



**Newark**  
**Board of Education**  
Roger León, Superintendent



# Reopening Plan 2020-2021

Where Passion Meets Progress

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Dear Newark School Community,

I want to begin by thanking all of our parents, their children, and the entire district staff for making amazing adjustments in their lives and in their homes during the past several months. I know this has not been easy, and I am proud of everyone for their efforts during these most trying times. I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge the leadership of the Newark Board of Education, Executive Staff, and the NBOE Task Force for the Reopening of Schools for their assistance and support. Additionally, the Mayor and the City of Newark, local and state officials, private donations, and countless volunteers have provided invaluable support. We will continue to look to all of them (and others who are interested in helping us) in the year ahead.

Since the decision to close in-person operations in our offices and the schools and replace it with virtual operations and remote learning, we've learned many lessons. The health and safety of students and staff have been our first priority, and will remain so. As the nation and state prepare for reopening, we in Newark are confident that science will remain our guide. One lesson we have learned, however, is that no matter how hard we prepare, things can change. Flexibility has become our new normal. Patience is a virtue, and we ask for yours, as it will help us enormously during these next few weeks and months. We have also learned that our students are amazingly resilient. I am confident that they, and we, will get through this and we all will be far better for it.

Things will be very different this year. Every employee will be required to provide documentation of negative test results to return to in-person operations, and beyond that we will be implementing a retesting protocol as the year proceeds. We have new ingress procedures that will be required at every school and office location. Our facilities staff has perfected a process of intensive cleaning and sanitizing that has been praised as a model second to none. Specialized teams of custodial staff have been trained to enable us to become self-sufficient in case we are required to shut any of our facilities. We have delivered approximately one million meals to the children of the City of Newark and their families, and our food service workers will continue to do so for all Newark students, whether they are learning in person or remotely. This has become part of our protocol. The training of staff, parents, and students will occur in waves as we get closer to the start of school. I want to applaud everyone before this school year begins, because this new normal will not be easy, but will be necessary.

This plan for the reopening of schools in Newark actually began last March. We have been planning since then for the realities of this September. A few weeks ago, the New Jersey Department of Education provided guidance in a document entitled *The Road Back*. Following that guidance, we have addressed four key subject areas: conditions for learning, leadership and planning, policy and funding, and continuity of learning. In the coming year we will be focusing on two primary areas of concern: academic instruction and social emotional learning. While every family's choice of in-person or remote instruction may be based on many factors, we will work collaboratively with everyone to assist in their decision-making. This document will provide the necessary guidance in that process. Upon principals' return in early August, additional guidance specific to each school, including scheduling options and learning at home plan kits, will be shared with staff, parents, and students.

I have repeatedly thanked the essential workers on our staff, and cannot refrain from doing so again at this time. The term "essential" has included those in many titles, beginning with facilities and custodial staff, food services, and security, but also includes those in every title in the organization (principals, vice principals, department chairpersons, teachers across every grade and content area, school counselors, social workers, teacher coaches, academic interventionists, nurses, secretarial staff, parent liaisons, per-diem staff, and volunteers) who have assisted with the distribution of learning at home plan kits and Chromebooks and supported our students in many other ways. We will not only get through this trying time, but together, we will make this a great year! We look forward to seeing all the children's faces, in person and virtually.

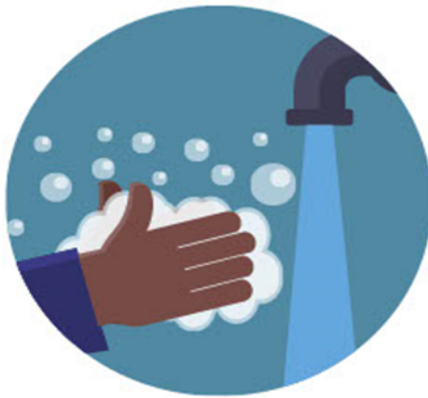


Roger León  
Superintendent

## NBOE Reopening of Schools Task Force Members

<b>Member</b>	<b>Title</b>
Nicole T. Johnson	Co-Chairperson, Deputy Superintendent
Valerie Wilson	Co-Chairperson, School Business Administrator
Hon. Tave Padilla	NBOE Board Member
Dr. Maria Ortiz	Assistant Superintendent, High School Leadership Team
Abdullah Ansari	Executive Director, Information Technology
Dr. Tonya McGill	Executive Director, Food Services
JoAnne Watson	Executive Director, Labor Relations
Quanika Dukes-Spruill	Executive Director, Transportation Services
Steven Morlino	Executive Director, Facilities Management
Dr. Marguerite Leuze	Executive Director, Health Services
Levi A. Holmes II	Executive Director, Security Services
Janet D. Chavis	Executive Director, Federal Programs and Grants
Atiba Buckman	Principal, Speedway Elementary School
Dr. Sharnee Brown	Principal, Central High School
Dr. Deneen Washington	Principal, Belmont Runyon School
Danielle Gaines	Teacher, Belmont Runyon School
Andrea Valerius	Lead Teacher, Technology High School
Elizabeth Corker	Math Teacher Coach, Mount Vernon Elementary School
Honore Hodgson	Teacher, East Side High School
Bruno Coelho	Student Representative, NBOE
Argetina Aquino	Parent, First Avenue School
Yolanda Johnson	Parent
Anthony Baskerville	Senior Guard, West Side High School
John Abeigon	President, Newark Teachers Union
Wilhelmina Holder	President, Secondary Parent Council
Mike Maillaro	Director of Research and Communication, Newark Teachers Union
Christine Taylor	President, City Association of Supervisors and Administrators

# Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!



