

**Questions and comments from the Zoom Meeting on July 14, 2020
with 115 parents and staff.**

1. When you say all schools are required to open ... does that mean all students are required to return? **We are not sure - waiting on guidance from the NJDOE**
2. Saw Parsippany's plan and how are the children even able to see their teachers over the cardboard? **We are not considering the purchase of any materials that are not transparent for use as "sneeze guards"**
3. How is the A/B protecting the teachers- it reduces the amount of people in the classroom.
4. For A/B, is there sufficient time between AM and PM to sanitize the buildings? **With the new equipment we purchased we can sanitize rooms very quickly.**
5. Will virtual instruction be "live" instruction? Can the virtual instruction days be completed when families have time to complete? **We are considering live and recorded**
6. how are you fitting everyone in the schools on 1/2 days 6 feet about / not realistic- **we would not be able to - the [Road Back](#) states that schools must have social distance when possible- if not students will be required to wear face coverings.**
7. Is it possible to explore 1/2 day Kindergarten options? No virtual. Virtual will not work for this group. **This is something that can be discussed with the committee.**
8. how will the groups be divided ? **Alphabetically is what we are thinking at this point to allow for siblings to be together. (this applies to siblings with different last names as well)**
9. Are the schools currently equipped for live streaming? **We would need some modifications and equipment but our network is ready.**
10. When will the results from the placement tests be made available? **Friday, July 17th**
11. What about kids with IEP's? How will services be provided? **IEPs will be implemented to maximum extent practicable. If needed, adjustments to IEPs may be recommended to ensure students with IEPs can benefit from the district's instructional day while addressing each student's individual goals.**
12. Please cite any studies referenced. **The [Road Back](#) was created by a group of education personnel on the state level. There are citations in this document.**
13. Will any A/B day keep siblings together? **Yes**
14. If there is a medical excuse for your child not to wear a mask, how will the school handle this? **We are waiting on guidance from the NJDOE and NJDOH**
15. If a certain percentage of parents want to keep their students virtual training for the fall, thus creating the opportunity for full weeks in class for other students, is this being considered? **Yes we will survey the parents once we have a draft plan which we feel will provide more accurate information- but we will need to accommodate parents who change their minds and want to have students attend school in-person.**

16. Can masks be removed when sitting at their desks as they are social distancing and put them on when they move? **If they are six feet away from other students, we are looking at ways to allow for time away from the masks.**
17. Twins are usually split into different classes, but a lot of schools are putting them together. Will Denville consider putting twins in the same class? **Parents can submit a request to the principal.**
18. Will St. Mary's be used to its fullest potential to reduce virtual learning? **We will use the Riverview Annex to help spread students out as much as possible.**
19. What are you doing to help the teachers who are more at risk than a child to get very sick from this. What are you placing in the classrooms so that teachers are able to be heard while wearing a face mask? are you supplying facemarks to faculty, staff, students? **We have purchased face coverings for all staff as well as a limited supply for students. We are also looking at the purchase of sneeze guards for classrooms.**
20. Why are we wasting so much money on opening up the school in a very anxiety driven environment _ when hopefully this is just temporary.... we are going to restructure our entire schools and waste a ton of money / let's put more money in a more robust online learning environment/ keep our kids and students safe. **As the [Road Back](#) states, all schools must open for in person instruction as of July 14, 2020 . We will develop a robust virtual program as well.**
21. What happens if a staff member or teacher tests positive? Will the kids have to quarantine for 14 days? **The Department of Health guides us on these matters- all incidents are reported to them and they provide guidance.**
22. Can each family opt for virtual learning for the first quarter of school and then go to in class learning beginning in Dec? **We have asked for clarification from the NJDOE on this.**
23. Has the indoor air quality in classrooms been reviewed or validated by a professional company? **We have utilized professional air quality personnel to test air quality in them past and would consider it in the future as needed.**
24. Are teachers going to be given extra time to prepare for virtual and in-person lessons effectively? This seems like an overload on the staff. **We are working on plans for this, at this point this has not been decided.**
25. It may be wise to send a reminder to parents to have their kids practice wearing masks now. **Good idea. I will add this suggestion to my next community update.**
26. Are you going to require students to be tested? **At this point there is not a requirement or mechanism in place for this.**
27. If we do an online/in school hybrid, how will teachers teach in class full time while simultaneously teaching distance learning full time while having to prepare lessons for both formats? **We are considering live streaming of lessons that can also be recorded and posted on Google Classroom.**

