

Question	Answer
<p>During the presentation, Dr. Ruberto mentioned that she met with leadership in an online school. They estimated learning deficits of ~50%. How does that data translate to an in-person environment vs in a fully experienced online school setting? In an established online academy, they are technology rich and more experienced in an online learning platform.</p>	<p>Clarification: “To learn about the virtual platform, I met with a totally virtual school.” It was estimated, not by the entity but through the utilization of formative data, that during the closing of schools in March to June, children could lose 40% in reading and 50% in Math. NJDOE directed that the mandated assessments would be administered in the Spring of 2020. Our District administered “benchmark” assessments in ELA and Math, K-8. The data was utilized to frame instruction. Moving forward, as identified in the plan, our District will be utilizing “MobyMax” and “Literably” as identified for benchmark assessments.</p>
<p>What will the limit be on the number of students on one bus? We might be comfortable with a bus that is at 50% or less of capacity but not more than that. No one will be able to monitor mask usage on the bus so we feel that this is very important that only every other seat is occupied unless within a single family.</p>	<p>Transportation: 52-55 Mandatory Mask to maintain compliance and capacity of the bus The provider has informed the District that they will follow all CDC Guidelines.</p>
<p>Will bus monitors be reinstated to ensure proper social distancing and mask etiquette during travel to and from school?</p>	<p>At this time there are no plans for bus monitors. There will be fewer children on the buses and the expectation is all children will wear masks to and from school.</p>
<p>I know that this is a critical subject that everyone would like to comment/question and understand the time constraints for the public session, are there any options or considerations that we can allow for more of the open questions? Could we post the presentations/documents earlier?</p>	<p>The district will continue to have open communication with parents. The parent question Google Form will remain open and monitored for additional questions asked. <a href="#">Parent Questions Regarding Reopening</a></p>
<p>Regarding the sanitizing protocols, are we ensuring that cleaning supplies are procured from qualified vendors? I am asking specifically because there have been several recalls issued by FDA due to inadequately manufactured hand sanitizers (due to the presence of methanol).</p>	<p>The cleaning supplies are all from qualified vendors and meet all sanitizing standards. The District monitors for recalls by the FDA. Our supply vendors work with us directly to ensure all sanitizing supplies are safe and efficient for use in schools and around students and staff.</p>
<p>During the meeting, you mentioned backpack sanitizers machines for the schools? Do we know the method for sanitization, is it chemical? is it UV?</p>	<p>The backpack sanitizers use an electrostatic spray that uses a specialized solution that is combined with air and atomized by an electrode inside the sprayer. Subsequently, the spray contains positively charged particles that are able to aggressively adhere to objects surfaces and objects.</p>

<p>It was mentioned in the board meeting that the case managers will be reaching out regarding special education and specific needs related to each child's IEP. Will that happen before the decision about hybrid vs. remote learning is due next week, as some of that will impact our decision. Thanks for all your hard work!</p>	<p>All families of students eligible for special education services should choose between the hybrid program and the Virtual Academy. At this time, the only families that will hear from case managers this week are those families of students who have specialized programs or pull out resource recommendations. If you have a specific concern related to another element of your child's program, please contact your case manager or the Office of Special Services.</p>
<p>Will it be addressed if a family is found to have dosed their child(ren) with Tylenol or cough meds to get through screening, as it puts their classmates &amp; teachers/staff at risk?</p>	<p>Families will be reminded to promote and work towards a healthy and safe environment for all by pledging to prevent the spread at the beginning of the school year. This pledge asks families to monitor their child(ren) for any and all symptoms and to respond to the daily screening accurately. We strongly discourage this practice in alignment with guidance from our school physician and the HC Department of Health.</p>
<p>Can you give a better description of how the all virtual option will run? Will the curriculum be the same?</p>	<p>The curriculum that is set to the New Jersey State Learning Standards will be the same for the virtual academy and hybrid model. For the virtual academy, students will follow a similar schedule as the hybrid model. Teachers will take daily attendance and deliver a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction.</p>
<p>Will virtual academy students be assigned to a teacher's roster and log in to the virtual classes live? Or will they be separate?</p>	<p>Virtual academy students will have designated teachers that will take daily attendance and deliver a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. The expectation will be for students to log in daily and follow a set schedule.</p>
<p>Will guidance counselors check in with virtual academy students?</p>	<p>Yes, guidance counselors will check in with both virtual academy and hybrid model students.</p>
<p>Will virtual academy plans include live class time for mostly a "social" connection?</p>	<p>With the virtual model, students will follow a schedule and receive daily instruction. Social and emotional learning will be woven into the daily instruction. Instruction will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous.</p>
<p>If there is an separate teacher for the online option, what happens if a student switches from virtual to in person for the 2nd marking period? Does that mean the student gets a different teacher?</p>	<p>At this time, we anticipate that teachers will all address remote and in person learning. The remote students should be able to join in live classes as the schedules allow. Students enrolled in the Virtual Academy will have the option of switching into the hybrid model at the end of the first marking period and their class assignment will be made at that time because the</p>