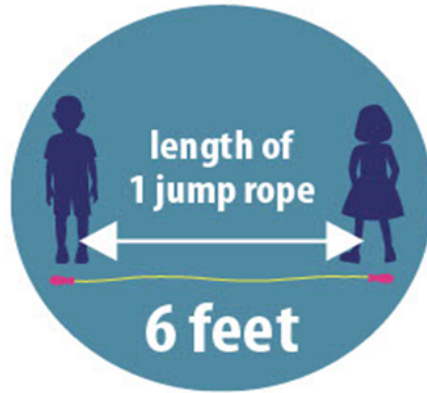
Wash your  
hands often



Wear a cloth  
face cover



Cover your coughs  
and sneezes



Keep **6 feet** of space  
between you and  
your friends



C316953-A 04/09/2020

[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

# Health and Safety Procedures

## Ingress Procedure

Screenings are intended to determine if an individual has COVID-19 related symptoms. Prior to entering any of our facilities or district grounds everyone must wear a mask and undergo a four step process which includes the following:

- Step 1: Symptoms Screening – Employees and students will be asked a series of questions regarding their health.
- Step 2: Temperature Check – Employees and students will have their temperature checked using a noncontact thermometer. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will not be permitted into the building.
- Step 3: Footwear Sanitizing – Employees and students will stand in a rubber tub with disinfectant solution to sanitize their shoes. (Everyone must wear closed shoes.)
- Step 4: Hand Washing/Sanitizing – Employees and students will be provided foaming hand sanitizer or will wash their hands with soap and water before entering the building.

## Social Distancing

To prevent the spread of the coronavirus, we must ensure social distancing. This may include limiting group sizes, creating cohorts, keeping students six feet apart, restricting non-essential visitors, and closing communal spaces. The following procedures will be in place across all of our schools:

- Desks will be rearranged in classrooms at least 6 feet apart to maximize space between students.
- 3-sided clear desk partitions will be used on student desks to help maintain social distancing.
- Signage, floor decals and colored tape may be utilized to provide visual cues and ensure procedures are followed.
- No more than 2 people may occupy an elevator at a time.
- Staff break rooms will be closed.
- Schools may consider the use of alternate spaces to accommodate in-person learning.
- Schools will assign entry and exit doors to reduce the number of students within a space.
- Recess will be staggered to decrease the number of students on the playground and in hallways.
- Breakfasts and lunches may be delivered to classrooms on disposable trays; single use utensils and individual condiments will be used.
- Water fountains will be turned off; staff and students should bring their own water.

- Assemblies, meetings and other large group gatherings will be canceled or held virtually.
- Movement of students around the building will be limited.
- Cohorts of students will be kept together throughout the school day.

### Face Masks

The use of face coverings is recommended by both the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) and WHO (World Health Organization) as a strategy to reduce the risk of transmission. Facial coverings act as a barrier to prevent the spread of respiratory droplets. As such, all employees, students, visitors and anyone entering school or district buildings/grounds will be required to wear a face mask covering the mouth and nose. Protocol for wearing face masks include:

- Wearing a face mask is required for everyone while on school or district grounds.
- Wearing a face mask is required for everyone on school buses.
- Students and staff must arrive to school and work with a mask. No one will be allowed to enter the building without a mask.
- Face mask may be removed when using the restroom or during meal times as long as social distancing is maintained.
- Face mask may be removed if alone and room is closed.
- Acceptable masks include disposable surgical masks or cloth masks.
- Exemptions:
  - Students, staff or visitors for whom a face covering would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age. An alternative method is the use of a face shield.
  - Communication with someone who is hearing impaired and needs to see the person's mouth to communicate. A mask with a clear mouth piece is recommended.

### Hand Washing/Sanitizing

One of the most effective practices for preventing exposure and reducing transmission of the infection is regular hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer. The district is implementing the following procedures:

- Foaming hand sanitizer will be available throughout the district and in every classroom.
- Communal school supplies will be eliminated, and each student will have their own school supplies.
- A hand-washing schedule will be adopted with school-wide reminders for staff and students throughout the day.
- Lessons and practice sessions for students on when and how to wash hands will be conducted.

