



Montville Township Public Schools Reopening Plan

September 2020 Overview



Thank you to the Members of the District Reopening Committee!

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Conditions for Learning



- A return to in-person learning is important for academic reasons, but also to support the social and emotional well-being of our students.
- In-person learning provides greater continuity of instruction.
- The district has been guided by the flexibility provided in *The Road Back* in developing our plans.



What's In the Plan?

► The Plan addresses the 10 areas set forth in *The Road Back*:

- 1. General Health and Safety Guidelines**
 - 2. Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms**
 - 3. Transportation**
 - 4. Student Flow, Entry, Exit and Common Areas**
 - 5. Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms**
 - 6. Contact Tracing**
 - 7. Facilities Cleaning Practices**
 - 8. Meals**
 - 9. Recess/Physical Education**
 - 10. Field Trips, Extracurricular Activities, & Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours**
- 



Social Distancing

- The district will follow six feet social distancing when conditions permit but recognizes that in some settings a 3 to 6 foot range will be observed.
- Students and staff members will wear face coverings
- Additional modifications such as desks facing the same way and desk shields will be utilized.



Conditions for Learning

- ▶ Parents and visitors will be accepted at district facilities by appointment only. All visitors must wear face coverings
- ▶ Schedules will be designed to minimize student movement in the buildings to the extent possible (Art/Music on a cart)
- ▶ One way corridors, staggered passing and dismissal schedules, and signage will be used to promote social distancing
- ▶ Students will carry materials in backpacks and will not use lockers



Instructional Plan

Robert R. Lazar Middle School and Montville Township High School

In-Person Days are Early Dismissal Days

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cohort A	Cohort A	All Students Virtual	Cohort B	Cohort B



Instructional Plan

**Cedar Hill, Hilldale, Valley View, William Mason and Woodmont
Elementary Schools**

In-Person Days are Early Dismissal Days

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All Students In Person	All Students In Person	All Students Virtual	All Students In Person	All Students In Person



Virtual Wednesday

- ▶ **Middle and High Schools**

- ▶ The Virtual Wednesday schedule at the middle and high school will provide a synchronous model that will run on the same early dismissal schedule as the other school days. Students will engage virtually in each of the classes that are scheduled for the day.

- ▶ **Elementary Schools**

- ▶ The Virtual Wednesday at the elementary levels will provide a schedule of instruction in ELA, mathematics, and Social Studies/Science with virtual interaction between the students and teachers required on these days. The purpose of creating the virtual days at the elementary level is to provide an opportunity for these students to develop familiarity and ease in navigating the various software platforms that will be used to provide virtual meetings, to receive and submit classroom assignments, to be able to access and participate in discussion groups, etc.



Full-Time Remote Option

- All parents electing this option must complete the form available in the Genesis Parent Portal. In order to be enrolled in the full-time remote option for September 8th, this selection **must be done no later than August 12, 2020.**
- Remote learning plan for students in grades 6-12 will require the student to participate in the online classes offered each day by the student's teachers in accordance with the student's individual school schedule.
- Students in grades K-5 will be assigned to a cross-district full-time remote class.



Full-Time Remote Option

- ▶ Parents may wish for their children to transition to in-person attendance at school. The district has determined that in order to maintain consistency of instruction, **these changes can be made only at the start of a new marking period.** Notification of the desire to make such a change must be submitted to the building principal ten (10) school days prior to the start of the new marking period.
- ▶ Any student who is attending school in-person and wants to **transition to the full-time remote option may only do at the start of a new marking period** by providing written notice to the principal. Changes that might be necessitated by medical reasons will be evaluated on an ongoing case by case basis.



Access to Technology



- ▶ In order to facilitate the best experience for students, parents, and faculty, the district will be offering a school-issued device to all K-12 students.
- ▶ The district has adequate devices for each and every student, so everyone is encouraged to participate in the program.
- ▶ The district is able to push school approved computer programs to school-issued devices and staff are best equipped to help troubleshoot issues with school-issued devices.
- ▶ Documentation associated with the use of a district device is available in Genesis Parent Access.
- ▶ Parents may indicate the need for a school-issued device through the Return to School Survey administered through the Genesis Parent Portal in August.



General Health and Safety Guidelines

- ▶ Temperature screenings
 - ▶ The district will use an app for all students and staff members. **Daily reporting is required.**
 - ▶ CDC does not currently recommend universal symptom screenings (screening all students grades K-12) be conducted by schools.
 - ▶ Students and staff testing positive must isolate themselves for 14 days.
 - ▶ **Students with a medical condition that might place them at higher risk for severe illness or students who cannot wear a mask for medical reasons are strongly encouraged to elect the full-time remote option for their own health and safety.**
 - ▶ Students and staff should be mindful of NJ's travel advisory and should self-quarantine when they have returned from a visit of more than 24 hours to any of the "impacted states" listed on the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub.



Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms

- Social distancing
 - Face coverings
 - Discontinuation of any activities that gather students closely together
 - Discourage the use of any shared objects
 - Hand sanitizer dispenser provided at entrance to each classroom
 - Frequent handwashing or sanitizing recommended
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Transportation



- ▶ Buses to be sanitized between each run and at the end of each day
- ▶ Bus drivers will complete self-screenings prior to starting their route
- ▶ Students will be assigned seats (information in Genesis Parent Access)
- ▶ Buses loaded back to front / Unloaded front to back to minimize contact
- ▶ Students must wear a face covering in order to board the bus
- ▶ Ventilation will be enhanced with having the bus windows open as weather permits
- ▶ Bus drivers will have a supply of emergency face masks
- ▶ Parents chaperoning their children at bus stops should also wear face coverings
- ▶ Parents have the right to waive transportation – completion of a waiver form is required



Student Flow, Entry, Exit and Common Areas

- Symptom screening to be completed at home – results reported daily via an app
- Information on downloading and accessing the app will be provided prior to September 1, 2020
- Signage to reinforce social distancing, one-way hallways, staggered passing and dismissal times, etc.
- Students and middle and high school will not use lockers – backpacks are permitted



Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms

- ▶ PPE will be provided to school nurses and to specific staff members whose engagement with students (diaper changing, etc.) provides more exposure risk
- ▶ All district employees will be provided with five face coverings which they are responsible to clean and maintain
- ▶ Each school shall have a designated isolation area for students/staff who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms and need to obtain a COVID-19 test
- ▶ **Parents and staff members are reminded of their critical role in self-screening and the screening of students on a daily basis to help identify symptoms in support of our strong efforts to prevent the spread of the virus in our schools and facilities.**



Contact Tracing

- ▶ As per the direction of the NJDOE, contact tracing shall be managed by the Montville Township Board of Health.
- ▶ Confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 will reported to the Board of Health.
- ▶ The MTPS will facilitate the work of the Board of Health by providing any requested information with regard to groups/cohorts that individual cases may have been exposed to.
- ▶ In order to maintain confidentiality with regard to cases, any notification to potential contacts of confirmed cases shall be handled by the Montville Township Board of Health.



Facilities Cleaning Practices

- ▶ Students and staff will be encouraged to bring their own water to school to minimize the use of drinking fountains. The drinking fountains will be shut off, but bottle filling stations will remain operational.
- ▶ Hand sanitizer will be made available in all classrooms and offices.
- ▶ A schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection has been developed and will be followed by the Aramark custodial staff and the MTPS custodial and maintenance staff members. All cleaning products will be used in accordance with label directions.
- ▶ Additional custodial staff contracted for periodic disinfecting of touch surfaces during the school day
- ▶ Detailed cleaning protocol in the MTPS Reopening Plan



Facilities - continued

- ▶ The district's H.V.A.C. systems have a fresh air component and additional fresh air circulation is recommended by the CDC as an effective precaution against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- ▶ The use of open windows will be encouraged. The use of outside, unconditioned air, however, will require the cooling and heating systems to work harder with less efficiency.
- ▶ The district will install bi-polar ionization units to its classroom uni-ventilators and building filtration systems. These devices are ozone-free and filter the building's air, requiring less fresh air to be circulated.
- ▶ Where possible, additional HEPA filters will be added.
- ▶ Filter replacement will occur with routine frequency.



Meals

- ▶ The Reopening Plan calls for schools to run on an early dismissal schedule daily. This schedule does not include a lunch period for students.
- ▶ Arrangements are being made to deliver free and reduced price lunches to students' (who qualify) homes to eliminate identifying these students in school.



Recess/Physical Education

- Recess period will not be provided under the Early Dismissal schedule.
- Physical education classes and recess activities shall be planned to minimize the need for students to have direct contact with equipment or each other.
- The district will close locker rooms to mitigate risk of transmission of the virus.



Field Trips, Extracurricular Activities & Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

- At the present time, no field trips are permitted
- External groups will not be granted permission to hold meetings or activities in the school buildings
- Athletics - The Montville Township Public Schools will follow the directives, guidelines, and rules as set forth by the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletics Association (NJSIAA) with regard to any athletics practices or contests.



District Reopening Plan

- ▶ The finalized plan shall be submitted to the New Jersey Department of Education and available on the district website:

<https://www.montvilletwpps.nj.schools.bz/Content2/1266>