

# A New *Way*

## Dashboard View

[www.hpsd.org](http://www.hpsd.org)

The Harrington Park School District has a total of three instructional delivery models which include On Site, Hybrid, and Required Continuous Learning for the 2020-21 school year. The reason for these three models is to ensure that we are supporting student learning in the safest way possible by being responsive to the status of public health. We are prepared to transition between these models due to the current status of COVID-19 in our community.

### On Site

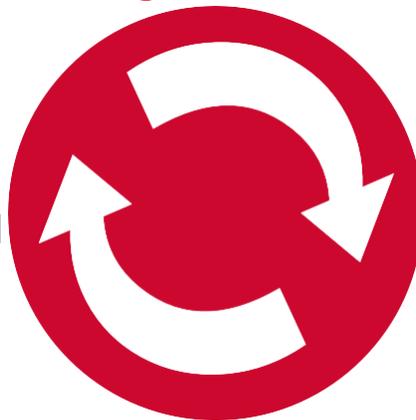


All Pre K-3 students and staff are on site for in-person instruction.

Prek-3 Students will attend an abbreviated (8:35 AM to 12:50 PM) "traditional" program in which they alternate between their specials (Art, Music, PE etc.) and Core Academics.

These classes will be split into a Blue Group and a Grey Group, with both groups having instruction in their specials and core academics every day.

### Hybrid



4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students would attend school daily and be split into two teams (Blue-Grey)

Blue Session will run from 8:35am-11:10am

Grey Session will run from 12:34pm-3:08pm

Students will also receive continuous learning (Online) in Spanish and their elective courses based on their AM/PM program. These programs could be live/taped.

Approximately half of all students would be on site at any given time.

### Online



Parents choosing an all virtual learning will experience and will not be tied to a specific homeroom and can expect synchronous and asynchronous learning from 8:35-12:50pm by district hired certified teachers that hold a substitute certificate and a background in virtual teaching. Staff will coordinate curriculum and materials with HP staff.

# The Harrington Park School

## Parents Road Map to Reopening

As we are looking forward to the 2020-2021 school year, we know many challenges lie ahead, but it is the intention that HPSD reopens this fall under the following guiding principles.

### Guiding Principles

Six principles that guide all of our planning, decision making, and execution of plans to return to school in the 2020-2021 school year.

- A two-step screening process for students and faculty prior to and upon the arrival to school.
- A modified educational program during Phase I. The district has created multiple plans based on what the final State mandates requires.
- Extensive cleaning of the facility.
- Small class sizes to ensure social distancing protocols. To do this, we are looking at spaces throughout the building for students to utilize. Additionally, students will remain in cohort groups for academic, special area and social emotional instruction. Staff will move throughout the building to work with student cohorts to minimize student travel.
- The infusion of Health and Wellness programs to ensure that our students transition back into HP academically and emotionally.
- The mandatory use of face masks or gaiters by students, staff, and visitors all day.

### FAQ

#### **Q: Will campus reopen for in-person instruction?**

**A:** On June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Education released “The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education”, which required school districts to develop plans for in-person instruction. Since the release of the plan, the Department of Education continues to update their guidance, which has caused districts to continually adjust our plans. The district will continue to develop plans for in-person and virtual instruction.

#### **Q: Who will determine if Harrington Park stays open?**

**A:** The district will work closely with the Harrington Park Health Department, County, and State officials as well as the Districts School Physician to monitor current health conditions. These agencies will make the determination if the district is able to remain open, if we need to close temporarily, or if we need to close for an extended period of time.

#### **Q: What are some things that might be different?**

**A:** Students will experience smaller class sizes, which will allow for physical distancing. Many of the experiences that have occurred in the past such as class trips, concerts, parent visitors and assemblies will have to be delayed during this initial phase of reopening the school. While students will be receiving various academic offerings, they will not be moving around the building. The students will be taught in their “homeroom” and the staff will move throughout the building. For the Pre-K to grade 3, students will attend five days a week until 12:50pm. For students in grades 4-8, they will attend five days a week as well but on an AM/PM schedule.

#### **Q: What kind of precautions will schools have to take?**

**A:** The district has made investments in PPE, screening equipment, cleaning equipment, and physical dividers for students. We also continue to train our staff on the latest information about COVID-19.

#### **Q: What are the protocols if a student or teacher tests positive for COVID-19?**

**A:** The district will follow the procedures and guidance that the CDC and health department has disseminated on how to contact trace, quarantine, and isolate individuals that were exposed to COVID –19.



