

Jr. Sr. High School Phase In to Full In-Person Timeline

- Monday, May 3rd - Grades 7, 8 & 9 begin coming everyday
- Thursday, May 6th - Grades 10, 11 & 12 begin coming everyday

As of May 10th all students, District-wide, will be attending 5 days per week.

Several Families have asked questions when completing their survey. The questions and answers may be helpful to others as well.

Q&A

Q: Just how and when will fully remote elementary students get instruction since Monday's will no longer be open to them?

A: Individual students who are continuing to receive remote instruction will be contacted by their classroom teacher and special teachers to schedule times for meeting and support. Some may be during school, while some may be after regular school hours.

Q: How will this work for 11th & 12th grades who attend CV-Tec classes or full days on Monday & Tuesday or Thursday & Friday? Is CV-Tec returning to a normal schedule as well?

A: As far as we know CV-Tec is staying on their Monday & Thursday or Thursday & Friday schedule. For the students who will miss classes here, individualized arrangements will be arranged student by student, course by course. CV-Tec Students are to continue to attend on their scheduled days.

Q: Is there a possibility of a tent or tables outside which could allow for more space at lunch, or outdoor classes on nice days?

A: Nice idea for temporary use. We will look at that possibility.

Q: Mask breaks for anxiety, how will they be handled?

A: Every effort will be made to support every student's needs when possible. One possibility would be to allow a student with such anxiety an opportunity for "break-time" in an open, well ventilated room or other location periodically throughout the day. Students are encouraged to speak with their teachers and counselors about these anxieties.

Q: Why start now...kind of late in the year?

A: The change in guidelines which allowed us to move forward with fully in-person instruction was released only recently. Classification that we could move ahead was only known April 19th. Although late in the year, utilizing as much face to face instruction as possible is beneficial.

Q: Will temperatures be checked daily & how will students that come to school sick be handled?

A: Daily screening at home should continue. Students will be temperature checked each day upon arrival. We will continue to be vigilant regarding symptoms of an and all illness.

Q: I am curious as to what the disinfection process is?

A: With each change of classes, desks will be wiped down after being occupied as they have been all year. Daily disinfecting of classrooms and multiple disinfection of door knobs, bathrooms and handrails will continue.

Q: How will school maintenance 6 ft. rules in hallways as per CDC?

A: This has been the rule all along. Having more students in the hallways during passing will be monitored and adjustments made if necessary. Lockers will remain unused to avoid contact. Congregation in the hallways is prohibited.

Q: Has the 3 ft. spacing of desks been assessed based on the number of students returning?

A: Every classroom has been measured and provided seating for all potential students to be sure there will be adequate space.

Q: Will there be a plan to vaccinate the students?

A: The Essex County Health Department is looking to plan clinics in our area. Students, with parent permission, will be eligible as the vaccine is available. State operated sites have appointments available now.

Q: Shouldn't have merged (realigned grades) if all kids couldn't fit and be able to attend 5 days per week.

A: Regardless of adding 7& 8 to the high school building, our rooms were too small, in some instances, to accommodate all students while adhering to 6 ft. distancing. Had grades 7 & 8 remained at the elementary building this year, there would have been insufficient room there to afford 4 or 5 days a week in-person for all in that building. Some teachers teach grades 7-12 having them all in one building made that possible saving money and increasing instructional opportunities.

Q: Masks - making sure they are worn everyday and properly.

A: Staff will be ever vigilant to enforcing proper mask wearing.

Q: Prolonged wearing of masks

A: Wearing masks all day is challenging. Efforts will be taken to afford students the opportunity to remove them periodically.

Drinking water and bathroom breaks will be allowed

Seniors and their families will be given the option of maintaining their current hybrid schedule. If a family would like to continue this schedule they will need to contact their School Counselor or Mr. John Donohue, Jr. Sr. High School Principal.