



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PRIDE IN EXCELLENCE

Planning for the 2020-2021 School Year

July 25, 2020

The guidance referenced in this presentation will continue to be updated as new data and information becomes available.



Hope, inspiration and love guide our efforts

**“Desire is the key to motivation,
but it's the determination and commitment
to unrelenting pursuit of your goal - a
commitment to excellence - that will enable
you to attain the success you seek.”**

~Mario Andretti



RCS embraces the challenge

The RCS Pandemic Task Force:

- Began collaborating in February 2020
- Provided support for RCS to lead the state in the pivot to remote learning
- Has evolved to align with the Opportunity Labs' Return to School Roadmap
- Includes students, parents, support staff, teachers, union leadership, and administrators which formed 16 subcommittees
- Guided the end of the 2019-20 school year and have focused on efforts to reshape the 2020-21 school year



How are we reshaping?

Safety and wellness remain at the forefront of all we do.

Efforts focus on:

- Training/education
- Risk mitigation
 - Personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - Hygiene
 - Spacing, movement, access, and cohorting
- Creation of the RCS Virtual Campus
- Enhanced cleaning protocols
- Enhanced remote learning program for a potential school closure



Following the MI Safe Start Plan

What will school look like for my child in the fall?

The answer depends on the phase that our region is in at any point in time.





Following the MI Safe Schools: Return to School Roadmap

**When our region is in Phase 3 or less:
No in-person instruction may occur.**

- Enhanced remote learning and the RCS Virtual Campus
- Contingency learning plans for students with Individualized education programs (IEPs)

Please note that the guidance referenced in this presentation will continue to be updated as new data and information becomes available.



Following the MI Safe Schools: Return to School Roadmap

When our region is in Phase 4: In-person instruction is permitted with required safety protocols.

- In-person instruction and the RCS Virtual Campus
- Contingency learning plans for some students with IEP's and health-risk factors
- Required risk mitigation for in-person instruction
 - Face coverings for all staff
 - Face coverings for all students while using district transportation
 - Face coverings for students in grades 6-12 through out the school day, and for K-5 when not with cohort and in common areas
 - No indoor assemblies with more than one class
 - Enhanced handwashing practices
 - Enhanced cleaning protocols



Following the MI Safe Schools: Return to School Roadmap

When our region is in Phase 5: In-person instruction will be permitted with minimal required safety protocols.

- In-person instruction and the RCS Virtual Campus
- Contingency learning plans for some students with IEPs and health risk factors
- Required risk mitigation for in-person instruction will transition to strongly recommended or recommended factors, which indicate local decisions.



Two learning options for families

In-Person Instruction

- In phases 4 and 5, students attend school and all classes daily with required safety protocols.
- In phase 3, in-person instruction will move to enhanced remote learning.
- Secondary students have access to all traditional classes.



RCS Virtual Campus

- Daily online instruction
- Remains the same in phase 3, 4, and 5
- RCS teacher instructs most courses
- Secondary students have access to limited RCS courses in conjunction with other online courses





Enhanced remote learning

Remote learning enrichments include:

- Common online platform: Google Classroom
- Increased contact time with classroom teacher(s)
- Increased contact time with Special Education support staff
- More structured daily schedule
- Secondary students receive feedback and grades
- Elementary students receive timely, standards-based feedback
- Students with IEPs receive progress monitoring towards their IEP goals
- Daily attendance will be taken

Factors to consider



Your child's current health and/or risk factors related to COVID-19



Your child's ability to be self-paced



Your family's current health and/or risk factors related to COVID-19



Your child's learning style



Dynamics within your household



Special populations

Can a student with an IEP enroll in the RCS Virtual Campus?

The short answer is maybe...

The IEP process is an individualized process and no two students or IEPs alike.

The RCS Virtual Campus would be considered a change in placement, and discussions regarding changes to the IEP would take place as part of the IEP team process.

Decisions will determine if the RCS Virtual Campus is an appropriate placement or what, if any, accommodations and supports are needed in the IEP process after an application to the RCS Virtual Campus is submitted.

We are working with the Michigan Department of Education to determine options available through the IEP process for students who cannot attend in-person instruction due to health risk factors.



Pride in Excellence

Education at its core is a social endeavor. Relationships, connections, collaboration, and teamwork are essential components of learning.

At RCS we are committed to have a loving, caring teacher in front of students to reach the whole-child in an endeavor to learn.

We also recognize that safety always comes first.

We have committed to creating the RCS Virtual Campus with the heart of RCS in mind and the talent of our RCS educators who understand the needs of our students.

We are truly grateful for our community's kindness and support. Ensuring the safe return to schools is a team effort.