## Pre-K to 3rd Grade Traditional

- Students will attend five days a week on an abbreviated (8:35 am to 12:50 pm) “traditional” program
- They will alternate between their specials (Art, Music, PE etc.) and Core Academics.
- Classes will be split into a Blue Group and a Grey Group, with both groups having instruction in their specials and core academics every day.



## 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Hybrid

- Students in grades 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> will be split into Grey/Blue Teams and will attend five days a week on an am/pm basis.
- Session 1 8:35 am-11:10am
- Session 2 12:34pm-3:08pm.
- On the AM/PM that students will not be physically at school, students will be required to log on for Spanish and elective courses virtually.
- This virtual portion will be a blend of synchronous and asynchronous instruction.



## 100% Remote Option

- Students attend classes “remotely” using a variety of virtual and paper resources.
- Certified virtual educators will provide the HP instructional program through a synchronous and asynchronous model.
- Students in the program will receive the same educational program using the HP curriculum.

\*\* An option for families is based on state regulation NJ 18A:38-25 is the ability for a parent to choose to disenroll their child(ren) and homeschool them for a period of time based on family needs.

**Q: What will the screening process look like for students and staff?**

**A:** *The District's goal is to educate and support families on identifying the symptoms that indicate staff and students who must isolate or quarantine. Families will be required to self-report symptoms of illness, which could include fever, new onset of cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms through the self-reporting Ruvna system. Once students arrive at the building, the student's temperature will be taken prior to going to their classroom.*

**Q: Will the screening process be stressful for my child?**

**A:** *No, we have always taken the approach to health and safety that it must be powerfully passive. Our two-step screening process includes our families screening their children at home, which allows us the opportunity to give our children a "Boarding Pass" on a daily basis which is linked to their student ID. This will allow us to create a staggered entrance process understanding that we will have students who will be dropped off at the "Kiss & Go" as well as walkers.*

**Q: What will drop off and pick up look like?**

**A:** *Closer to the start of school, parents will be given staggered drop off/pick up times. For as many families that can, we will be encouraging the "Kiss & Go" and Lynn Street drop. Parents will not be able to gather/congregate on the front top. We understand many younger students, especially at the start of school will need the support of a parent walking them to an entrance. Adults doing this will need to wear a mask and again can not congregate.*

**Q: What will school be like socially for my child?**

**A:** *To start, students can expect to spend their day with their small cohort of peers. Academics and specials will be delivered in one location to students. We are mindful about building a sense of community and connectedness among these small cohorts. This will be an administrative, guidance and staff focus prior to the opening of school.*

**Q: What will the classroom and alternate spaces look like for students?**

**A:** *Classrooms and spaces such as our Library, APR, Music and Art rooms that will be utilized by small cohorts can expect to see desks and tables set up that allow for 6 feet in each direction. The district is also purchasing colorful plexiglass table and desk dividers and shields to help minimize the spread of germs. With small class sizes, these spaces will allow for primary teachers and specialists to have adequate space for movement activities, projects etc.*

**\*\*\*\*Opportunities for classroom teachers and specialists to get students fresh air breaks will be arranged and worked into the schedule.\*\*\*\***

**Q: How are alternate spaces being utilized?**

**A:** *In order to get Pre K-3rd Grade students in for five days of instruction, each class will be split in half. As an example, on alternating weeks, the Blue Team will use the classroom while the Grey Team will be in the Library. Then teams will switch locations weekly.*

**Q: What can I expect regarding contact and my child's teacher?**

**A:** *Teachers and support staff will be wearing masks during the school day. Teachers will monitor their distance in relation to students during instruction. When 1-1 or small group support is needed, we will work to set up safe and reasonable opportunities for these supports.*

**Q: What are some other classroom and personal belonging considerations?**

**A:** *Students will have designated locations that are spaced apart and are not shared for backpacks and jackets. School supplies for projects and work will not be communal in any manner. **If you have not yet ordered supplies, please visit** - [Order School Supplies Here](#)*

**Q: Will my middle school student access a locker?**

**A:** *To begin the year, middle school students will NOT be assigned a locker. Students will have an AM/PM session and will be assigned a location where items can remain with them.*

**Q: Will students be able to have a snack?**

**A:** *Pre K-3 can expect to bring a snack to school as they will be in school for 4 plus hours. However, for AM /PM 4th-8th students they will attend just 2.5 hours and will not be able to bring a snack.*

**Q: How will students travel in the hallways?**

**A:** *Throughout the facility there will be signs and directionals for students and staff. Since students will be assigned to small groups, it will allow us to coordinate teachers traveling safely in lines and allow for distance between students.*