	number of students in each class must allow for social distancing, so yes the teacher may be different.
In considering the presentation on the NJSLA - Science Performance Levels and considering our return to school plans, how are we going to change our curricula for STEM disciplines for the lower grades?	The science standards were just adopted for 2021 and planning for staff will take place in the second half of this year, although the standards have already been shared. As we move through this year, professional development on analysis of the tests and adjustments in instruction will take place.
Some students face anxiety about being live on the computer with the class, while older students can sometimes feel as though these group live sessions are not required. How will attendance be measured for the hybrid students on days they are at home and for the virtual academy students?	We will be using the Qualtrics app for both pre-screening of students in buildings as well as participation/attendance for the children working remotely. The app will indicate that the student was online and involved in learning, as well as the work that is completed each day. More details and practice runs will be scheduled for August.
Will all grades for Virtual Academy have a live Zoom meeting each morning at the same time (not the same time each morning as a class, but rather all grades having the morning meeting at the same time daily)? With 3 children, will we have to manage having a quiet space for each of them to be able to attend those meetings at the same time?	This is a concern - we want to make live interaction a hallmark of learning remotely. At this time, I do not know the exact schedules. Samples were given in the plans and may be adjusted. I would want that feedback if there was an issue once we begin so that the teachers can be made aware and adjust schedules. We will also run recorded pieces so that lessons can be available for viewing at any time, or multiple times. However, we can adjust schedules so that live interaction is accessible.
My daughter was in K last year and had a hard time wanting to sign on and complete school work, as there were only suggested activities. I know you said you took into consideration feedback from the surveys, so will K -3 have actual assignments And live instruction to complete each day and turn in?	In the hybrid model, students will follow a schedule and receive daily instruction. Instruction will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous. Additional time will be allotted at the beginning of the year for our younger children to teach them how to access and navigate the school devices and digital platforms and access the online resources. Time spent with live instruction at the younger grades will evolve and increase as students learn to utilize the devices and platforms. (Students will be taught how to access the live instruction, before being expected to do so on a daily basis.)
Regarding masks, we know that mask effectiveness is linked to porosity. Will there be certain types of cloth face coverings that will be used?	Per New Jersey guidelines, the cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or medical grade N-95 respirators. Different types of face coverings can be explored to ensure each child's ability to wear the mask comfortably, including cloth masks and gator neck masks. To wear correctly, it must be ensured that your child can breathe through the face covering and that your child's nose and mouth is covered. <a href="#">Please visit this</a>

	<p><a href="#">CDC page for more information</a> on how to appropriately wear a face mask.</p>
<p>What do you think the probability is of a positive covid case in the school district? What is the plan once that occurs</p>	<p>Our district is in collaboration with the Hunterdon County Health Department to monitor incident rates in Clinton Township. Our District established a response protocol for suspected COVID-19 individuals and when notified of a positive COVID-19 case by the Hunterdon County Health Department. The protocol outlines response paths based on the type of incident or illness identified. The response protocol includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Noticeable illness procedures</li> <li>● Suspected or confirmed Positive COVID-19 individual procedures</li> <li>● Respectful Isolation guidelines</li> <li>● Quarantine guidelines</li> <li>● Outbreaks Determination <i>Note: These may only be declared by the Hunterdon County Health Department and school doctor in consultation with the Superintendent</i></li> <li>● Contact Tracing</li> </ul>
<p>If we already completed the technology survey stating that our child has a Chromebook of her own to use, will she still be given a Chromebook by the school to use? We do not want our Chromebook leaving the house, especially being transported to school by our 7 year old.</p>	<p>The district has ordered Chromebooks for each PMG student to use throughout the school year. As soon as the new Chromebooks are received in the district, we will make arrangements for device distribution to all PMG students, even if it has been indicated that there is a personal device at home that may be used. Students are not expected to bring personal devices from home into school.</p>
<p>If we send a face shield into school with our children, will they be allowed to wear them during mask breaks and snack time?</p>	<p>We encourage the wearing of face shields when students are taking a mask break and during snack .</p>
<p>How are fire &amp; lock down drills handled through this for students in school? They would be in close proximity.</p>	<p>We have received guidance from the NJ Fire Marshall and the NJ Department of Homeland Security regarding security and fire drills. Lockdown drills will not be activated in the first two months of school and we will conduct other forms of mandated drills which do not require students to be in close proximity.</p>
<p>Will the virtual academy teachers be CTSD teachers? Some districts are farming it out, and that makes me hesitant.</p>	<p>The teachers in the Virtual Academy will be employed by the Clinton Township School District.</p>
<p>Will the same teacher be the in person teacher and virtual teacher for our children?</p>	<p>Staffing assignments have not been finalized. However, we anticipate that your child will receive the same cohort of teachers for both in-person and virtual instruction.</p>

