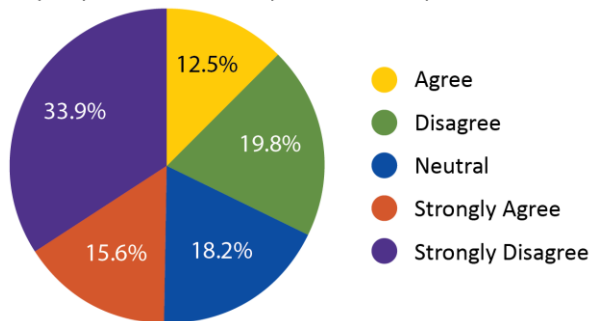
Family

I believe in-person school should resume as normal in September, where all students go to school every day with some new procedures in place to reduce the spread of illness.



Student

I believe in-person school should resume as normal in September, where all students go to school every day with some new procedures in place to reduce the spread of illness.





Communication/Family and Community Engagement

Friday, July 31

Plan will be live on a new reopening website www.rcsdk12.org/reopens

E-mail to staff

Robo-call to families

Information shared on the District's social media pages





Health and Safety

Reopening plan incorporates recommendations and guidance from:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [New York State Department of Health \(NYSDOH\)](#)
- [New York State Education Department \(NYSED\)](#)

Student and Employee Safety

- Ensure social distancing between all students and staff at all times unless a specific task requires a shorter distance.

Engagement with Visitors

- Visitors will follow the social distancing mandate and follow regulations for wearing masks.

What to Do in Shared Spaces

- Classrooms, cafeterias, gyms, restrooms



Health and Safety

Face Covering and Protective Equipment

Health Hygiene

Hand Sanitizer Use

Cleaning and Disinfecting

The District will adhere to CDC and NYSDOH guidance on cleaning and disinfecting

Health Checks

The RCSD has developed resources to educate parents/guardians and staff members regarding the careful observation of symptoms of COVID-19 and health screening measures



Child Nutrition

School meals will continue to be available to all students, including those attending school in-person and those learning remotely.

The district will provide for social distancing between individuals while eating in the school cafeteria. If not feasible, meals may be served in alternate areas (e.g., classrooms) or in staggered meal periods to ensure social distancing and proper cleaning and disinfection between students.





Transportation

RCSD will conduct transportation activities that are consistent with state-issued public transit guidance and NYSED School Reopening guidelines

Students and school staff must wear acceptable face coverings at all times on school buses and will maintain appropriate social distancing.

Students who are able will be required to wear masks and social distance on the bus to the extent practicable.



Social Emotional Well Being

Resources and referrals are available to address mental health, behavioral, and emotional needs of students, faculty, and staff when school reopens





School Extracurricular and Interscholastic Activities

Athletics events/practices will be cancelled per NYS





Attendance and Chronic Absenteeism

Attendance will be taken daily both in-person and remotely (engagement).



Technology and Connectivity

RCSD will provide multiple ways for students to participate in learning through remote and/or blended models.

More information to follow once plan is released to NYSED





Bilingual Education and World Languages

RCSD will continue to support Bilingual students and English Language Learners by providing hybrid and or distance learning models, consistent with the student's grade level and the instructional plan.





COVID-19 Task Force

January 21, 28 2020

February 4, 11, 25

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

April 7, 14, 21, 28

May 5, 12, 19

June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

July 7, 14, 21, 28

Next Meeting August 11, 2020



COVID-19 Task Force Subcommittees

The COVID-19 Pandemic Planning & Re-Opening Operations Subcommittee

The COVID-19 & Re-Opening Health & Safety Subcommittee

The COVID-19 & Re-Opening Instructional Subcommittee

Representation from: RTA, BENTE, ASAR, RAP, Administrators including Executive Cabinet members, Labor Relations and the Legal Office



Decision Rationale

Early reports suggest the number of COVID-19 cases among children may vary by age and other factors. Adolescents aged 10-17 may be more likely to become infected with SARS-CoV-2 than children younger than age 10, but adolescents do not appear to be at higher risk of developing severe illness per CDC guidance.

It is important to consider community transmission risk as schools reopen. Evidence from schools internationally suggests that school re-openings are safe in communities with low COVID-19 rates.

The guidance that is being followed for PreK-4 is supported by the American Academy of Pediatrics which takes into account infections rates, educational and social emotional needs among different age groups. <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

Safeguards in place include but are not limited to; masking for all staff and students, social distancing in all school settings, cohort students, limiting the number of staff in buildings, additional cleaning and disinfecting, planning for ill students and staff.



Next Steps

Process for requests from staff

Parents/caregivers must decide **no later than Friday, August 14th** which option they will choose

Finalize schedules for students

On or before August 7, Governor Cuomo will announce his decision regarding school reopening

RCSD is currently identifying additional local supports to assist students with online learning

Discussion with the unions relative to moving some or all Superintendent Conference Days all to the beginning of the year with a start date of 9/11 or 9/14