28. Since back to school always means shared germs and kids getting sick, will the school nurse have tests on site? **At this point there has been no information from the DOH or DOE on this subject.**
29. What protocols does the district have in place if someone (teacher, student, staff, family members) tests positive? **The [Road Back](#) does offer some information on this; separate symptomatic people and notify the DOH is what is suggested.**
30. If a teacher is required to quarantine at home for two weeks, how will the district be able to provide qualified instructors to continue lessons in the classroom? **We have not decided anything on this topic at this point. We may be able to use other qualified personnel already employed.**
31. If a student has to quarantine at home for two weeks, will remote learning be available for these students? Yes Will they be marked absent? Not if they are working remotely Will the attendance policy be adjusted? **Our policy allows for principal discretion on special circumstances**
32. Can the gyms and cafeterias be used as classrooms to optimize social distancing? **That is something we have considered and are planning to implement.**
33. How will bathroom breaks for students and teachers work to ensure social distancing? **We will develop a plan for this.**
34. How will aides serve their students effectively from home as required in IEPs? **Instructional aides are available to students when this service is needed for a student to progress with his or her IEP. Aide support can be conducted virtually when needed.**
35. How will bathroom sanitation be maintained throughout the day? **Custodial staff will be required to clean common areas during the day.**
36. What role does the teacher play in enforcing masks and social distancing for elementary students? Will the district have consequences if students do not follow the guidelines? **Staff will be needed to educate students on wearing face coverings. School staff will work with families to help ensure the compliance with the social distancing/face coverings piece of the plan.**
37. What will the hand washing requirements be? How will this be accomplished when most classrooms do not have access to sinks? How much time will be spent getting a class full of students to wash their hands, taking away from instructional time? **Hand sanitizer will be provided as well as the use of sinks. Many classrooms do have sinks.**
38. Can aides be used to assist teachers throughout the day I.e. taking kids to the restrooms and for hand washing and any other needs so the teachers are not disrupted? **This is certainly something that will be considered.**
39. Will parents have to provide masks? If so if they are not disposable how will you know if they are being washed? Wearing a used mask is like wearing none at all. We will ask

parents to provide masks for students. **We will be relying on parents to help us with this and we will have a supply for students who need masks.**

40. Will kids in the TSS program be able to receive this help if they are learning virtually? **We will still be providing services such as Orton-Gillingham Reading and BSI for students in the TSS program. We are working on the plan to incorporate these services when the students are physically at the building with additional virtual support as needed.**
41. Once a plan is developed by the district for in-person learning, will the administration (and others) do practice runs through all of the logistics to ensure the ideas will work for the buildings and the age of the students? Since we are dealing with a virus that is active, the devil is in the details and processes that aren't verified to work could put people at risk. **We will practice our plan as much as possible during the summer.**
42. Will the after school programs you are looking into have computers so students can do online work during those times? **Yes**
43. How will you address parents who are essential workers and may not be able to have enough schedule flexibility to do A/B scheme? **We are looking into a daycare component for all parents who do not have flexibility in their work schedule.**
44. How were your parents chosen? **Committee members were chosen to represent all stakeholders, special education, ESL, parents new to the district, all age groups, etc.**
45. Are you prepared for the amount of teachers who will elect to step down from their profession within the district and not return to the building once the plan is shared? **We are expecting our staff to return to work, we will deal with special circumstances on a case by case basis.**
46. Are you prepared for the amount of families who will also choose to keep their children at home completely... will a virtual academy be available? **Yes and we are waiting for guidance from the NJDOE on this.**
47. Can the school install a flir camera or thermal imaging for everyone to be scanned entering the school? **There is no plan to install thermal cameras at this time.**
48. What will the protocol be for substitute teachers? Will they too be screened, etc.? **Anyone who enters the building will need to be screened.**
49. Older grades typically change classrooms for subjects. (I'm not sure what grade this starts). Can they be kept in one room and each teacher comes to them? This would keep their "pod" consistent. I know they are at different levels for Math and English, but maybe group them as best you can based on levels and have the subject teachers come to them. **We will do this to the greatest extent possible, it is not possible to do this entirely.**
50. In Valleyview, will the classrooms be cleaned between each class? **We are looking at ways to have the desks cleaned in between classes possibly having the students help.**

