

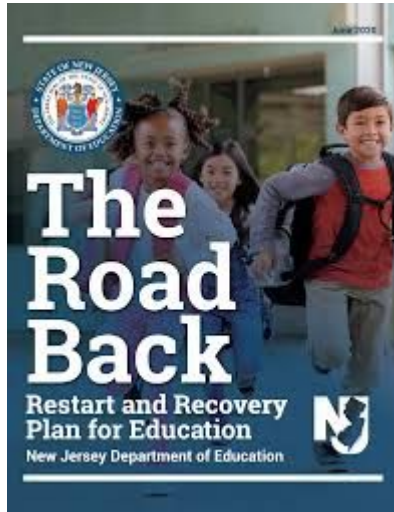
Readington Ready: Reopening Update

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Superintendent of Schools
August 18, 2020*



The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education

Recall this is the guidance document that provided us a framework for coming back to school.



Executive Order 175 & The Governor's Announcement Last Wednesday

The Governor's Announcement and EO 175 provided the following:

- Districts may open fully virtual if the district can demonstrate they are unable to satisfy the health and safety requirements [standards] for in-person instruction;
- Provided updated health and safety requirements;
- Provided updated information regarding the Department of Health's recommendations for K-12 schools.



Health and Safety Standards

- At least six (6) feet of distance between individuals in all settings to the greatest extent practicable or social distancing modifications such as physical barriers;
- Mandatory use of face coverings, except in certain circumstances;
- Routine cleaning and sanitization of classrooms, lunchrooms, gyms, restrooms, high-traffic areas, high-touch areas;
- The facilitation of student handwashing at frequent intervals or use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Use of face coverings and social distancing to the extent practical on buses;
- Student and staff health screenings;

Health and Safety Standards (con't)

- Enhanced social distancing and infection control protocols for music, choir, and PE class that are indoor;
- A plan for response to students and staff who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, which must include coordination with the health department;
- A plan detailing the response when students or staff test positive for COVID-19, which must include coordination with the health department;
- Support contact tracing;
- A plan to ensure indoor facilities have adequate ventilation;
- Social distancing at PE class and recess;
- Procedures to resume athletics, if feasible.

Department of Health Recommendations

Physical distancing and small groups (A/B day);

Limit the use of shared equipment;

Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette;

Face coverings;

Cleaning and disinfection;

Symptom screening;

Preparing for and responding to illness or positive COVID-19 case.

Department of Health Activity Report

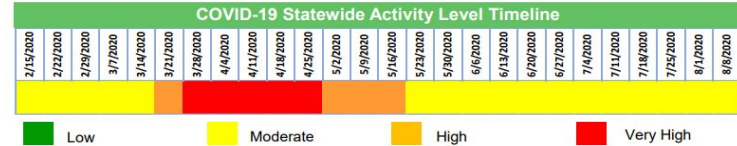
Weekly activity reports

Use a scale:

- Low
- Moderate
- High
- Very High



COVID-19 Activity Level Report
 New Jersey Department of Health
 Communicable Disease Service
 Week ending August 8, 2020 (MMWR week 32)¹



Region ²	Current Activity Level
Northwest	LOW
Northeast	LOW
Central West	MODERATE
Central East	MODERATE
Southwest	MODERATE
Southeast	MODERATE
STATEWIDE	MODERATE

COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)

	Case Rate ³	Percent CLI ⁴	Percent Positivity ⁵	CALI Score ⁶
Northwest	2.42	1.57	2.12	1
Northeast	2.29	1.67	1.66	1
Central West	2.32	1.82	1.62	2
Central East	2.24	1.74	1.54	2

What does all of this mean for Readington?

- Have we reviewed and do we comply with the health and safety standards set by the state? **YES**
- Have we reviewed and implemented the recommendations from the Department of Health and are we prepared for their continued collaboration? **YES**
- Can we reopen schools for in-person instruction according to these guidelines? **YES**
- Are there any other factors that could modify our plan or lead to fully remote instruction between now and September? **YES** - there are some factors we must mention.

What are the factors?

- Factor: Districts in our county or surrounding area may close because they cannot meet these guidelines.
- Concern: Staff members have availability to Federal Leave if, “caring for his/her child whose school or place of care has closed due to COVID.” Districts in our local area continue to announce closures and this may impact staffing.
- Factor: Staff requests for medical accommodations.
- Concern: Staff may require specific accommodations to return to work or may be eligible for a Federal Medical Leave.
- Factor: A change in the public health crisis.
- Concern: Our county may change status on the health activity report.

...these three factors combined make a challenging situation.

Possible Actions/Solutions

- Action/Solution: Maintain our A/B rotation schedule but operate on an **early dismissal schedule** daily Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.
- Why?
 - May alleviate some child care concerns
 - Gives us the ability to use space in our facilities to offer more child care for families and staff
 - May meet some medical accommodations required by staff
- Action/Solution: Fully **close school** for complete remote instruction.
- Why?
 - Alleviate child care concerns, staff could work from home
 - Medical accommodations would not be necessary if staff are able to work from home
 - Our facilities could continue to be used by the Y program
 - A closure may be required if there is a shift in the public health crisis

What next?

Communication, communication, communication...

This situation fluctuates by the day and sometimes by the hour. If our plan begins to change, we will communicate as early as possible. Our goal is to use this week to review these additional factors.

Thanks!

