U-KNIGHTED
working together to educate our children
IMPORTANT UPDATES AND INFORMATION FOR PRE-K TO 8 FAMILIES
PRE-K TO 8 FAMILIES

The Reading School District Board of Directors has approved a Return-To-School Plan. This plan will allow families with students in grades Pre-K to 8 an option to choose either:

- In-Person Instruction in a Hybrid Learning Format
- Or remain in Full Remote Learning
GRADE 9-12 FAMILIES

Most students in grades 9-12 will continue in Full Remote Learning mode. However, they will have the opportunity to meet with their teachers in-person, by appointment, on a case-by-case basis.

Designated students in grades 9-12 who receive specialized programming will have the option for Hybrid Learning. Those students will be contacted by the school to discuss their options.

There is a separate presentation for high school families available on our district website at www.readingsd.org/reopening. The RSD Return-to-School Decision Form does not need to be completed for students in grades 9-12.
IMPORTANT DATES

- **RSD Spring Break - No School**
  Monday, March 29 through Monday, April 5

- **Return-to-School Decision Form Sent to Families**
  Monday, March 29

- **Return-to-School Decision Form Due**
  Must be completed and submitted by Monday, April 5
  *Your family’s learning choice will automatically default to remain as Full Remote Learning if the form is not submitted by April 5.*

- **NEW: Asynchronous Work Day for All Students**
  Tuesday, April 6
  *This will allow students to complete online assignments at home while teachers to set up their classrooms. There will be no live meetings this day.*

- **Hybrid Learning Begins for PreK-4 who choose that learning option**
  Monday, April 19

- **Hybrid Learning Begins for 5-8 who choose that learning option**
  Monday, May 3
WHAT’S NEXT?

Families will receive a link for the Decision Form on Monday, March 29. Please complete and submit the form by Monday, April 5.

Whether you are selecting Hybrid Learning or Full Remote Learning for your family, we will need you to complete and submit a Decision Form for each child you have in the district.

Please note, if you do not complete and submit the form by Monday, April 5, your choice will automatically default to remain as Full Remote Learning.
READING SCHOOL DISTRICT
RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO MAKE AN INFORMED DECISION
PRE-K TO 8 FAMILIES

● **Option 1**: Remain in **Full Remote Learning** for the remainder of the school year.

● **Option 2**: Participate in a **Hybrid Learning Model** and come on-site for 2 full days a week (Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday) and participate in Remote Learning for the other 3 days a week.
OPTION 1: REMAIN IN REMOTE LEARNING

- Will look similar to the current remote learning program with some minor changes.
- Your child's teacher will be working from his/her classroom.
- There will be small groups of students in the classroom participating in the instruction with the teacher while remote students participate from home.
WHO BENEFITS FROM REMOTE LEARNING?

Continuing in remote learning may be a good option for students who:

- are doing well in remote learning.
- cannot tolerate wearing a fabric mask/face covering for a full school day.
- struggle to comply with health and safety guidelines such as hand washing and social distancing.
- have parents whose work schedules cannot accommodate a hybrid schedule.
- have medical conditions that make them more susceptible to COVID-19 or who have family members with medical conditions.
- whose parents would feel safer keeping their children at home.
REMOTE LEARNING SCHEDULE

The remote learning schedule will be adjusted as follows:

a. Starting Monday, April 19
   Elementary 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

b. Starting Monday, May 3
   Middle School 9:30 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
OPTION 2: PARTICIPATE IN HYBRID LEARNING

"Hybrid learning" is an educational term used when students are scheduled into two learning modes at the same time.

In our case, PreK-8 students will:

- report in person 2 days a week (either on Monday and Wednesday OR on Tuesday and Thursday); and
- participate in remote learning the other 3 days a week
WHO BENEFITS FROM HYBRID LEARNING?

Hybrid learning may be a good option for students who:

- struggle with full remote learning.
- are able to wear a mask for extended periods of time.
- are able to comply with other health and safety protocols, such as hand washing and social distancing.
- have parents with flexible work schedules and/or childcare arrangements.
- do not have pre-existing health conditions.
HYBRID LEARNING SCHEDULE

The Hybrid Learning schedule will be slightly different from the Remote Learning schedule to allow teachers time to transition on-site students into school:

- Starting Monday, April 19
  - PreK AM session 8:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
  - PreK PM session 11:45 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
  - Elementary (K-4) 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- Starting Monday, May 3
  - Middle School (5-8) 9:20 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
WHAT WILL HYBRID LEARNING LOOK LIKE?

- Teachers will be working in their classrooms.
- Lessons will still be taught using the Chromebooks for all students, even if they are on-site.
- Small groups of students will be reporting to class on-site on their scheduled days and the remaining students will be working remotely from home.
- All students will be engaged in their classes with their teachers, but students in the classroom will have face-to-face access to their teachers and peers during small group lessons.
WHY ARE WE RETURNING TO HYBRID LEARNING AND NOT REGULAR DAILY INSTRUCTION FOR ALL STUDENTS?