51. In Valleyview, will the students be able to use their lockers considering they are not six feet apart? **Most likely not.**
52. Can there be more teachers hired for the year so the classes can be reduced to smaller numbers? Again, using the gym and cafeteria as classrooms if necessary. **The COVID crisis has put a burden on school district finances. The State has informed us that we will not be receiving our full amount of aid due to the decrease in tax revenues. We are not planning to hire additional teachers at this time.**
53. Has anyone undertaken an examination of the buildings to determine the needed layout? **We are working on this now.**
54. If a parent decides to have their children in school and then change their minds to full remote, do they have that ability to do so? (and vice versa) **We are waiting for guidance from the NJDOE on this matter, this causes a problem when planning for a percentage of students to attend in-person schooling.**
55. I know HS is a different district but can we coordinate A and B day with HS siblings. **The HS is a different school district and we can not guarantee that their plan will match up with ours but we have been in weekly contact with Morris Hills Regional.**
56. Thank all of you for this. It has to be so hard. On another note will the childcare be available for a reduced fee for working parents during the day? **We are working on this with the LHYMCA.**
57. Is there consideration being made for air filtration systems within the classrooms/ school building? **The [Road Back](#) does make some suggestions about HVAC, we are working on this in the district.**
58. Will the same teacher be teaching both virtually and in school at the same time ? How will the kids on virtual learning be able to participate with the class , ask questions and such ? **The teacher will be providing instruction to the students that are physically in the school, the streaming component will likely not be immediately interactive. Teachers will answer questions for those not in the school at a designated time.**
59. Will extra custodial staff be hired to effectively clean? We will utilize our staff as well as some temporary staff we currently employ as needed. **We have purchased new equipment to make the sanitizing of schools more efficient.**
60. Is there a possibility of going all day every day? If students (elementary) can stay in their classrooms with social distancing? **It is something we can consider although there are some problems with this as an option.**
61. Has there been any teacher training on how to actually utilize virtual learning? There was a huge difference in offerings based on the teacher. **Yes we provided training to our staff. If we need to use virtual instruction for the 20-21 school year we will provide more tools and training to staff.**

62. Will temperature checks happen before you get on the bus? If so, what about middle schoolers who walk to the bus alone? **At this point temperature checks are not part of our plans. We will utilize other means of screening students and staff.**
63. Is the mental health of the kids being prioritized? As the virtual learning was very difficult especially with older children. **Mental health continues to be a priority of the district. We have counselors available for students in need of mental health support. This is available in person when school is open and can also be provided virtually.**
64. Will the YMCA be following social distancing protocols as well? Will they provide support for students to complete virtual learning? **The LHYMCA works under different standards than the school district but yes they will be required to socially distance students. [Click here for information on NJ Day Care Standards.](#)**
65. Can staff choose to work remotely due to their own health or childcare needs? **This will be determined on a case by case basis.** Due to districts choosing their own hybrid plan, many children of staff members are not in school full-time and similar childcare like Lakeland Hills Y at Denville is not available everywhere.
66. Will middle school students be switching classes still? **Yes but on a limited basis.** How will social distancing be reinforced during unstructured times such as the hallways and for restroom use? **We are working on plans for social distancing in the hallways.**
67. What is the contingency plan going to be (for example) if there is a massive outbreak in Morris County? **If we are directed to close schools we will be ready for a fully virtual educational program.**
68. My daughter has an underlying health issue. It's been recommended by her doctor not to send her back in September... what has been put in place for parents like me ? **We will offer a fully virtual program for students with proper medical documentation. This program may include live streaming of lessons.**
69. Who will enforce that all staff wears masks, given many have different perspectives on the need for masks? As a teacher myself, I know it is easy for some to take off their masks. **As per the [Road Back](#), all staff must wear face coverings while in the school buildings.**
70. How will PE be handled? **We have not decided how Physical Education classes will take place at this time. We do not expect middle school students to change for PE classes.**
71. Will you have a quarantine area for those that present a fever or other symptoms at school? If so, who will monitor that area? **Yes we have created areas in all health offices. Our health office staff will monitor.**
72. Will there be recess for students? Will playground equipment be sanitized? **We expect to provide recess and yes playground equipment will be sanitized.**
73. Can you share what is being considered with special subject teachers (ex: Gym, Art, STEM, etc.) and if those special subjects are planned to continue as usual, or if those

