FREEHOLD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

CHARTING THE COURSE TO REOPENING SCHOOLS

Updated Oct. 7, 2020
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Health & Safety Guidelines

The health and safety of students and staff is our number one priority and has guided our decisions of the FRHSD Reopening Plan. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended school administrators encourage everyone in the school and the community to practice preventive behaviors and implement COVID-19 mitigation strategies (e.g., social distancing, cloth face coverings, hand hygiene, and use of cohorting) in schools.

Prior to sending students to school, parents will be required to complete a daily COVID-19 Self Evaluation Checklist in the Genesis Parent Portal. Please remember that sending a student to school who has exhibited COVID-19 symptoms in the last 24 hours places other students and staff members at risk of becoming ill. Additionally, students will be required to participate in a temperature check screening prior to entering the building. Anyone who registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher or presents with symptoms of COVID-19, will be directed to the isolation area in the nurse’s office for further evaluation and containment. The school nurse will conduct a health assessment of the student. The student will remain in the isolation area under the supervision of the nurse or designated staff member until a parent or emergency contact can arrive. The parent/guardian will be provided with a letter on COVID-19 protocols for medical attention and return to school requirements.

Students who are symptomatic must be evaluated by their medical physician. A symptomatic student must provide medical documentation before the student will be permitted to return to school. The school nurse will review the documentation and inform the principal who may consult with the school physician prior to granting permission for a return to in-person school.

Students who test positive for COVID-19 will not be permitted to return to school for a minimum of 10 calendar days since symptoms first appeared and at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved, as per CDC guidelines.

Students who have had close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 will not be permitted into school for a minimum of 14 calendar days, as per CDC guidelines. Students and staff who were in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be directed to monitor their health during quarantine while following up with a medical provider.

The Health Office will collaborate with the Attendance Office and administration to ensure that students who have been sent home ill from school, students who have been absent from school due to COVID-19, or students who have had close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19 will not return to school before obtaining medical clearance.

Students who cannot return to school due to quarantine or medical restrictions will participate in Remote Learning.

When the school nurse is made aware that a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19, the school nurse will notify the department of health so that the local department of health can conduct Contact Tracing for any person(s) that could have been exposed. When the school nurse is made aware of possible exposure of students or staff to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, the school nurse will also notify the local health department. The school nurse and Director of Guidance & Operations will support the local department(s) of health with Contact Tracing efforts. FRHSD nurses and the Director of Guidance & Operations have completed the COVID-19 Contact Tracing course provided by Johns Hopkins University.
Maintaining Healthy Environments

Social Distancing in Instructional and Non-Instructional Rooms

- Students will maintain social distancing to the maximum extent practicable.
- All students and staff will wear a face covering in classrooms and on school buses. Face covering breaks will occur when it is safe to do so.
- Students and staff are expected to provide and wear their own face covering. A face covering will be provided by the FRHSD in the event that a student or staff member forgets their face covering or the face covering breaks or is faulty.
- Signs and floor graphics will be placed throughout the school depicting six feet of social distancing.
- Classrooms will be structured so that student desks and work areas are spaced apart to abide by social distancing standards to the maximum extent practicable.
- Students will need to use their own supplies in class.
- Bathrooms will be monitored to ensure limited capacity that adheres to social distancing to the maximum extent practicable.
- Students who refuse to comply with health and safety protocols will be addressed on a case-by-case basis that may include counselor intervention or disciplinary measures, and may result in transition to full-time remote learning.

Facilities Cleaning Practices

- CDC/EPA compliant cleaning and disinfecting supplies and equipment acquired.
- High touch areas continuously sanitized throughout the school day.
- Building systems adjusted to provide enhanced ventilation before/during/after building occupancy.
- Filters in recirculation units were upgraded, where equipment is compatible.
- School bathrooms converted to touchless fixtures.
- Water fountains disabled or converted to bottle fill stations.

Hand Sanitizing/Washing

- Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands often throughout the day following the CDC’s guidelines for effective hand washing.
- Signs/posters throughout the school will notice students and faculty of effective hand washing procedures.
- Hand sanitizer consisting of at least 60% alcohol will be readily available throughout the school in spaces such as classrooms, offices, and hallways.
Students Return to the Building

New Conditions to Expect

• Prior to the start of the school day, parents will be required to complete the daily COVID-19 Self Evaluation Checklist via the student information system, Genesis.

• Students utilizing the school bus will be required to wear a face covering for the duration of their ride.