**Q: If I have a 4th-8th Grader, how will AM/ PM be determined?**

**A:** *As families decide about in person versus remote learning, groups will be formed keeping in mind 4-8 siblings being on the same AM/ PM schedule, gender balances and input from teachers based on student dynamics.*

**Q: Will Extracurricular and Co-Curricular activities be allowed?**

**A:** *The Northern Valley school districts have decided to cancel the 2020-21 interscholastic sports season. As in the Spring, the district is looking to redefine our extracurricular and co-curricular offerings to provide the students with meaningful experiences so that they can make connections with our staff and other students.*

**Q: How do I prepare for my child care needs?**

**A:** *Any family that is in need of child care should begin to prepare their family's plans at the highest level of need (Total Virtual Program) to a modified schedule where child care is needed on a limited time per day.*

*\*\* A child care program will be offered to our working families through the River Vale Ed Foundation until 5:30PM. The start time for child care is TBD as once a final schedule is decided upon we will be making modifications to the time. [Child Care Link](#)*

**Q: I am worried my child won't catch up educationally?**

**A:** *Every year the district uses multiple measures to monitor a student's progress. Placing the students in small cohorts not only is not only beneficial for the health emergency we are facing, but it also allows for teachers and staff to work with students to provide focused classroom instruction when they are with their teacher.*

**Q: What if they get sick or someone in their pod gets sick?**

**A:** *Please refer to our COVID-19 handout in this parent packet. We have also moved the Health Office to the front of the building with direct access from outside. This larger space creates additional areas for students and staff to be safely placed. Remember, students will still get sick or a bump or bruise and we needed to create a location that addresses those needs.*

**Q: As a family we do not feel comfortable returning to school at this time, what are my options?**

**A:** *As of Monday, July 20th, the Governor of New Jersey announced that the Department of Education will release guidance which will allow parents to choose all-remote learning for their children. As this is a change in process for the District, we have revised an Opt-out form, which can be found [here](#). The HPSD virtual program will be a daily virtual program with live and taped instruction throughout the week. Students will be taught by certified educational staff with a background in virtual learning using the Harrington Park educational program and curriculum. Please be advised that current HP staff will not be teaching in this program as the current staff will be teaching in our traditional program and will not be used in this section. These virtual teachers will be working with our staff to ensure that their lessons are*

*matching the content within the classroom. In the event that the district needs to go to an entire virtual program, we will modify the program to meet the needs of all our students.*

**Q: What if my child is quarantined will they receive virtual instruction?**

**A:** *If a student is required to isolate or quarantine, they will be moved into the virtual program while they are required to stay home. When students receive medical clearance, they will be allowed to rejoin their cohort.*

**Q: Will the virtual program match our current curriculum and program?**

**A:** *The teachers of the virtual program will work with the classroom teachers to match the content and curriculum within the classroom.*

**Q: What will it look like socially for my child in the classroom and outside of it?**

**A:** *To start, students can expect to spend their day with their small cohort of peers. Academics and specials will be delivered in one location to students. We are mindful about building a sense of community and connectedness among these small cohorts. This will be an administrative, guidance and staff focus prior to the opening of school.*

**Q: What if I have technology needs?**

**A:** *As it was done in the Spring, families should contact Ms. Nitzberg and/or Mr. Herbert if they have any technology needs. The district is committed to working with families to ensure that they have the technology needed to access on-line learning.*

**Q: How do I learn more about COVID-19 as there is so much information out there?**

**A:** *As a service provided to all of our families, I would like to bring to your attention a program that would be beneficial to everyone's understanding of COVID-19. John Hopkins is offering a course that provides critical knowledge as a tactic in fighting the spread of the virus. Please see the course description.*

*Contact tracing is a critically important tool in pandemic response. Public health officials have long used this tactic to break the chain of transmission of infectious diseases and limit the spread of infections. The COVID-19 pandemic poses unprecedented challenges and will require new approaches to this long-standing public health strategy. Experts at Johns Hopkins University are offering free guidance and resources for successfully implementing both traditional and digital contact tracing, as well as tracking data on the adoption of these efforts in the U.S. and throughout the world.*

*While the program is based on becoming a certified contact tracer, I feel that the knowledge gained in the course is beneficial to everyone as we are all able to have a better understanding of the virus and give us all a leveled start to creating a safe and healthy environment for our children, staff, and community members. There is no requirement to become a contact tracer and your information will not become part of a larger network of tracers.*

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing?edocomorp=covid-19-contact-tracing>

Parent and Community Links:

- \* <https://www.rvedfund.org/drupal/>
- \* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>
- \* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-testing.html>

- \* <https://www.nj.gov/njparentlink/current/covid-19.html>
- \* <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/children.html>
- \* <https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/covid-19-resource-center>
- \* <https://www.choc.org/programs-services/integrative-health/guided-imagery/>