teachers may be used as part of the general instruction program? **We have not made a decision about special subjects at this time.**

74. How will it work with kids who have IEP's who need continuity of being in school everyday versus every other day or virtual? **We are working to provide as much consistency as we can as we plan for different options. This will continue to be of focus as we work to determine the district's reopening plan.**
75. If live streaming, will the sessions be recorded for students who may not be able to attend at that time of day? **We have the capability to record lessons and that is something we would consider.**
76. How will mainstreaming for special Ed students be handled? **This has not yet been decided but is being considered in the overall planning process.**
77. Have we considered spending time in try to raise the expectations on both the teacher and student end for virtual learning? There were definite inconsistencies during the spring; however, in the case that cases rise yet again and schools are forced to close again... we need to trust that the virtual/ remote education is more streamlined. **If we need to use virtual instruction for the 20-21 school year we will provide more tools and training to staff.**
78. What level of information sharing is being leveraged between school districts for plans to return and establishing best practices? **We are in constant contact with other districts around the county as well as other areas of the state.**
79. What type of SEL will be provided for the well-being of educators? **Our educators receive peer support through ongoing collegial meetings. Staff partake in the SEL programs provided to students as it is a whole school approach. Administrators are also available to provide support for our staff. In addition we have a relationship with Saint Clare's Behavioral Health and they offer guidance and community resources to support both our students and staff.**
80. Have you or do you plan to coordinate with any other local school districts to follow the same school schedules? I'm wondering about Denville staff and their own children as well as Denville students who have parents that work in various school districts. I appreciate your efforts and thank you for including us all in this meeting. **We have been sharing ideas, but all district plans are going to be unique.**
81. Will there be BYOD device for elementary students so the need not share devices that cannot be properly cleaned between uses? **We will provide devices for students who need them.**
82. How will the schools monitor how many students are in the restroom in terms of adhering to social distancing?
83. Not sure if this is asked but will there be an on-site kindergarten orientation. **At this point the plan is that it would be live and in-person with some modifications.**

84. Due to privacy how will students or staff be told regarding a case of Covid in their class? will they all have to quarantine for 14 days the entire class? **The Department of Health guides us on this.**
85. On the days the students are not in school, will virtual learning be synchronous or asynchronous ? **We have the capability to do synchronous instruction but have not made any decisions on this at this point. If synchronous, the student teacher interaction will not necessarily be immediate. Students will have the ability to listen at home, but will have to ask questions at a designated time.**
86. Have you determined how much space (sq. footage) is required for 100% of each grade / school? **See the [Road Back](#) for information on square footage requirements. It will not be possible to socially distance all students at the same time.**
87. Will you be using textbooks, notebooks, pencils and other supplies at school? or will it all be done via Chromebook? **Individual supplies will be used at school. They will not be shared amongst students.**
88. Will there be a revised report card (and report card committee) since students will be learning and teachers will be teaching in ways that raised issues for fourth marking period assessment? **We will consider adjustments to report cards if necessary, after a specific plan has been determined.**
89. Thank you. As we approach the fall/winter, we will see an increase in endemic illnesses, like the flu. How will this work with contact tracing efforts? If a child has a fever, will it be “presumptive COVID-19” in which the class/teacher will quarantine until a test result comes back (e.g. confirmed influenza or negative COVID)? **The Department of Health will guide us on all health matters.** On another note, we all have different thresholds of risk, households with potential high risk individuals. This is clearly not one-size fits all. I’d like to see the option to “throttle” virtual verses in-person based on individual households. Finally, I’d like to know your thoughts on speech recognition for early learners who can’t see lips. **We have purchased face coverings that have a clear window for speech therapists and for any other personnel who may need them.**
90. For kindergarten, will the curriculum be identical across classrooms? This would be helpful if parents need to "team up" if virtual learning is required for this age. **All staff district-wide utilize the same curriculum and educational programs.**
91. Is there consideration for using outdoor space for instruction as much as possible? Perhaps tents could be set up outside. **We are planning to have students go outside during the day. The tent idea is something we will look into.**