- There will be a disinfecting schedule for restrooms and all doorknobs, counters, tables, desks, and school surfaces.

### Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols

Schools and district buildings will be cleaned frequently throughout the day. Custodial staff will provide on-going disinfecting to high contact surfaces such as student desks and chairs, doorknobs, hand rails, elevator buttons, light switches, soap dispensers and faucet knobs using hospital grade disinfectant and electrostatic sprayers.

- Custodial staff will complete a cleaning/sanitizing checklist.
- All schools will receive electrostatic disinfecting machines and backpack misting machines.
- Custodial staff will routinely clean and disinfect high contact areas.
- Custodial staff will maintain supplies such as soap, hand sanitizer and paper towels.
- Teachers and students will work together with custodial staff to promote a clean and healthy environment for everyone within each building. Each classroom will have sanitation kits that will include gloves and disinfectant wipes. Students and teachers shall wipe down any community or high-touch areas after each class to reduce exposure for the next classroom.
- Facilities will routinely replace air filters to increase air ventilation.

### COVID-19 Testing

For the safety of our school community, the NBOE is requiring all school and district level employees to submit documentation of negative results of a COVID-19 diagnostic test taken no earlier than 14 days prior to their start date or return to work. Additional re-testing is under consideration and staff will be notified. Student testing is under consideration.

The Jewish Renaissance Medical Center (JRMC) has partnered with the district and provides testing to all NBOE employees and their family members each Friday. The Center is located at Malcolm X. Shabazz High School. Employees may also visit their primary care provider or any Urgent Care Center. Anyone testing positive is asked to notify the Office of Health Services, provide documentation and remain at home to avoid exposing others.

### Contact Tracing

The Newark Board of Education is collaborating with the Newark Department of Health to conduct contact tracing. Upon notification of a positive case, the employee or student should notify the school nurse or Office of Health Services. The Office of Health Services will communicate with school and district level administration, as appropriate, to track movement of the person who tested positive. Impacted individuals will be notified. The Superintendent will also be notified and along with the Executive Director of Facilities determine whether to close the facility or any portion



thereof. All affected areas will be cleaned and sanitized prior to reopening. In-person students will engage in remote learning during the closure so that instruction continues without disruption.

### Visitors

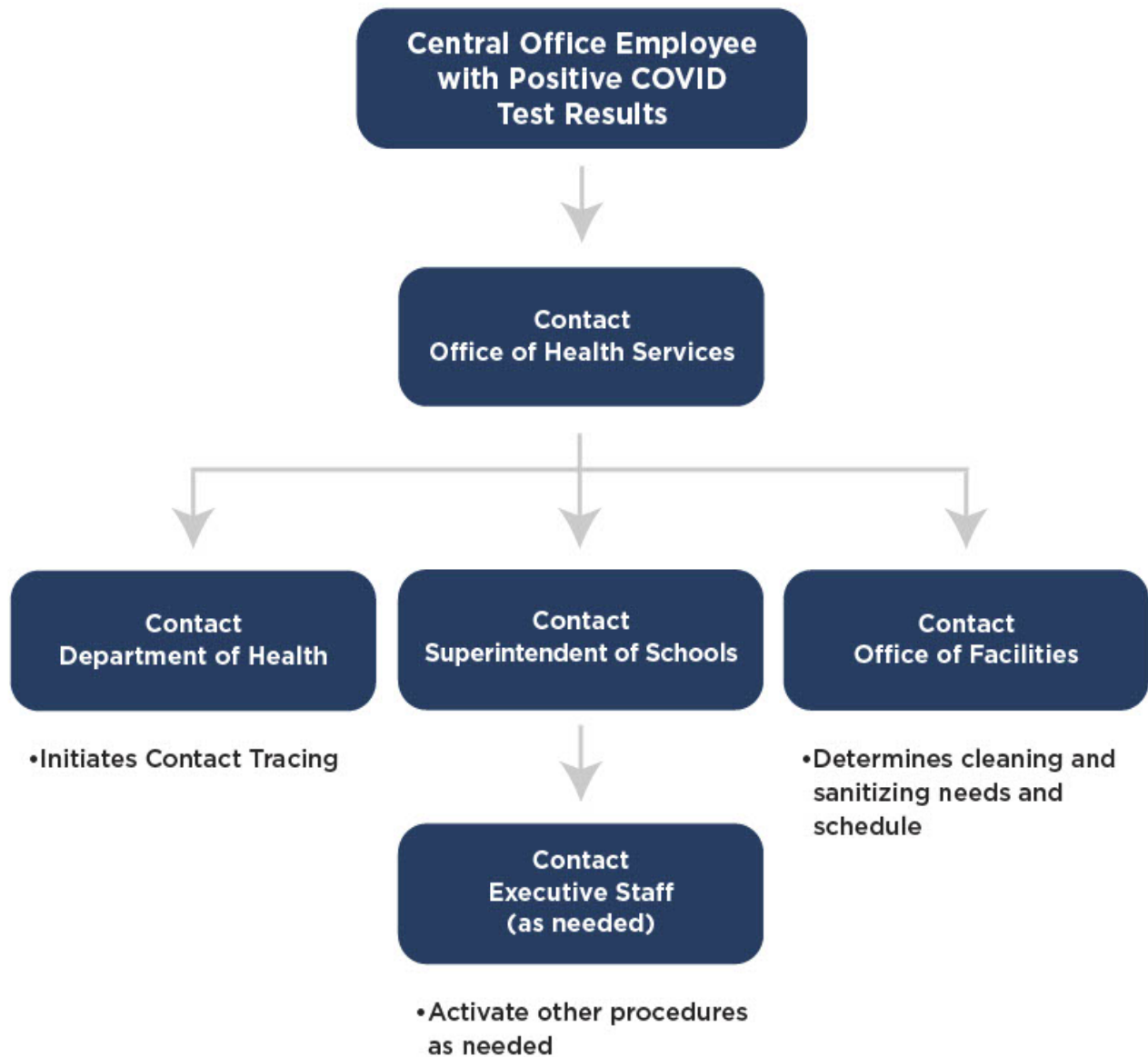
To protect everyone's safety, visitors will not be allowed in our district or school buildings. In the event that a non-employee must enter the building, a face mask covering the mouth and nose is required and the visitor will be screened.

### Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms Upon Arrival: *Fever, Chills, Shortness of Breath*

The district will adhere to CDC Guidelines when responding to students or staff presenting symptoms.

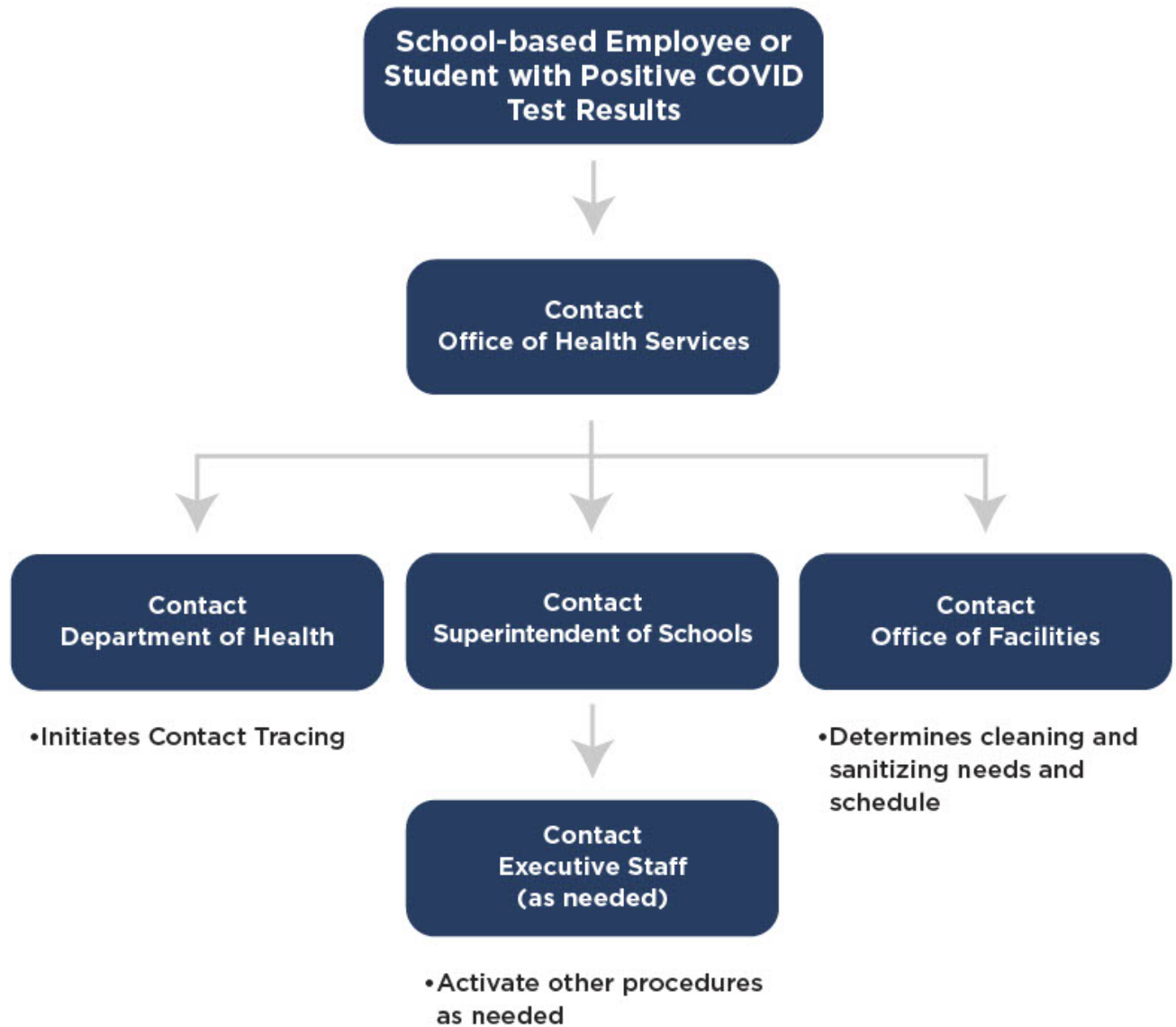
# Central Office Employee Positive COVID Results

