



HAGA CLIC PARA ESPAÑOL

Morris School District Safe Return: 2021-22 School Opening

August, 2021

We look forward to welcoming all MSD students and staff back into our school buildings next month for the 2021-22 academic year! Many of the adjustments necessary last year in light of the pandemic no longer apply, but we still have in place an evidence-based, multi-layered approach to protective measures so that we can provide the best conditions for learning in a safe and healthy environment.

Use the chart on pages 2-3 as a quick reference guide to our Safe Return protocols and instructional practices for 2021-22. Here we compare school opening 2021-22 with 2020-21 to help students, staff, and families see how the current plan will differ from the previous year. More detailed information will be available on our website in the coming weeks and will be shared with the community in updates on the [Coronavirus Update Center](#).

Our Safe Return Plan is based on guidelines and recommendations from agencies that make determinations for public schools, most notably the NJ Department of Education and the NJ Department of Health, as well as from our local health department here in Morristown/Morris Township. Please be aware that all aspects of this plan are subject to change as pandemic conditions--and the resulting guidelines--shift.

While we hope that life in school returns to a more “normal” state of affairs, we continue to be prepared for a number of possible scenarios so that we can respond quickly and decisively to keep our district community safe.

Please see School Opening Comparison Chart below:

School Opening Comparison Chart

MSD PROTOCOLS	2021-2022 OPENING	2020-2021 OPENING
Masks in Buildings and Buses	Required	Required
Social Distancing at School	3 feet in classrooms; 6 feet at lunch	6 feet
Social Distancing on Buses	No	Yes
Full School Day	Yes	No
Lunch	Yes	No
All-Virtual Option	No	Yes
Staggered Start and Dismissal Times, K-5	No	Yes
Temperature Checks, K-5	No	Yes
Hybrid Schedule for Grades 6-12	No	Yes
Cohorts for Grades 6-12	No	Yes
Use of Hallway Lockers	MHS: Yes FMS: No	No
Use of Locker Rooms for PE	No	No
Small Group Learning	Yes	No
In-Person Specials	Yes	No
Performing Arts Classes and Ensembles (music, theatre, etc.)	Yes	Limited
Back to School Night	In Person	All Virtual
Elementary Conferences	In Person	All Virtual
IEP/Parent Meetings	In Person or Virtual	All Virtual
Science Labs	Yes	All Virtual or Limited In Person
Shared Supplies	Yes	No
Club Meetings	In Person	All Virtual

MSD PROTOCOLS	2021-2022 OPENING	2020-2021 OPENING
Extracurriculars	In Person	All Virtual
Athletics	Regular season schedules	Modified season schedules
Emphasis on Ventilation and Air Purification	Yes	Yes
Emphasis on Cleaning and Sanitizing Facilities and Equipment	Yes	Yes
Emphasis on Handwashing and Using Hand Sanitizer	Yes	Yes
Use of Google Classroom and Canvas	Yes	Yes
Seating Charts in Classrooms and Buses	Yes	Yes
Staff/Student Daily Screening	Yes	Yes
Contact Tracing	Yes	Yes
Isolation Area in All Schools	Yes	Yes
Coronavirus Update Center	Yes	Yes