



Voorhees Township Public Schools Re-Opening Plan-Guidelines Summary 2020-2021

David Gentile, EdD, Superintendent of Schools

www.Voorhees.k12.nj.us

Engage, Inspire, Innovate!

Presentation Objectives

- ❖ Provide a summary of NJ Road Back document released by the Department of Education
- ❖ Highlight key requirements, anticipated challenges & unanswered questions
- ❖ We are told further guidance will be issued

Health & Safety: Standard for Establishing Safe & Healthy Conditions for Learning

- ❖ General Health & Safety Guidelines
- ❖ Classrooms, Testing & Therapy Rooms
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Student Flow, Entry, Exit, & Common Areas
- ❖ Screening, PPE, & Response to Students & Staff Presenting Symptoms
- ❖ Contact Tracing
- ❖ Facilities Cleaning Practices
- ❖ Meals
- ❖ Recess/ Physical Education
- ❖ Field Trips, Extra- Curricular Activities & Facilities Use Outside of School Hours

Anticipated Minimum Standards

- ❖ Social Distancing within the Classroom (6ft)
 - Additional modifications- barriers between seating, students facing same direction, seats spaced apart, & face coverings
- ❖ Staff & Visitors are required to wear face covering
 - Student strongly encouraged, required when social distancing is not possible.
- ❖ Adopt Cleaning/Disinfecting Protocols/Widely available hand sanitizer
- ❖ Encouraged to maintain social distancing on school buses
- ❖ Adopt policy for student screenings / visitor screenings

General Health & Safety Guidelines

- ❖ CDC Guidance for Schools & Childcare Programs
- ❖ Promote Behaviors
 - Stay Home when Appropriate
 - Hand Hygiene & Respiratory Etiquette
 - Face Coverings
 - Signs & Messages
- ❖ Reasonable accommodations for high risk

Classrooms, Testing, & Therapy Rooms

- ❖ Social distancing in all instructional and non-instructional settings
 - Physical Barriers
 - Face student in same direction
 - When social distancing is impossible face masks are required for students
 - If social distancing/ physical barriers are in place face masks only need to be worn when moving about in the classroom
- ❖ Limit sharing objects
- ❖ Provide adequate ventilation
- ❖ Hand sanitizing stations
- ❖ Frequent handwashing

Classrooms, Testing, & Therapy Rooms (Cont.)

- ❖ Avoid close group learning activity
- ❖ Designate times for hand washing with soap and water
 - Start of school day
 - Before/after snack & lunch
 - After use of restroom
 - After sneezing, wiping, blowing nose
 - When return from outdoor play
- ❖ Limit use of devices, equipment to one child until properly cleaned
- ❖ Keep student together (minimal mixing of groups)
- ❖ Outdoor classrooms

Student Flow, Entry, Exit, & Common Areas

- ❖ Establish process for health screenings
- ❖ Clearly mark floors, halls, and sidewalks for proper social distancing
- ❖ Minimize large gatherings
- ❖ Increase surface cleaning

Transportation

- ❖ Although CDC recommends one student seated per row, this would only allow 11 students on a 54-passenger bus.
- ❖ The district cannot possibly accommodate for that therefore face masks will be required for transporting students.
- ❖ Clean & disinfect buses daily between routes if feasible.
- ❖ Potential options
 - Parents waive transportation who can transport
 - Eliminate courtesy bussing

Screening, PPE & Response to Students/Staff Presenting Symptoms

- ❖ Screen staff and student upon arrival
- ❖ Adopt procedures for symptomatic staff and students
- ❖ Establish isolation space
- ❖ Parents should be alerted to illness in children
- ❖ Please keep sick children home!
- ❖ Any visitor that refuses to wear a mask may not enter the building
- ❖ Attempt to have same adult pick up/ drop off student

Contact Tracing

- ❖ Contact local health department to determine close contacts
- ❖ Recommend next steps
 - ❖ Self-quarantine
 - ❖ Provide critical education & support in mitigation strategies

Facilities Cleaning Practices

- ❖ Develop a schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfecting
- ❖ Ultra-violet Sanitation System currently being installed (Will NOT run when anyone is in the room)
- ❖ Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects frequently touched
 - Desks
 - Lunchroom tables
 - Door handles/Push Plates
 - Handrails
 - Kitchens and bathrooms
 - Light switches
 - Science lab equipment

Meals

If cafeteria is used:

- ❖ Stagger times to minimize size of group
- ❖ Clean & sanitize after each meal
- ❖ Practice social distancing (mark 6 ft on seating benches)
- ❖ Ensure handwashing
- ❖ Grab and go bagged meals or serve plated meals or pre-packaged boxes

Recess/ Physical Education

- ❖ Stagger recess
- ❖ Establish social distancing boundaries
- ❖ Stagger use of playground equipment/ disinfect
- ❖ Avoid cohort mixing

Field Trips, Extra Curricular Activities & Use of Facilities Outside of School

- ❖ Adhere to social distancing requirements
- ❖ Require external community organizations to do the same
- ❖ Possibly restrict outside usage
- ❖ Cancel field trips, assemblies, and large group gatherings

Vision 2020-2021

- ❖ **Obstacles:**
 - ❖ **Parents who cannot work remotely or find childcare for days their children are remote.**
 - ❖ **Special Needs population (difficulty meeting needs through remote instruction)**
 - ❖ **Variety of perspectives vs. requirements**
 - ❖ **Many other obstacles to be accounted for**

Committee Work- Feedback/Advisory

- ❖ Facilities/Operations: Mrs. Haley/Mr. Mathes/Board Reps.
- ❖ Curriculum/Instruction: Dr. Young/Board Reps.
- ❖ Social Emotional Wellness: Dr. Hill/Board Reps.
- ❖ Steering Committee: Dr. Gentile/Board Reps.

*Committees are full at this time, thank you for your interest.

Questions?

