

Providence Hebrew Day School

Reopening Plan 2020-2021

General Information

The following applies to all in-person reopening scenarios

A. Instruction (Remote and In-Person)

1. Students in Grades K – 8 will be administered grade level STAR testing within the first month of school. Teachers will work with administration to devise a plan to cover any gaps discovered by this testing.
2. Students with IEPs and 504 Plans who are entitled to additional time and/or alternative testing sites will receive such if needed.
3. Additional time will be spent in classes reviewing any areas in which the majority of the class has deficiencies.
4. Title I support will be offered to all students who fall below the 40%.
5. Students with IEPs will continue to receive support from the local school department.

B. Remediation and Intervention

1. Title I support will be provided for any students who fall below the 40%. As indicated above, this will be determined by STAR testing.
2. Students may exit Title I support when they score above the 40%.
3. Title I staff will be determined by the school department.
4. The school's social worker will be available to (continue to) work with any students who need support.

C. Special Education Services

1. This is at the discretion of the school department.

D. Staff Supports

1. Professional development sessions were offered throughout the Spring semester and have continued over the summer. This is true both in the areas of technology and social emotional development.
2. Professional development for the 2020-2021 school year will focus on these areas as well.

E. Family and Community Engagement

1. Multiple parent surveys were conducted during the Spring 2020 distance learning experience and results were used to mold our distance learning model as the program evolved and will be used if distance learning is needed to be implemented again.
2. Parental communication – via email – is already established. Email buddies are in place to call any parents who do not have regular access to email.

3. Parents and students have a close relationship with school staff due to the small size and close nature of our school.

F. Social Emotional and Mental Health Support

1. The crisis team will be comprised of the dean, principals, social worker, and middle school counselor.
2. Mrs. Kayla Schochet, the school's social worker, will work with RIDOH and community partners to review any policies and directives as required by the state.
3. Mrs. Schochet, the school counselor, and any of her mentees shall use their skills for counseling all students and staff that are referred to see the school counselor.
4. All mental health professionals will use our classroom designated for counseling. All mental health specialists must follow all social distancing guidelines mentioned in this document. Furthermore, the counseling room will need to be sanitized in between sessions if students being counseled fall outside of the same pod; e.g.; not between two first graders but yes between one first grader and one middle school student.
5. Teachers have received resources from RIDE and participated in webinars on this topic provided by RIDE and others.

G. Cleaning and Decontamination

1. Staff and students will be instructed to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially before they enter and exit a classroom, prior to any mealtimes, and after using the restroom.
2. Hand-washing facilities with soap and running water will be available to staff, students, and visitors or hand-sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol content) will be provided that can be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water (sanitizer is an option only if hands are not visibly soiled.) These stations will be available in all classrooms.
3. Procedures will be developed to monitor the supply of soap and/or hand-sanitizer, and replenish it as needed.
4. Hand sanitizing stations will be mounted by every entrance to the school and near all bathrooms as well as in every hallway. Some of the classrooms already have sinks with hot and cold running water.
5. Facilities and Management – All facilities issues are handled by Rabbi Peretz Scheinerman, including the deep cleaning of all classrooms by Aid Cleaning. Aid Cleaning is managing both the building sanitization at night and instruction and training of the day porter on the policies of disinfection of high-contact areas multiple times during the day, as well as the set-up, cleaning and breaking down of the lunch room on a daily basis.
6. There will be a daily deep cleaning of all surfaces in restrooms, staff rooms, lunchrooms, meeting rooms, classrooms, shared spaces, and drop-off and pick-up locations as well as nightly sanitization using an electrostatic cleaning with special attention to all contact and entry point handles, in compliance with all CDC guidelines. In addition, there will be additional sanitization of bathrooms and contact points during the day.

H. Reopening Operations

1. Due to our small size and many exits, evacuation and fire drills as well as lockdown drills should be able to proceed as normal.
2. Budgetary concerns – The school will be reaching out to RIDE for our portion of government funding, as well as to local funders and fundraisers, E-rate and other grants from FEMA for the purposes of building disinfection and purchase of plexiglass dividers. We are also registered for and have applied to receive security grants to upgrade the school security to further harden our facility. Items that exceed the allocation of our budget are referred to our budget and finance committee for review. The dean deals with all administrative requests to make sure the building is a safe environment for our students while keeping in sync with the direction of RIDE.
3. At this point, while we do not envision hiring new staff members, we do plan on expanding current employee's hours to ensure appropriate supervision at all times within the new structure. The cost of this increase has not yet been determined. Should we have to go to a limited model, this cost will be considerably more substantial.
4. Schedules are being developed that allow for students to remain in their designated classrooms (1-3 per pod, depending on grade) throughout the day, including lunch, other than weekly science labs, PE, and recess.
5. Almost all students walk to school or are transported by their parents. The Pawtucket bus students will also function as a separate stable group. Only siblings will sit in adjoining seats on the bus.
6. Rabbi Brown will be the technology point of contact.
7. The school will have, at the start of school, enough Chromebooks to provide one to each student and teacher in Grades 1 and up.
8. Software that was purchased in the Spring will continue to be used, if needed, during the 2020-2021 school year.
9. Each teacher will have his/her own designated Chromebook unless using a personal laptop instead.
10. Each student will have his/her own designated Chromebook.
11. All Chromebooks are stored in the school when not needed for remote instruction, in the classrooms of the students they are designated for.
12. The chromebooks will also be used for any in-school computer classes.
13. The school will keep track of which chromebooks are in school and which are loaned out.
14. Administration will reach out to all staff regarding any personal concerns regarding returning to the school building.
15. The staff's Reopening Committee will be charged with serving as a conduit for any communication between the lay leadership and school with any concerns. Mrs. Peromsik is the point person for this and can be reached at mperomsik@phdschool.org.