- Hybrid learning keeps class sizes small.
- Small class sizes help us maintain social distancing in buildings and on transportation as per the Health and Safety Plan.
- The hybrid learning model substantially decreases infection risk in comparison to having all students attending school every day.
READING SCHOOL DISTRICT
RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
WHAT HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES ARE IN PLACE AT THE SCHOOLS?

- All adults and students will be required to wear face masks while on district property.
- Social distancing of 6 feet will be maintained in classrooms.
- Clear, plastic barriers will be available.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom.
- On-going sanitization and cleaning protocols will be implemented daily.
- Classrooms will have HEPA air filters.
HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD?

If your child is participating in Hybrid Learning, you can help us by teaching these self-care strategies at home:

- Proper handwashing
- Social distancing (staying 6 feet, or 2 arms lengths away, from those not living in your household)
- How to properly wear a face covering, covering both the nose and mouth, including how to put it on and take it off.
- How to cover coughs and sneezes, even when wearing a mask.
- The importance of not touching their face as much as possible
WHAT SHOULD MY CHILD BRING TO SCHOOL?

For the safety of students and staff, health room visits during the school year will be limited. Please make sure your child has:

- A face covering to wear during the school day.
- A fully-charged Chromebook and charger.
- A clear water bottle for water only. Water fountains will NOT be used.
- Backpacks and coats/jackets will be kept on the back of the chair.
- Elementary students should have an extra change of clothes for bathroom emergencies.
- Girls in middle school should carry feminine hygiene products and an extra change of underwear and/or pants.
- Send all personal items to avoid sharing.
- At no time should students carry medications from home.
WHEN SHOULD I KEEP MY CHILD HOME FROM SCHOOL?

If your child has the symptoms below or had a COVID-19 exposure, keep them home, call your healthcare provider for guidance and allow your child to log in remotely so they will not be marked absent:

(One or more)
- Temperature greater than 100°F
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Noted to have taken fever reducing medication
- New loss of taste or smell

(Two or more)
- Temperature greater than 99.5°F
- Sore throat
- Runny nose/congestion
- Chills
- Muscle Pain
- Headache
- Nausea/Vomiting
- Diarrhea
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

● If I select hybrid learning, will my child be required to wear a school uniform?
  ○ No. Students will not be required to wear school uniforms, but they will be required to wear a face mask AND clothing that is appropriate for school.

● Will my child have to wear their mask all day long?
  ○ Yes, but there will be scheduled mask breaks for no longer than 15 mins with social distancing.
  ○ Students will remove their masks to eat lunch with social distancing.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

● I want to select Hybrid Learning, but my family has moved since March 2020. Which school will my child attend?
  ○ Parents who have moved since March 2020 will be able to either:
    ■ Stay enrolled in their current school if the parent is able to transport their child to school.
    ■ Switch schools to allow for their child to walk to school (or take the bus, if eligible).

● If I choose Hybrid Learning, will my child need to bring their Chromebook to school?
  ○ Yes, students in Hybrid Learning mode will need to bring a fully-charged Chromebook and charger to school each day.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

● Will breakfast and lunch be provided?
  ○ Yes, breakfast and lunch will be provided for students who are on-site for hybrid learning and students will eat in their classrooms to maintain social distancing.
  ○ All students will also have the opportunity to participate in the weekly food distribution program on Monday of each week.

● Will elementary students get recess?
  ○ Students will have the opportunity to have physical activity, but not on playground equipment.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

● Can I switch options if I realize that the option I selected isn't working?
  ○ Yes, if the option you select isn't working for your child, you can contact the school to discuss switching to the other option.

● Can Reading Virtual Academy (RVA) students switch to Hybrid Learning?
  Yes, RVA families can select Hybrid Learning on the Decision Form if they would like that learning option for the 4th Quarter. Please note, elementary students would begin Hybrid Learning on April 19, 2021, and middle school students would begin Hybrid Learning on May 3, 2021. Contact RVA School Counselor Amanda Geffert at 484-258-7101 ext. 60147 if you choose Hybrid Learning.

● What should I do if I have a question that wasn’t answered here?
  Additional FAQs will be continually shared and updated on our website at www.readingsd.org/reopening. You can also contact the Parent Outreach Assistant at your child’s school for assistance.
NEXT STEP: INFORMING RSD OF YOUR LEARNING OPTION CHOICE
PLEASE COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR DECISION FORM

A form link will be sent out on Monday, March 29 to all PreK-8 parents/guardians. You will select either to continue in Remote Learning OR begin Hybrid Learning. The form will also be available on our website at [www.readingsd.org/reopening](http://www.readingsd.org/reopening).

- Please complete the form for each PreK-8 student in your household by Monday, April 5.
- Be prepared with the student ID numbers and dates of birth for each student.
- If you select hybrid learning, you will also get to choose between a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Please note, your preference is not guaranteed.
- You will also be able to provide an updated address, if you moved.
- The school may contact you to discuss details such as address changes or scheduling options if your child participates in special programs.
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