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# School-based Employee or Student Positive COVID Results

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# Operations

## Bus Transportation

To protect our students and staff during travel to and from school the following strategies will be implemented during school bus transportation:

- Students and staff must wear a face mask while on the bus.
- The number of students on a bus will be limited to promote social distancing.
- All buses will be cleaned after each route, specifically high-touch areas such as entry handrail, front/back of seats, window handles, seat belts, door opener, etc.
- Students will be encouraged to stay socially distanced while at the bus stop. This must be a joint effort between families and school personnel.
- Students will load the bus from back to front in order to encourage social distancing throughout the bus ride.
- Students may be seated one per row.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus, and students will be encouraged to use it upon entry and exit.
- All bus personnel will receive CDC supported training prior to school opening as well as during the school year.

## Food Service

Distribution of Meals for in-person learners. All meals will be individually bagged.

### **Breakfast**

- Option A: Students will obtain breakfast at the entry points designated by the Principal.
- Option B: Breakfast will be delivered by food service personnel and placed in the classrooms prior to students entering the classroom. (Adopt a Classroom Model)
- Option C: Individual bagged meals will be delivered to the classroom for teacher distribution. Breakfast bins will be left at an agreed upon location.

### **Lunch**

- Option A: Lunch will be delivered to the classrooms by food service personnel five to ten minutes prior to lunch. (Adopt a Classroom Model)
- Option B: Students will go to a designated area to pick up a bagged lunch, return to class and consume lunch in the classroom.
- Option C: Following social distancing protocols students will pick up individual bagged lunch from the cafeteria, return to class and consume lunch in the classroom.

Distribution of Meals for remote learners.

- Mondays and Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am
- Monday's pick up will include meals for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Thursday's pick up will include meals for Thursday and Friday.
- An adult should accompany their child to pick up meals at any one of the sites nearest to their home or current location.

Central Ward Locations	East Ward Locations
Central High School 246 18 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Newark, NJ 07108	East Side High School 238 Van Buren Street Newark, NJ 07105
Dr. E. Alma Flagg 150 3 <sup>rd</sup> Street Newark, NJ 07107	Hawkins Street School 8 Hawkins Street Newark, NJ 07105
Quitman Street School 21 Quitman Street Newark, NJ 07103	South Street School 44 Hermon Street Newark, NJ 07105

West Ward Locations	South Ward Locations
Mount Vernon School 142 Mount Vernon Place Newark, NJ 07106	Belmont Runyon School 1 Belmont Runyon Way Newark, NJ 07108
Speedway Avenue 701 South Orange Avenue Newark, NJ 07106	George Washington Carver School 333 Clinton Place Newark, NJ 07112
Thirteenth Avenue School 359 13 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Newark, NJ 07103	Weequahic High School 279 Chancellor Avenue Newark, NJ 07112

North Ward Locations
First Avenue School 214 First Avenue Newark, NJ 07107
McKinley Elementary School 1 Colonnade Place Newark, NJ 07104
Park Elementary School 120 Manchester Place Newark, NJ 07104
Rafael Hernandez Elementary School 345 Broadway Newark, NJ 07104

# Academics

## Grading

The district's grading practices remain the same in the 2020-2021 school year. The marking period calendar will be published on the district's website and shared with families on the first day of school. Parents will continue to receive quarterly student progress reports and report cards and high school credits and grades will be reported on student transcripts.

## Attendance

The district's attendance policy remains the same in the 2020-2021 school year. Whether choosing in-person or remote learning, students are expected to attend school each day that school is in session. Teachers' will mark attendance in Power Teacher. During remote learning, classroom attendance is determined by each teacher monitoring student work for the day. Parents must notify the teacher or principal if their child is unable to attend or participate in the lessons/assignments on any given day. Attendance Counselors will continue to collaborate with the school community and families to provide support. The Give Me 5 Strategy will resume prior to the first day of school. Central Office staff members will call and check in with 5 families to ensure that students attend school every day, especially on the first day of school, September 8.

## Assessments

NBOE understands the importance of providing comprehensive screening assessments and progress monitoring methods when we return to in-person learning. The purpose of these assessments is two-fold: To support the identification of students who may need an Individual Student Improvement Plan and to identify students who are accelerating and may require a more advanced program. Throughout the school year student learning will be monitored through the use of these content assessments, used primarily as a means of improving teaching and learning, and shared with students and families on an on-going basis.

