



Rochelle Park School District

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September 21, 2020

Dear Members of the Rochelle Park School Community,

I hope that you and your loved ones are well, and have been able to make a smooth transition to the start of the school year. On August 20, 2020 I wrote to you addressing the need for our school district to commence the school year on a full remote platform. While that was disappointing news for some, including me, I am proud to report that the teachers and students have been giving this a most solid effort; thank you to all.

This update brings news of our next phase. Midland School is slightly ahead of schedule for items that warranted the delay for on-site instruction. The needed personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfecting equipment, and air ionization equipment have been received, and the installation of this equipment to enhance indoor air quality is in progress. As this equipment that was on backorder has been coming in, the installation has been moving forward. The installation will be complete slightly ahead of our anticipated timeline.

Midland School's hybrid model will now commence on Thursday, October 1, 2020 (instead of Monday, October 5, 2020). As originally planned, the students will remain on their previously designated teams, either Team Maroon or Team White. While one team is participating in on-site classroom learning, the other team is participating remotely following the same period bell schedule. Team Maroon reports to Midland School on Mondays and Thursdays. Team White reports to Midland School on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Further, in the original hybrid model all students were scheduled to participate remotely each Wednesday. Wednesdays were originally set as such in order to fulfill the New Jersey Department of Education's requirement to demonstrate the district's capability for providing a full online instruction platform in the event it would become necessary, as it was back in March through June. Given Midland School has experienced and demonstrated capabilities for districtwide online instruction for the month of September, reserving Wednesdays for this is no longer needed as part of the hybrid model. Starting in October each Wednesday will be a day for on-site classroom instruction with alternating teams.

Please know, if you had already planned for your child(ren) to enter Midland School on October 5th and a change to begin on October 1st is not conducive to your plans, your child(ren)

may still participate through the remote learning platform on October 1st and 2nd. It is our intention to have October 1st and October 2nd serve as soft transition days for the students.

The October Hybrid Model Calendar (attached) provides the details of when students will participate in the classroom versus on-line. This calendar will also be posted on the district website. Upon review you'll notice this increases students in the classroom from two days per week to two days one week and three days on an alternating week. The benefit of having the additional day of in classroom learning on a Wednesday is that each team has the bi-weekly experience of two consecutive days in the classroom. Students who are in the self-contained program will be in class daily, Monday through Friday. The hybrid model bell schedule will remain in effect until further notice.

You will soon receive notice from Mr. Alberta, Principal, for entrance and exit procedures. In the interim, I hope you will participate in Back To School Night (BTSN) on Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 6:30p.m. BTSN will take place remotely and details for this event will soon follow.

The district continues its commitment to provide instruction in a manner that meets the needs of all learners. As we are able to expand experiences for on-site classroom learning we are committed to doing so. Please keep in mind that our plans are subject to change as directed by the New Jersey Department of Education or as required by circumstance of the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Please know the administration, faculty, and staff remain eager to greet students at Midland School. Once students return to the classroom environment it will be most important to partner in our efforts for maintaining a healthy and safe environment. I encourage you to review with your children healthy and safe practices including maintaining social distance of six feet apart, proper wearing of face masks, covering coughs and sneezes, hand washing and sanitizing, not sharing personal items including food and beverages, and keeping your child(ren) home when he or she is not well. Any absent student will have the opportunity to attend classes remotely from home if he or she does not meet the entrance requirements, yet feels well enough to participate on-line. A daily wellness form will be required of all students prior to arrival. Again, Mr. Alberta will soon provide notice on entrance and exit practices.

Your patience, understanding, and support continue to be most appreciated. Our partnership and consistent efforts for promoting and sustaining a healthy environment will help us navigate the course of this pandemic. I wish you and your family good health, always.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sue DeNobile
Superintendent

October

Hybrid Model Calendar

2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	2 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	3
4	5 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	6 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	7 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	8 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	9 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	10
11	12 No School for Students Faculty Professional Development Day	13 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	14 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	15 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	16 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	17
18	19 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	20 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	21 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	22 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	23 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	24
25	26 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	27 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	28 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	29 Team Maroon: in class ----- Team White: on line	30 Team White: in class ----- Team Maroon: on line	31