



Monroe Township School
District
Re-Opening
Parent Information Night
High School

AUGUST 4, 2020 6:00PM



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



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
 - Clear panels or other accommodations in high traffic areas
 - Signage
- HVAC systems will run at maximum fresh air capacity, weather permitting.
- 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 and training.



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: Grades 9 - 12 Schoology.
- Incoming Freshmen will pick up iPads prior to the start of school. There will be a virtual orientation for all freshmen, which will include training for iPad use.
- Families will receive information on navigating Schoology 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.
 - As students enter the classroom, sanitizing wipes will be available for students to clean their areas.
- 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 – Due August 10
 - Parents will be asked to commit for marking period.



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 Schoology.
- The district is creating a Remote Learning plan in the event we are full remote.
- High School Pandemic Response team is meeting to review all processes to ensure students are receiving instruction that meets expectations.



Assessment

- ▶ Review screening tools used at the opening of school, considering the implications of delivering these in a potentially remote learning environment with respect to 1) the logistics of administration, 2) the validity of screening outcome decisions, and 3) the ways in which assessment data can be used to inform instructional decisions;
- ▶ Utilize a variety of assessment tools (pre-assessments, formative assessment, interim assessment, student self-assessment, summative assessments) to determine students' strengths and readiness for instruction, particularly as it relates to any learning loss that may have been experienced as a result of school closures at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Utilize ongoing formative assessment data (e.g., assessments that are administered informally to monitor students' progress toward goals, including student self-assessment) to monitor and adjust instruction;
- ▶ Assess the district data on how English Language Learners experienced instruction during remote or hybrid learning (particularly for newcomer students and students with lower English language proficiency levels), and its impact on their progress. Utilize this information, along with formative, informative, and NJDOE-required assessment data to plan high-impact instruction;
- ▶ Continue to monitor the progress of students with IEPs towards learning goals, and adjust instruction based on ongoing formative and summative assessments.



Grading

High School Grading/Assessment

- The district values quality learning experiences and plans to deliver those experiences to students in virtual and hybrid environments. Those experiences include measuring students' progress in mastering standards. This will be equivalent for virtual and hybrid students.
 - Grades will be issued and Genesis will be open.
 - Assessments will be equivalent in virtual and hybrid environments.
- We are currently identifying resources and developing processes to ensure a fundamental fairness between the different models.
- No student should be disadvantaged in grades/GPA due to the selection of one model over another.



MTHS 9-12 Draft Re-Opening Scenario

- ▶ Virtual instruction for all students in grades 9-12.
- ▶ Students able to keep current MTHS schedule of classes.
- ▶ In-person instruction for Special Education and General Education Students (ELL, IEP, IEP process, I&RS, I&RS process, 9th grade enrichment students).
- ▶ In-person supports 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.
- ▶ Looking at end of September/early October for Phase 2.



Student Daily Schedule

7:27 am - 8:27 am

Block 1 and homeroom

8:32 am - 9:27 am

Block 2

9:32 am - 10:27 am

Block 3

10:32 am - 11:27 am

Block 4

11:27 am

In-school students are dismissed

11:27 am - 1:00 pm

Lunch/Common Planning/Homework

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm

Virtual teacher-led study/tutoring session



Phase-In Plan

- ▶ Phase 2 – Students who have been virtually learning from home and have not opted out will be placed into 3 or 4 cohorts.
- ▶ Siblings/immediate family members will be considered when creating cohorts.
- ▶ Cohorts will be scheduled on a rotating basis for students to come back to school. (4 cohorts - once or twice per week. 3 cohorts – 2 or 3 times per week)
- ▶ Phase 3 – Continue to increase the number of students in the building daily.



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 and/or country recently?

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

- Bus drop off in the front of the building/Parent drop off in the rear
- To enter the building students must have Daily Questionnaire, A Mask, Student ID, Temperature taken.
- Anyone with an elevated temperature is immediately placed in a supervised, isolation room.
- Students will report directly to first block. No lockers assigned.



Curriculum Concerns

- ▶ Virtual classroom instruction will look different than it did in the Spring. Students and teachers will have a set of expectations for performing during the school day and throughout the virtual learning environment.
- ▶ Science Labs will be conducted virtually or as demonstration from the teacher.
- ▶ Mathematics will be heavier on instruction during class period with the option of retuning to afternoon session for questions about practice.
- ▶ PE: Students in-person who are scheduled for PE should come to school dressed for PE. No locker rooms will be used. Curriculum will be adjusted to have students work on individual skills at the beginning of the year. Classes will be held outdoors, weather permitting.



Electives/Specific Courses

- ▶ MUSIC: Curriculum provides instructors the creative latitude to design lessons that can accommodate social distancing guidelines. The study of music theory, music interrelation / appreciation, and performance can be provided in both in-person and digital formats. Students will be issued with individualized materials, when needed.
- ▶ BAND: Over the past five months, Instructors have refined their ability to conduct virtual lessons on instruments (both individually and in small groups); and as a result, we centralize focus of our performance instruction on the virtual platform. Large-group or in-person instruction will center on the students' overall musicianship; and direct its attention toward the study of music theory, composition, and appreciation.
- ▶ CHORUS: Chorus inevitably provides a larger challenge for the performance aspects of the program; as scheduling and social distancing requirements will prohibit large group gatherings. As a result, we are anticipating shifting our approach from large-group ensembles to smaller, chamber-groups that will allow instructors to provide authentic, focused feedback to student in a timely manner.
- ▶ FINE/PRACTICAL ART SUPPLIES: Our partner-vendors are providing "kits" that we can personalize, that will allow us to provide students with individualized supplies that directly correlate with our curricular guidelines. Students will not be sharing supplies, under any circumstances.



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.



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.



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.



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.



Important Upcoming Dates...

- Parent Remote Learning Form – Due August 10
- Parent Transportation Waiver – Due August 10
- Finalized schedules in August
- First day of school for students: September 3, 2020



Still have questions?

- ▶ We provided an overview of the HS planned schedule this evening, if you have specific questions, please reach out:
- ▶ Dr. Dori Alvich, Superintendent: dori.Alvich@Monroe.k12.nj.us
- ▶ Dr. Adam Layman, Assistant Superintendent: adam.layman@Monroe.k12.nj.us
- ▶ Dr. Kevin Higgins, MTHS Principal: kevin.Higgins@Monroe.k12.nj.us
- ▶ reopening@Monroe.k12.nj.us