- In Pre-K, students will be assessed using the *Preschool Early Literacy Indicators* (PELI), designed to measure pre-literacy and oral language skills. This measure will be given to all Pre-K 4-year-olds beginning in December 2020 and again at the end of the school year. Pre-K 3-year-olds will be assessed with the PELI at the end of the school year.
- K-3 students will be assessed for foundational reading, including phonics, comprehension, and mathematics at the beginning of the school year as a baseline assessment. These assessments will be conducted one-on-one with a teacher and will be conducted online. The results will allow teachers, students and parents to know precisely what students know and need to know with regard to phonological awareness, phonics, comprehension, fluency, and mathematics. These assessments will be administered three times per year.
- Students in grades 4-12 will be assessed in reading, mathematics, and science at the beginning of the school year and throughout the year. These assessments will be conducted

online. At the secondary level, the mathematics assessments include Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2

- Using age and grade appropriate writing tasks, students in grades 3-12 will be administered a writing assessment in September, December and June. The September assessment will be based on their summer reading assignment. Each writing assessment will evaluate the writers' ability to offer opinions, explain, develop and organize ideas, and the use of language facility and conventions.

In addition to the academic assessments, a comprehensive needs assessment to identify students who may be experiencing social emotional, behavioral, and mental health challenges will be administered as needed throughout the school year.

### Tools for Mitigating Learning Loss

Student learning loss during extended periods without school is not a new concept. However, long term school closure such as what we have experienced during the COVID-19 epidemic may have an extreme detrimental effect on student learning. While it is difficult to determine how steep the learning loss will be, in the absence of the data from the needs assessments, our goal is to minimize and mitigate. We are confident that our teachers provided high quality instruction via remote learning, but we also understand that some students will require additional support to catch up quickly. We will utilize our best teachers and support staff to accelerate students learning by focusing on grade level content using the following strategies:

- Saturday Academies – Additional 6<sup>th</sup> day of school
- Extended School Day- Before/After School Tutoring
- Tutoring- Extra support during the school day

### Extended Classroom Experiences

Students will experience virtual field trips, whenever possible.

## **Technology and Connectivity**

The district will utilize Google Classroom and WebEx for facilitating remote learning.

To address the digital divide, the district conducted a survey prior to school closure to identify the need for devices and connectivity. Students identifying a need for a device were distributed a Chromebook and free Wi-Fi was made accessible to all students. The district will continue to provide devices and internet access to students as needed.

# Early Childhood

## Structures for safe in-person learning

- *Physical Environment:* Arrangement of classroom furniture and Interest Areas will be organized strategically to allow social distancing of students while minimizing use of shared materials.
- *Limited Choice:* With Limited Choice, individual containers of materials/manipulatives for students to work with will be utilized. Teachers and teacher assistants will establish frequent cleaning and sanitizing procedures consistent with CDC guidelines.
- *Large Group:* This may occur while adhering to social distancing and/or including physical barriers on tables, turning tables to face the same direction and having students sit on one side of the table.
- *Choice Time/Interest Areas:* Interest Areas will be reconfigured to maintain social distancing and cleaning guidelines. Students will have individual containers/baskets of materials to use which will be cleaned and rotated daily. Water tables will only be utilized if bubble water with soap is used. The Block Area will be individualized with each student receiving a tray of blocks to build with. Limited numbers of books will be displayed in the Library Area and wiped down frequently. Writing boxes for each child containing materials such as pencils, crayons, paint brushes and paint will be used. Due to health concerns the Sand Area will not be open.
- *Small Group (Teacher and Teacher Assistant):* Keeping to the social distancing guidelines and utilizing individual materials for students, small group instruction will occur daily.
- *Gross Motor:* When planning gross motor activities, the following may occur:
  - Students may remove masks during gross motor activities if social distancing protocols are in place.
  - Procedures will be established for disinfecting materials during and after outdoor activities and between each groups use.
  - Individual baskets/buckets of equipment (e.g. hula hoops, beanbags) will be used for students to play with per classroom.
  - The number of students engaged in group play will be limited to adhere to social distancing guidelines.
  - Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after activities.
- *Nap Time:* During nap time, social distancing will be maintained between students. Cots may be placed alternating students head to toe or separating cots by furniture. Students will not sleep wearing masks.



### Structure for Remote Learning:

In alignment with developmentally appropriate practices, pre-k students should only be exposed to one hour of screen time per day. See [Virtual Learning Guidance](#) for details.

### Meals

All family style dining requirements are postponed. If cafeterias or group dining areas are used:

- Times will be staggered to allow for social distancing and to clean and disinfect between groups.
- Tables/surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized between each meal service.
- Students will be spaced at least six feet apart.
- Staff will be required to wash their hands before assisting students, after removing gloves or handling used food service items, and at the end of the meal period.
- Individual bagged meals will be served.
- Students will not share foods or utensils.
- Disposable utensils will be used.
- Hands will be washed before and after eating meals.

