



Monroe Township School District Re-Opening Update

BOE MEETING JULY 22, 2020



A Plan That Supports The Needs Of OUR Community

- ▶ “Districts’ reopening plans must account for resuming in-person instruction in some capacity.”*
- ▶ “Plans will look different in each district to meet the unique needs of their community...”*

*Restart and Recovery Plan for Education - New Jersey Department of Education



Our Goals for a Re-Opening Plan:

- ▶ We will do our very best to ensure our schools and classrooms are safe and our programs productive by:
 - Supporting the mental and physical health of our staff and students.
 - Using established and enhanced cleaning and screening protocol in our facilities.
 - Following all social distancing and PPE guidelines in all facilities and buses.
 - Ensuring meaningful instruction is taking place in-person and remotely for maximum academic progress.
 - Ensuring all students have a working device and internet connectivity.

All plan shared today are subject to change due to updated guidance from NJDOE and Governor's office. All plans are preliminary and still need approval from County Superintendent's Office. Some areas are still in the planning stages.



Our Work to Reopen Schools

Five Subcommittees have been working for several weeks to address the following areas to support our students and staff:

- Governance
- Health and Safety
- Athletics
- Transportation
- Teaching and Learning



Facilities - Creating Clean and Safe Schools

- Cleaning protocols that exceed CDC and DOH guidelines
 - Classrooms, restrooms, buses, high-touch surfaces cleaned throughout the day using:
 - Electrostatic cleaners
 - Eco-Friendly cleaners whenever possible
- Schools and offices will have:
 - Hand sanitizer in every classroom and office
 - Disinfecting wipes
 - PPE for staff
 - Plexiglass panels or other accommodations in high traffic areas
 - Signage
- HVAC systems will run at maximum fresh air capacity. The district is exploring working with a mechanical engineer to identify HVAC needs.
- Outside spaces can be used for class meetings as much as possible.
- The district is working with Dr. Lynch, Council-Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant (CIEC) for guidance on cleaning procedures and protocols.



Do your part by following these guidelines:

- Do not come to work or school if you are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Maintaining personal hygiene by washing your hands frequently and completing the daily self-health checklist.
- Maintaining six-feet of social distance in classrooms, workspaces, and common areas.
- Wearing face coverings at all times indoors (except in private rooms and offices) and outdoors when physical distancing is not possible.
- Practice now by wearing a face covering for long periods.
- Covering your cough or sneezing into a tissue or your sleeve or elbow, refraining from touching your face, shaking hands, or coming into bodily contact with others, and not sharing personal items.



Policy and Protocol

- Governance subcommittee is reviewing current policies and regulations for revisions.
- The district is developing procedures for someone becoming sick in school.
- Schools are preparing for isolation rooms in each school.
- Procedures for implementation of remote learning with limited notice due to another school closure are in process.
- The district will provide return to school guidance to staff, parents, and students.
- The district is developing a website for all information.



Technology

- All families will have a working device and internet access.
- Students will receive direct instruction on virtual classroom norms, procedures, and etiquette as well as good digital citizenship practices.
- Assignments will be found in centralized platforms: K - 8 Google Classroom and Grades 9 - 12 Schoology.
- Families will receive information on navigating these platforms to find student assignments.



Health and Wellness

- Two-step screening process
 - All students and staff will complete a daily exposure/symptom survey prior to entering the building or boarding the bus.
 - All students and staff will be screened daily as they enter the building.
- Mental health training for staff and social emotional support for students will continue.
- Counselors and CST will check in with students who have been identified in the past as having anxiety and/or related mental health conditions for heightened anxiety as we return to school.



Transportation

- Buses will run at a reduced capacity to ensure social distancing as much as possible.
- Students must complete online screening prior to entering the bus.
- Students will be required to wear face coverings on bus.
- Drivers will wear face coverings.
- Buses will be disinfected between runs.
- Parents are asked to transport their children to reduce bus capacity.
- Parent Transportation Waiver - Distributed the week of July 27
 - Parents will be asked to commit at least through January.



Operations

- Provide remote learning opportunities for families who cannot return to in-person instruction (as of Governor's Press Conference July 20).
- Students who are in-person will be in attendance on a 4-hour session schedule.
- No student lunch will be served at this time.
- Students on free/reduced lunch will continue to receive lunch deliveries.
- Instructional information for return to school will be sent out during the month of August.



Instruction

- Students will be assessed and provided additional support as needed.
- Staff will receive additional training in blended learning to make the transition between in-person and remote as seamless as possible and to ensure they are prepared in the event we must return to full remote learning.
- Students and parents will be provided resources to ensure they can effectively navigate and access information on Google Classroom and/or Schoology.
- The district is creating a Remote Learning plan in the event we are full remote.



A Snapshot of a school day - Arrival

Step 1 Staff / Students /Parents Self Screening via Genesis

- Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms? Fever, Cough, Sore Throat etc
- Have you had close contact with someone who is currently sick?
- Have you or someone in your house been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past three weeks or have reason to believe that you/they have COVID-19?
- Have you travelled outside the state recently?
- What is your current temperature?

Step 2 Bus

- Students must complete the online screening before they enter the bus.
- Students sit socially distanced on the bus. One student per seat, per row (except for family members)

Step 3 Staff / Student Screened Upon Entering the building

- Drop off times extended for 30-45 minutes to allow students to arrive during select time windows.
- Staggered drop off times for buses and parents.
- All individuals are temperature screened upon entering the building.
- Anyone with an elevated temperature is immediately placed in an isolation room.