• All students will be required to participate in a temperature check screening via temperature screening machines prior to entering the building. Anyone who registers a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, will be directed to the isolation area in the nurse’s office for further evaluation.

• Arrival and dismissal, including passing time, will be staggered to avoid overcrowding.

• Designated hallways and stairwells will be marked as “one way” to minimize occurrences of students and faculty walking towards one another.

• Schools will follow the rotating block schedule on a partial day schedule that limits hallway movement to 5 classes per day.

• Students are responsible for having their laptop, Chromebook or tablet charged and ready each school day.

• Equipment machinery, art supplies, etc. identified as needed to deliver the curriculum critical content will not be shared without students wiping them with a sanitizing wipe before and after use, and as designated by the teacher. In some instances, gloves will be expected to be worn when utilizing specific pieces of equipment.

• There will be no direct contact with equipment during physical education classes. Low-risk activities will take place including walking, yoga, HIIT circuits/fitness stations, dance, calisthenics, etc.

• Locker rooms will be closed. Students are 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 in physical education.

• There will be no lunch served in school. A “Grab-and-Go” lunch option will be available for students before departure. Food distribution will continue for families that qualify for assistance.

• Athletic participation will be guided by the NJSIAA, however, FRHSD reserves the right to put more protective and restrictive measures in place to ensure the safety of each of its school communities. Athletic participation will require that athletes complete a COVID-19 questionnaire and have their temperature checked prior to engaging in any school athletics on a daily basis.

• After school clubs and extra- and co-curricular activities may be able to meet, however, these meetings may be held remotely.
Hybrid Learning and Educational Program

The directive from the NJDOE, The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education, is to open schools for in-person instruction in September 2020. A Hybrid Schedule creates cohorts of students to allow students to attend school in person while we adhere to all CDC and NJDOH health and safety guidelines. All students will attend their scheduled classes every day, whether the student is in school or at home.

Students are assigned a cohort by last name. Schools will work with families to ensure that children in the same household will be assigned to the same cohort.

- Last Names A-L:
  * In-Person Learning: Mondays & Tuesdays and alternating Wednesdays
  * Remote Learning: Thursdays & Fridays and alternating Wednesdays

- Last Names M-Z:
  * In-Person Learning: Thursdays & Fridays and alternating Wednesdays
  * Remote Learning: Mondays & Tuesdays and alternating Wednesdays

- FRHSD self-contained special education students and English Language Learners (ELL):
  * In-Person Learning: Monday through Friday

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Remote learning in the Hybrid Schedule during the 2020-2021 school year will look significantly different from your child’s experience last spring. Students in all cohorts will attend their scheduled classes on the partial day bell schedule, following the rotating block schedule.

When students are attending classes in person, they will bring their charged laptop, Chromebook, or tablet to school. Lunch will not be served in school. Instead a “grab and go” option will be available for students before departure. Food distribution will continue for families that qualify for assistance.

When students are attending classes at home, students attend classes on the bell schedule via Google Meet and Google Classroom (Google Classroom for Physical Education classes).

- Students attending class from home via Google Meet must have their camera on and microphone muted. Teachers may ask students to unmute when appropriate to do so.

- After attendance and daily instruction has occurred, at their discretion, teachers may end the Meet with students at home and respond to their questions during designated times after the partial school day but before the end of the full day.

The FRHSD Grading System and Genesis will be used to measure and communicate student progress and to determine Marking Period and Final Grades. The district attendance policy will be in effect whether the student is in school or at home.

All individualized supports, modifications, and accommodations required by IEP and 504 plans will be provided. All education resources required for use by English Language Learners will be modified and accommodated as appropriate.
As per Supplemental Guidance provided on July 24, 2020 by the NJ Governor and Commissioner of Education, all students are eligible for full-time remote learning. Families may request the Full-time Remote Learning Choice option through the Genesis Parent Portal beginning Tuesday, August 11 with a completion date of Tuesday, August 18. Families who make this choice must commit to the Full-time Remote Learning for the entire marking period.

- The Full-time Remote Learning Choice option will be on a per marking period basis. Expectations for teachers and all student cohorts in all classes are the same to support transitions between schedules as required. The daily learning plan is the same for all student cohorts in the class.

Students who have selected Full-time Remote Learning Choice option will:

- Attend their scheduled classes every day on the partial day bell schedule via Google Meet and Google Classroom.
- Have an opportunity to meet with teachers remotely during designated times after the partial day schedule ends (within the regularly scheduled school day).
- Be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and athletics. All physical and academic eligibility requirements must be met.