## COVID-19: When a student, faculty or staff member can return to school

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not Tested <b>with</b> Alternate Explanation (strep, influenza, etc. as determined by a provider)	May return to school after 24 hours resolution of fever <b>AND</b> note (including email and fax) from provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.	N/A
Not Tested <b>Without</b> Alternate Explanation	Must remain home for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared <b>AND</b> 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement of respiratory symptoms.	N/A
Tested and Negative	If no alternative explanation, <i>isolate</i> for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared <b>AND</b> 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and with improvement of respiratory symptoms. The test may have been a false negative. The individual can return to school if tested negative <b>AND</b> with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it's appropriate for the patient to return to school. <i>(ISDH strongly recommends the time-based strategy versus the two-test strategy, which is under review by the CDC.)</i>	May proceed with attending school. EXCEPTION: A known close contact (within 6 feet of a confirmed case for more than 15 minutes) must complete a 14-day <i>quarantine</i> , even if test results are negative for COVID-19.
Tested and Positive	Must remain home in <i>isolation</i> for at least 10 days from the date symptoms began <b>AND</b> 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and improvement of respiratory symptoms.	<i>Isolate</i> at home for 10 days from the day the test was taken. *If the individual develops symptoms, then <i>isolation</i> time starts on day 1 of symptoms (see symptomatic tests positive.)
Close Contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19)	N/A If an individual becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios. The individual must <i>quarantine</i> for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19 Positive person even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms.	<i>Quarantine</i> for 14 days before returning to school. Must remain symptom-free. If individual develops symptoms, then refer to the symptomatic scenarios.

Note: QUARANTINE keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others.  
ISOLATION keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.





- Student gets tested for COVID-19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was symptom-free when he got the test. The test comes back positive. The student must *isolate* and stay symptom-free for 10 days after the date he took the test.



- Student gets tested for COVID-19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was symptom-free when she got the test. The test comes back positive. The student starts *isolating* for 10 days after the date she took the test. Four days into her *isolation*, she develops a fever and cough. She must now *isolate* at home for at least 10 days and 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement in respiratory symptoms. The student ends up *isolating* at home for 14 days.



- Student tests positive and has three siblings in the home or as close contacts who attend other schools. If the siblings have symptoms, they should be tested and report to that school if results are positive. Otherwise, siblings should *quarantine* for 14 days before returning to school. Contacts of the siblings are not considered a close contact unless the siblings test positive themselves.



- Student has a fever, cough, headache and loss of taste and smell. The student goes to get tested and the test is negative. There is at least a 30% chance of having a false negative test. Therefore, it would still be required that this student *isolate* at home for at least 10 days and 72 hours fever-free without medication and with reduction in respiratory symptoms.



- Student has a fever and sore throat and history of getting strep throat. Student sees her provider, who does a strep test and exam and believes the patient has strep throat and does not have COVID-19. The student may return to school after 24 hours fever-free with a note from her provider stating she may return to school.



- Student has fever, cough, shortness or breath, and loss of taste and smell. His parents do not want to get him tested for COVID-19. Highly recommend that the student get tested so that the proper contact tracing can be done. The student will need to *isolate* at home for at least 10 days and go 72 hours fever-free without use of medication and have a reduction in respiratory symptoms. Additionally, if the school is suspicious that the student has COVID-19, the school could do contact tracing and monitoring for others with symptoms.



# The Road Map Back

*The WHY & HOW*

## Masks for Children

### THE WHYS:

- We want everyone to be safe and secure as we return to school.
- Kids can catch COVID19 and they can spread COVID19.
- Masking is a straightforward, safe and effective tool to help prevent outbreaks in schools.
- Masking can be used in addition to other strategies for prevention of viral spread like physical distancing, good hand hygiene, screening for illness and rapid response to any symptoms. The more tools we use, the better chance we have to contain COVID.
- From a healthcare perspective, masks play a large role in determining who is at risk after a COVID exposure. If both the positive person and the exposed person were masked when the exposure occurred, the need for a 14-day quarantine for the exposed person is decreased.
- Universal masking in schools could prevent large-scale school quarantines/closures when COVID is found in some students.

### THE HOW:

- Masking is a new skill and needs to be taught.
- Kids need time to learn and adapt to this new skill before they are expected to implement it for extended periods of time.
- Learning to wear a mask is not a skill that can or should be taught on the first day of school.
- Teachers can then reinforce the skills learned at home.
- If most kids can learn this skill at home, good peer modeling can help kids who are not able to master masking at [home](#).