<p>At RVS and CTMS, students are expected to wear masks throughout the day. Many students face tremendous anxiety about returning to school, and they can sometimes be reluctant to share this anxiety with the class or teacher. Can we consider making a building based procedure where mask breaks are treated like bathroom breaks? This way students that are apprehensive about being in a classroom with peers that don't have their masks on can feel safe while at school. This will also address any inconsistencies that can occur with allowing teachers to designate their group's break times. We can do this by setting aside a designated area in the building such as a breakout area, where a staff member can monitor the kids, they can socially distance themselves, take a 5 minute break, and then return to class. We can limit the number of people leaving the class to ensure the 'mask break area' doesn't become temporarily over populated. Thanks</p>	<p>This is a possibility and can be reviewed. In addition, we recommend that students become acclimated to masks over the summer. Different types of face coverings can be explored, including cloth masks, disposable medical masks and gator neck masks. One of our district's Behavior Specialists will be sharing resources to help students learn to be more comfortable wearing masks.</p>
<p>Why aren't temperatures being taken before children get on the bus?</p>	<p>Parents will pre-certify their child's health prior to the child leaving the home. The temperature check is a secondary screening measure and may be taken when students reach school by district staff. It would be difficult for a bus driver to take temperatures along with the other responsibilities of maintaining safety and efficiency of transport.</p>
<p>Will the school supplies ordered through the PTA be provided to us when picking up Chromebooks if we choose the Virtual Academy option?</p>	<p>If PTA bulk supplies are delivered to the school buildings prior to the Chromebook pick up dates they can be distributed to families who are participating in the Virtual Academy.</p>
<p>Is it possible to stagger the dismissal times between PMG and RVS To be longer than 5 min? For kids in both schools it will be difficult to manage pick ups with only a 5 minute difference.</p>	<p>The current dismissal pick up window is 15-20 minutes, plus the 5 minutes of staggered time. Families who pick up in multiple schools simply need to make the office aware, and students will be kept safe in the school until parental arrival. We are checking with transportation to see if 5 additional minutes can be added to PMG's dismissal time.</p>
<p>How are cohorts A and B determined? Is it alphabetical and A-L, M-Z? Can we change cohorts now if there is a childcare/work need?</p>	<p>Cohorts A/B for Hybrid Learning are determined alphabetically. Families will be in the same cohort, A or B, even if there are different last names in the same family. On an individual basis cohort placements will be reviewed.</p>
<p>Will virtual classes maintain the typical teacher-student ratio?</p>	<p>Our Virtual Academy classes will maintain typical class sizes or smaller to</p>

<p>We have never had more than 22 kids in our class. I feel this is just as important, if not more, with virtual learning, than in person learning, as it takes more time to connect with remote students.</p>	<p>meet the needs of the students.</p>
<p>Would we have the option to switch assigned cohort groups?</p>	<p>Families can choose to move from Virtual Academy to Hybrid Learning at the end of Marking Period 1 if they no longer want to participate in Virtual Academy. Families in Hybrid Learning can move into Virtual Academy at any time and do not need to wait until the end of the marking period.</p>
<p>To follow up on Ms. McFadden's comment about teaching the students about coronavirus, Will we be developing age-appropriate actual curricula about the virus in our health classes?</p>	<p>Having age appropriate discussions and teaching students about health and safety will be a part of our lessons.</p>
<p>How does Virtual Academy work?</p>	<p>Virtual Academy instruction will be delivered remotely to a cohort of students. This will be separate from the Hybrid model cohorts. Students will receive the same grade level curriculum in this model as the Hybrid model.</p>