During the school year, a request to transition to the Full-time Remote Learning Choice option must be submitted to the Principal or designee at least five calendar days before the student is eligible to commence full-time remote learning.
All Remote Learning and Educational Program

In the event circumstances require, it may be necessary to transition to an All Students Remote Schedule. The expectations for students in the All Students Remote Schedule are the same as in the Hybrid Schedule to support transitions between models as required.

All students will attend their scheduled classes every day from home via Google Meet and Google Classroom.

- Students attending class from home via Google Meet must have their camera on and microphone muted. Teachers may ask students to unmute when appropriate to do so.

- After attendance and daily instruction has occurred, at their discretion, teachers can end the Meet with students at home and respond to their questions during designated time after the partial school day but before the end of the full day.

All individualized supports, modifications, and accommodations required by IEP and 504 plans will be provided. All education resources required for use by English Language Learners will be modified and accommodated as appropriate.

The FRHSD Grading System and Genesis will be used to measure and communicate student progress and to determine Marking Period and Final Grades. The district attendance policy will be in effect.
Cohorts with Specialized Schedules

The self-contained special education, English Language Learners (ELLs), displaced/homeless, and Monmouth County Vocational School District shared-time students will have specialized schedules.

Self-contained Special Education Students

FRHSD students enrolled in our self-contained special education class programs will be scheduled for in-person learning, Monday through Friday, following a partial day schedule. This 5-day school week schedule will apply to students participating in the following programs:

- Learning Language Disabilities (LLD) Program at Colts Neck, Freehold and Marlboro High Schools
- Cognitive Mild Program and Workplace Training Program (WTP) at Freehold High School
- Cognitive Moderate Program (PEP) and Workplace Training Program (WTP) at Freehold Township High School
- Autism Program and Autism Workplace Training Program (WTP) at Howell High School
- Regional Learning Academy (RLA) at Manalapan High School
- Student Transition Education Program (STEP) at Colts Neck, Manalapan and Marlboro High Schools

English Language Learners

FRHSD students enrolled in our English Language Learners (ELLs) program will be scheduled for in-person learning, Monday through Friday, following a partial day schedule. All education resources required for use by ELLs will be modified and accommodated as appropriate.

Homeless and Displaced Students

FRHSD students experiencing homelessness or displacement will have the option to attend their scheduled classes in school, Monday through Friday, following a partial day schedule. Individualized supports, modifications, and accommodations required by IEP and 504 plans will be provided.

Monmouth County Vocational School District Shared-Time Students

FRHSD students who attend Monmouth County Vocational School District (MCVSD) shared-time programs will attend MCVSD in-person on Mondays and Tuesdays and attend FRHSD in-person on Wednesday through Friday.

MCVSD & Career Center:

Students who attend MCVSD in the MORNING (Middletown & Neptune):
- Students will be bussed from home to MCVSD.
- Students will be bussed from MCVSD to their FRHSD Home School at 10:20am.
- Students will attend a portion of Block 4 FRHSD Study Hall.
- Students will attend their FRHSD Block 5 class.

Students who attend MCVSD (Freehold) and Career Center in the MORNING:
- Students will be bussed from home to FRHSD Home School.
- Students will be bussed from FRHSD Home School to MCVSD or Career Center.
- Students will be bussed from MCVSD or Career Center to their FRHSD Home School at 10:20am.
- Students will attend a portion of Block 4 FRHSD Study Hall.
- Students will attend their FRHSD Block 5 class.

Students who attend MCVSD and Career Center in the AFTERNOON:
- Students attend FRHSD classes remotely from home in the morning.
- Students will be bussed from home to MCVSD or Career Center at 10:30am.
- Students will be bussed from MCVSD or Career Center to home at the end of the day.
Buses will operate with limited capacity

The Hybrid Schedule will reduce the daily capacity of the school buses. Families that choose Full-time Remote Learning Choice option will also reduce the capacity on the school buses.

Students who ride the school bus will be required to wear face coverings at all times on the bus.

Upon entering the school bus, students should make use of the provided hand sanitizer. Students are to load back to front with only one student allowed per seat (two per row, one on either side of the aisle). Siblings may sit together. The first row of seats will remain vacant.

District-employed school bus drivers shall wear a face covering and face shield during the loading and unloading process. Drivers will not wear the face covering or shield while driving the bus. Contracted bus companies will ensure all FRHSD safety actions and protocols are followed by its employees.

When exiting the bus, students will disembark front to back. They should once again utilize the supplied hand sanitizer.

Buses will be cleaned and disinfected after morning routes and at the end of the day. Buses will be disinfected in between tiers.