## **Supports for Special Populations**

### Exceptional Learners

The Newark Board of Education is committed to providing appropriate educational programs and related services for students with disabilities, to the extent possible in alignment with public health guidelines. To address the unique needs of students with disabilities staff will continue the work with families to collaboratively identify the services for each student that can be provided. Our district will provide training, resources, and tools to support IEP teams in determining the needed services.

- All special education services for students will occur in-person or remotely based on collaboration with families on an individual basis.
- General education/special education teachers and related service providers will work with families to discuss students' individual needs and access to the curriculum and progress toward IEP goals.
- General education/special education teachers will meet with students in person and virtually using online platforms through synchronous (WebEx) and asynchronous (Google Classroom) methods.
- The Office of Special Education will utilize various resources and tools to enhance learning for special education students.
- IEP team will have consistent data collection and service logs for use across all learning environments.

- NBOE will continue to identify, locate, and evaluate students suspected of having a disability and needing special education services.
- The district will complete evaluations in-person and remotely per public health guidelines.
- The district will schedule and hold all meetings and evaluations postponed due to school closure.
- All IEP meetings will be held in-person or alternative format, such as videoconferencing or by phone. The district will work with families to determine the most practical format to conduct IEP meetings.
- Case Managers and IEP team members will continue to contact parents and monitor special education services to determine progress toward a student's IEP goals.
- Family outreach and education will be provided to support families' understanding of remote learning and how to support their children.
- Equity in the provision of technology devices and internet access for special education students will be ensured.

### English Language Learners

The Newark Board of Education is committed to continuing to serve English Language Learners. Whether in-person or during remote learning, staff will continue to implement instructional strategies to address the academic and language needs of ELL students. In addition, district leaders and school support staff will continue to partner with families to provide resources and tools to ensure the academic success of ELL students.

- Bilingual and ESL services will continue to be provided to students.
- Bilingual and ESL teachers will meet with students in person and virtually using online platforms through synchronous (WebEx) and asynchronous (Google Classroom) methods.
- Bilingual and ESL teachers will collaborate and plan tailored lessons to meet the needs of English Language Learners. They will work to make the curriculum context comprehensible to students.
- Executed lessons will focus on helping students develop in the areas of Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing with specific focus placed on developing speaking skills.
- The district's website will continue to offer parents information on school reopening, as well as tools to support at home learning. Information on the webpage is made available in multiple languages by using the translation icon.
- Instructional videos posted on the district's website will be provided in multiple languages.
- Adult English as a Second Language (ESL) classes will be provided to assist parents in learning English. Virtual classes will be offered.
- Family outreach and education will be provided to support families' understanding of remote learning and how to support their children.
- Equity in the provision of technology devices and internet access for ELL's will be ensured.

# Social Emotional Learning and School Climate and Culture

Prior to COVID-19, NBOE prioritized the need for social and emotional learning to develop positive school culture and climate across all of our schools. Understanding the stress and anxiety caused by long term school closure and social isolation the district implemented a variety of strategies beginning in March. All of these strategies will continue after schools return to in-person learning.

- Morning Meetings prior to the start of each lesson to facilitate opportunities for students to connect and reflect.
- Meditation and Mindfulness exercises, when possible.
- Integrated Social and Emotional classroom lessons.
- Daily check-ins by school social workers and school counselors.
- Individual and Group counseling sessions facilitated by school counselors.
- Counseling and mental health resources provided to families, as needed.
- Professional learning opportunities for school-based staff on topics such as grief and loss, depression, anxiety, motivation techniques, social and emotional curriculum, and promoting mental wellness.
- Support staff including school counselors, psychologists, and social workers working flexibly across the school to address student needs.
- Established partnerships with mental health agencies.
- Virtual Spirit Week (Mindful Monday, Tactical Tuesday, Whimsical Wednesday, Thankful Thursday, Fabulous Friday)
- SEL interventions will be age appropriate using several resources already available in the District including RULER, Rethink SEL, Second Step and Restorative Practices.
- Social Workers and School Counselors will continue to reach out to students and families who have not been fully engaged via personal outreach.

## Wraparound Supports

The district will continue to partner with organizations to provide resources to support students and families with wraparound services in the following areas:

- Mental health supports (Jersey Cares, Greater Life, etc.)
- Primary Health Care and Dental Care (JRMC, Rutgers Medical, etc.)
- Family Engagement (ESL for adults, Surveys in multiple languages)
- Academic Enrichment (Summer Programming, Extended School Day, etc.)
- Mentoring (Mentor Newark, Leadership Newark, etc.)

# Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities

Athletics and other co-curricular activities are an important part of our students' physical, social and emotional development and well-being. While the benefits are plentiful, many logistical, structural and public health challenges still exist and the District's first priority is the safety of our students and staff.