100% IN-PERSON OPTION

Face-to-face learning.
 Standard school day.
 Follow national, state, and local health officials health related guidance.



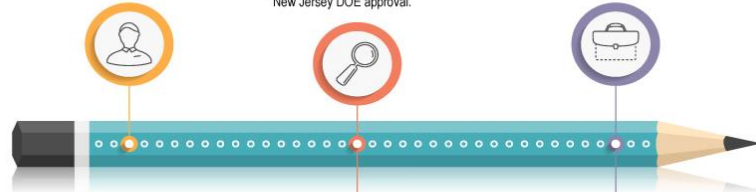
BLENDED LEARNING | eFALCON OPTION

Face-to-face & Online Instruction 2-3 days per week.
 25-50% MTSD building capacity.
 CDC / NJDOE social distancing to be implemented and enforced.
 Students divided into **Purple & Gold Cohorts**.
 Full Remote eFalcon option dependent on New Jersey DOE approval.



eFALCON 100% REMOTE OPTION

Enhanced remote learning experience / virtual instruction.
 Specific daily schedule with daily teacher engagement and interaction.



BLENDED LEARNING | eFALCON OPTION
 Students divided into 2 cohorts, Purple & Gold, based on their last name.
 Students attend in person 2 - 3 days a week
 On at-home days student engage with online activities assigned during in-person days.
 Special Education, ELL & at-risk students attend in-person daily.

100% REMOTE | eFALCON OPTION
LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)
 K-8 | Google Classroom
 9-12 | Schoology
 - Increased student teacher interactions.
 - Scheduled instructional times.
 - Small group / one to one / breakout groups.
eFALCON FULL REMOTE ATTENDANCE
 Students attendance will be monitored through their engagement in the online activities during scheduled instructional periods.

IN-PERSON 4-HOUR SESSION **REMOTE**

PURPLE COHORT

Monday / Tuesday
(alt. Wednesday)

Thursday / Friday
(alt. Wednesday)

GOLD COHORT

Thursday / Friday
(alt. Wednesday)

Monday / Tuesday
(alt. Wednesday)



MTSD K-8 Draft Re-Opening Scenarios

MTHS 9-12 Draft Re-Opening Scenario

- ▶ Remote instruction for students in grades 9-12.
- ▶ Students able to keep current MTHS schedule of classes.
- ▶ In-person instruction for ELL, Special Education, Students in the IEP process, Students in I&RS process, 9th grade enrichment students.
- ▶ In-person support provided for the students attending within the building. Related services in-person and remote.
- ▶ Flexibility to add students to in-person instruction as health conditions change.



Variables

- This is an initial schedule that will be in place for the beginning of the school year and will then be reassessed based on the directives by the State and the Department of Health.
- The number of families who select remote learning WILL change the model.
- The number of families who waive transportation WILL impact busing.
- The number of staff who are unable to return to school may impact schedules.
- The schedule is highly dependent on decisions on the State level re: remote learning or mandated school closures.
- Additional schedules have been developed in response to possible changes.



Students with Special Needs

- Students in special class and resource room setting will most likely follow a specialized program.
- Students in collaborative settings will receive the support of a special education teacher through an in-class support model.
- Providing specific supports for our staff who work with students who are determined to have significant needs.
- Currently looking at options for PPE in special education classrooms.
- We are currently researching options for Speech, Occupational and Physical Therapy to be provided in either remote and/or live instruction.



eFalcon 100% Remote Instruction

- Enhanced remote learning experience/virtual instruction
- Remote instruction will follow a set online schedule that mirrors the school schedule as much as possible - to facilitate a smooth transition to in-person learning.
- Participation in all class sessions will be required for students; attendance will be taken.
- The goal is to replicate the classroom experience, so we may transition smoothly when we return to in-person learning.

**The remote learning plan will be used more widely in the event of a class/school-wide quarantine or mandated closure.



Other Important Items

- No field trips before January 1.
- No in-person large group events.
- No in-person whole school or grade level assemblies.
- We are researching options for back to school evenings and parent/teacher conferences.
- Guidance will be coming from NJDOE on security drills.
- No visitors will be permitted in our buildings during the school day, unless prior arrangements have been made.
- Outside building use will be limited to ensure safety for all students and staff.



Athletics

MTSD Plan: Recommending an initial one-month season Aug 3 - Aug 28. This will allow a Phase I start of Fall athletics and time to reevaluate in August prior to the official season start.

MTSD will follow the mandatory virtual practice sessions from Aug 29 – Sept 14. Information was shared with athletes today.



Falcon Care and ECE

- Falcon Care will provide before and after school childcare in our elementary schools beginning in September.
- Exploring the possibility of in-district childcare for students and staff members. Survey will be forthcoming. This will depend on enrollment.



What happens if?

- ▶ If an infected person has been in a school building, we will work with local health officials and follow the CDC guidelines:
 - Dismiss all students and most staff for 2-5 days in the building. This initial short-term closure allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school.
 - Staff, students, and their families are encouraged to continue to follow all guidance from the NJ Department of Health and local health authorities.
 - Contacts may be quarantined and placed on remote learning for 14 days.



Important Upcoming Dates...

- Parent Remote Learning Form - Distributed the week of July 27
 - Parents will be asked to commit to remote learning through January.
- Parent Transportation Waiver - Distributed the week of July 27
 - Parents will be asked to commit for the entire school year
- Finalized schedules in early August
- First day of school: September 3, 2020