Comments Below

Comments:

This is an impossible, herculean effort. Thank you, Denville, team for your efforts!

This is an overwhelming task, thank you for all your hard work.

Thank you and I know you will do your best

Thank you for all your hard work to keep our kids safe!

Good luck this is a difficult task, thank you for all your hard work!

Thank you for having this meeting, and all that you do. This isn't easy for anyone, that's for sure.

Thank you Administration for all over your hard work during this time.

Thank you for all of your hard work during this difficult time! We appreciate it!

Thank you for all your hard work and keeping our kids safe. Much appreciated.

Thank you for your dedication to our students and staff!

I know we are limited to state guidelines too but would like to make sure working parent limitations are also considered. Maybe we parents can work out some sort of scheduling for non-school days. Not all of our companies are sympathetic to our school situation.

Thank you all for all that you do!

Thank you so much for all of your hard work and for letting all of the parents participate in this Zoom call. It was very informative and helpful.

Face coverings should be mandatory for everyone in the building.

A/B/C schedule would be better at VV 6/7/8 grade days

Thank you for your hard work in this endeavor!

You are all appreciated, thank you

NO PE

Thank for taking on this tremendous task!

Thanks to all. Your hard work is much appreciated.

thank you all for working so hard for our kids and staff!

Thank you all for your great help and support for our children

Half day schedules would eliminate the need for lunches (and face coverings to be removed, lots of students in a smaller area)

Thank you in advance for all of your hard work!

I appreciate all the hard work and effort by everyone here and on the staff. This will be a difficult and fluid situation and I look forward to working with everyone to have the most successful year possible. thank you!

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to listen to the presentation and ask questions

I feel half day PM for students will be difficult; rotating half day am days may be a more smooth transition. Thank you for your time and efforts- this is an extremely difficult task.

Thank you for this effort to address everyone's concerns

Based on studies, in order to reduce transmission, ALL staff and students should wear masks as it will be very difficult to have young student social distance.

Live streaming becomes a real privacy issue. Other parents could view my child in the classroom which I think it is a real concern for the privacy and safety of the children.

I strongly recommend education/training for the students on COVID and their roles and responsibilities in keeping themselves and classmates safe.

students should be allowed to carry backpacks at VV to eliminate locker use

See West Caldwell plan.... HS to stay virtual and elementary school and MS spread out into the HS to extra space

Hudson county school doing split a/b day. 1/2 the students come Monday and Tuesday, Wednesday schools get sanitized, 1/2 students come Thursday Friday. Not a bad idea for a a/b day schedule and might be something to consider. That way you are keeping the same kids for two days in a row.

I think half day PM would be very difficult for many families unless YMCA is providing morning care

Please encourage and support teachers in staying home if they are sick

Consider virtual instruction for the high risk kids and their families

I think it will be very difficult for the younger students to wear a mask while they are in school.

How are the teachers able to teach and make sure every student has their mask on. It is not easy to wear a mask for several hours. I'm in HealthCare and it is very difficult. I would prefer a live stream for my child.