As members of the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association, we will follow the guidance documents developed by their Medical Advisory Task Force. Within these documents are clear protocols for moving from Phase 1 to 2 of summer practice and conditioning to the start of the newly revised fall season and beyond.

Opportunities to participate in face-to-face co-curricular activities as well as virtual activities will be made available to students in accordance with public health and safety guidance. Where possible, we will continue to find creative ways to deliver these valuable connections.

## Physical Education, Physical Activity and Recess

Our top priority is to prepare an environment for safe and supportive instruction in physical education, physical activity and recess.

In Physical Education:

- Students will be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and safe footwear to school that allows for safe movement and is appropriate for the weather in order to participate without the use of a locker room.
- Lessons will focus more on individual pursuits and skills rather than team sports or activities.
- Games or activities will not include the use of shared equipment.
- If gymnasiums or multipurpose rooms are used for instruction, doors and windows will be kept open to maximize ventilation.
- Social distancing protocols will be in place.
- When possible, outdoor spaces will be utilized for instruction.
- When students are at home, activities that focus on motor skill development (self-toss and catch, catching with a parent or a sibling) will be provided.
- Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after physical education classes.

Physical Activity:

- Mindfulness activities, yoga and stretching are examples of brain boosters that will be incorporated daily, when possible.
- Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after the activity.

Recess:

- During recess, groups will be staggered and cones will be provided to create boundaries between them.
- Games or activities will not include the use of shared equipment.
- Schools will create recess schedules that provide for social distancing and ensure students remain with their cohorts.
- Social distancing protocols will be in place.
- Hands will be washed/sanitized immediately after recess.

# Scheduling Options and Models

## Remote learning every day and full-time

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Remote</b>	<b>Remote</b>	<b>Remote</b>	<b>Remote</b>	<b>Remote</b>

## In-person learning every day and full-time

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>In-Person</b>	<b>In-Person</b>	<b>In-Person</b>	<b>In-Person</b>	<b>In-Person</b>

## In-person and remote learning on alternate dates (A/B schedule)

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Remote</b>	<b>In-Person</b>	<b>Remote</b>	<b>In-Person</b>	<b>Remote</b>

\*\*Other scheduling options require Superintendent's approval.

### Remote Learning Parent/Guardian Commitment

Parents/guardians whose children will engage in full-time remote instruction must complete and submit a Full-Time Remote Instruction Consent Form no later than August 14. Those parents/guardians should be prepared to support their children's active participation in all remote learning activities. They will need to ensure their children have adequate space, materials, and technology access for their daily online instruction, and request school assistance to provide a laptop and internet service, as needed. Families will need to be ready to follow the established daily learning schedule and work with school staff to ensure their children participate in assessments and other mandated educational activities.

# Professional Development

## Staff

Professional Development provides staff with the information, guidance, and professional learning necessary to support in-person and remote learning instructional practices, new health and safety protocols, and strategies to identify and support students coping with trauma or grief. The district conducted numerous PD sessions during the school closure and throughout the summer and will continue during the school year. A calendar of August professional learning opportunities will be available beginning in early August. A sample of topics include:

- Curriculum and Assessments
- Google Classroom and WebEx
- Social and Emotional Strategies
- Special Education Resources
- Health and Safety Protocols

## Families

Professional Development provides parents/guardians with the tools necessary to support their children at home. The district is planning to host a Parent Academy at the start of the school year and will continue to engage parents throughout the school year. Based on parent feedback, a menu of parent sessions will include:

- Google Classroom and WebEx
- Support for Parents of Students with Disabilities
- Support for Parents of English Language Learners
- Supporting your Child with Remote Learning
- Social and Emotional Supports

# School-Based Leadership Planning

## What families should expect from their school?

- Schedule Option/Model
- Sample of classroom design
  - Administrators will preview and approve classroom designs prior to the start of school and throughout the school year as adjustments are required.
- Ingress/Egress Procedures
- Recess/PE procedures
- Breakfast/lunch procedures
- Technology Procedures: Distribution, Collection, etc.
- Information on how they are addressing SEL challenges.
- Information on how they will communicate and keep families engaged and informed.
- Pandemic Response Team information (including members)
  - School Principal
  - Case Manager
  - School Counselor
  - School Nurse
  - School Safety Staff Member
  - Teacher
  - Parent Liaison

## Next Steps

The Newark Board of Education and District administration are committed to making this a safe and positive learning experience for our students. This plan may evolve as new information becomes available from the CDC, the State of New Jersey, the New Jersey Department of Education and the City of Newark. All decisions will be led by the Superintendent and senior leadership team. NBOE will utilize staff meetings, family and staff surveys, and recommendations from the Reopening of Schools Task Force to gather and process information about community needs and the best available approach for serving our students, families, and staff. We thank you for your support during this time and ask that you visit our district's website or call your child's school for the latest updates and information regarding the plan. [www.nps.k12.nj.us](http://www.nps.k12.nj.us)





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Superintendent

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