



REOPENING PLAN

Richland County Community Unit 1

2020 - 2021

Information Guide for the reopening of school for the 2020 - 2021 school year based on guidance from the Illinois State Board of Education, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. This is a summary document with a more detailed plan to be released at a later date.

Priorities/Goals

Prioritize student/staff health and safety

Return to in-person learning during Phase 4 or 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan

Meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of students

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) & Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)

Guidelines

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including face coverings
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space
- Require social distancing be observed as much as possible
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings
- Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection

RCCU1 Model

In-person learning has been strongly encouraged by ISBE during Phase 4. It is the belief of RCCU1 that in-person learning will best meet the needs of most students. During Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois Plan, an In-Person Learning Model will be the norm for all district schools with strict following of IDPH & ISBE guidelines. In this model, students will follow a somewhat normal school routine, but this will not be the same as the pre-pandemic routine.

A Remote Learning Option is available for students who have an elevated health risk or a family member with an elevated health risk or for students who are not comfortable with in-person learning at this time. If the Remote Learning Option is selected, this will be for the entire grading period term or trimester. A student may move back to in-person learning for the new grading period by contacting their school's principal.

If Illinois returns to Phase 3 or lower, the entire school district will return to Full Remote Learning. Full Remote Learning 2.0 will adhere to stricter guidelines for student learning and participation than existed in the spring. This includes daily participation in instruction from home.

Online registration will begin on Monday, August 3rd. During the registration process, students must select the method of learning they intend to use. Students are not able to switch from in-person learning to remote learning during a grading period, unless it is the result of a required quarantine period.

Instruction

During all aspects of the RCCU1 Reopening Plan, each grade level and course will consistently implement curriculum standards with a focus on essential standards. This will also include specific steps to address any possible learning loss from the school closure in spring 2020. The school district will use Schoology as a learning management platform at all grade levels. The school day will be shortened during Phase 4 and a tentative schedule may be found below. This shortened schedule will further reduce potential contact/exposure, reduce the amount of time students are wearing masks, and provide additional time for teacher planning to allow for preparation for both in-person and remote learning.

In-Person Learning Model

- Classrooms
 - Social distancing will be practiced to the greatest extent possible.
 - Face coverings will be mandatory.
 - Student desks will be facing the same direction as much as possible.
 - Frequent cleaning and disinfecting protocols will occur.
 - Students will practice frequent hand hygiene and use hand sanitizer as needed.
- Richland County Elementary School
 - To the extent possible, students will remain in static groups to limit contact/exposure to other students.
 - Arrival and departure times will be staggered to limit group sizes.
 - Other schedules during the school day will be staggered to limit student contact/exposure.
 - Lunch periods will not have an entire grade level in the dining hall at the same time. This may require eating in classrooms or other alternatives.
 - Specials courses (PE, Music, Art, Library, etc.) will be offered in a modified way.
 - Tentative Schedule
 - 8:00 am - 1:45 pm
- Richland County Middle School
 - Students will remain in a cohort group during most of the school day.
 - Arrival and departure times will be staggered to limit group sizes.
 - Passing periods will be modified to limit student contact/exposure.
 - Lunch periods will be modified to prevent all students from being together in the cafeteria at the same time.
 - Students will take elective courses on a regular schedule with modifications.

- Physical Education classes will not require uniforms or use locker rooms.
- Music classes will have special protocols based on IDPH/ISBE guidelines.
- Art supplies will not be shared by students.
- Tentative Schedule
 - 8:05 am - 1:55 pm
- Richland County High School
 - Students will begin the school year by utilizing a blended learning model.
 - Students will attend classes two (2) days a week and complete remote learning activities the rest of the week. The details of how the schedule will work on these two days will be included in the full reopening plan that will be released the first week of August.
 - During remote learning days, students should expect to log into their classes during the regularly scheduled time.
 - Students will attend classes at an alternative site until the RCHS renovation project is at a point to allow a return to full in-person learning. More information about this location will be released the first week of August.
 - For a student participating in in-person learning, all courses will be available. If a student is involved in remote learning, some courses that have specific “hands-on” components will not be available.
 - Tentative Schedule
 - 8:10 am - 1:10 pm
 - Students will attend all 4 blocks and be released with a sack lunch if they typically eat lunch at the school.

Remote Learning Option

- Student Eligibility
 - Students with an elevated health risk or a family member with elevated health risk.
 - Students who are uncomfortable with in-person instruction.
- Length of Remote Learning
 - Students may not move back and forth between in-person learning and remote learning during a grading period.
 - RCES students may change to a different learning model at the end of the trimester by contacting their school’s principal.
 - RCMS & RCHS students may change to a different learning model at the end of the 9-week term by contacting their school’s principal.
- Student Expectations
 - Consistent internet access must be available for the student.
 - Attendance, grading, and accountability is the same as for in-person learning.