



Royal School District Reopening Plan 7/28/2020 - DRAFT

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Introduction

Like districts across our state and nation, Royal School District has been working diligently over the summer on plans and preparation for how to return to school safely this fall. During the Spring 2020 COVID-19 closures, schools and communities across our nation learned many valuable lessons. We also recognize that a Reopening Plan that works in one district may not work in a neighboring district. Each of our communities are unique.

As we prepare for Royal School District's **scheduled first day of school on Friday, August 28**, we are committed to keeping our staff, families, and community members informed. We have developed a webpage dedicated to our reopening information and plans at www.royalsd.org/reopen. As guidelines and expectations from state and health authorities come our way, we will continue to post updates to our Reopening website. We will remain flexible and prepared to make necessary adjustments in our plans for how best to deliver instruction and support services.



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As a school district, our commitments are to:

- Lead with the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff as our first priority
- Adhere to the health and safety requirements of the Washington Department of Health (DOH)
- Provide all Royal students with high quality instruction that meets Basic Education requirements and essential learning standards
- Provide our staff with the training and support necessary to safely and successfully perform their work
- Ensure that any hybrid learning models:
 - Safely maximize the amount of face-to-face, in-person instruction for all students
 - Are differentiated in their approach by grade band and student need
 - Provide consistency for families

We are continuing to seek feedback from our staff and student families on this DRAFT 2020-2021 Reopening Plan. The final version of our reopening plan must be approved by the Royal School Board through an official resolution and submitted to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) no later than August 14, 2020 (currently two weeks prior to the first day of school).

COVID Reopening Contacts in Our District

1. Primary local health officer: Theresa Adkinson, District Administrator of the Grant County Health District
 2. Royal reopening district-level point of contact: Roger Trail, Superintendent, 509-346-2222
 3. Linda Achondo, Executive Director of Student and Teacher Services, 509-346-2222
 4. Kim Mead, Director of Food Services, 509-346-2257 Ext. 3500
 5. Gary Winston, Athletic Director, 509-346-2222
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Health Requirements

Health & Safety of Staff

All Washington school districts must adhere to the [Department of Health \(DOH\) and Labor and Industries \(L&I\) guidance](#). It is important for all Royal school staff to familiarize themselves with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [definition of high-risk employees](#), and to understand they have the right to identify themselves to the Royal School District as a high-risk individual. From July 22-26, 2020 an electronic survey will be disseminated and available to all employees of the Royal School District. This survey provides staff with the opportunity to identify any concerns they have about returning to school safely this fall.



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Any staff member with questions or concerns about workplace accommodations, leave expectations, and other employee rights is encouraged to contact Lara Snyder at 509-346-2222 Ext. 4004.

General Health and Safety Measures

In anticipation of having students and staff back in our school buildings, the district will implement a variety of health and safety measures.

Screening & Attestations

Students and staff must attest they are healthy and free of COVID-19 symptoms before they enter the building each day. Families and staff will have the option to answer screening questions and complete an attestation of those answers prior to arriving at school. More information about this process will be forthcoming.

All students and staff who have not completed an attestation will have their temperatures taken as they enter our school buildings each day. Any individuals determined to have a fever will be sent home immediately.

Handwashing

Students and staff will be reminded regularly about the importance of proper handwashing. Teachers may allow for more breaks to give students the opportunity to wash their hands, either at a classroom sink or in a restroom.

In addition, we will place hand sanitizer units throughout our buildings. Students and staff will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer regularly.

Masks and PPE

All students, staff, volunteers, and guests must wear cloth face coverings or face shields at all times, consistent with DOH and L&I requirements. Students and staff will have the option of choosing a cloth face covering or face shield. School districts are required by law to provide face coverings for all employees as part of Washington employer requirements. Families are asked to provide the required face coverings for their student(s), and the District will maintain an adequate supply of face coverings on our premises to accommodate students who arrive at school without a face covering. Each school and district building will have disposable face coverings readily accessible for students, staff, and/or guests who arrive without a covering.

Cleaning & Disinfecting:

Our custodial staff will significantly increase the wiping down and disinfecting of public spaces and high-touch surfaces across our buildings and throughout the school day, consistent with DOH guidance and the Infection Control Handbook 2010. We will also provide greater access to cleaning materials for our teachers and staff so that they can clean and disinfect spaces, as needed.



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Each afternoon/evening, our custodial team will conduct a thorough cleaning of our spaces, again disinfecting high-touch surfaces like sinks, drinking fountains, door handles, tables, and desks.

Physical Distancing:

We have altered our indoor classroom and common spaces and reconfigured our processes to ensure **six feet of physical distance** between all persons in our school facilities as a planning framework. All K-6 desks will be separated by 6 feet. In those classrooms that have tables instead of desks, students will use portable lap desks. We are using additional common spaces to ensure six feet of physical distance between all persons in our school facilities.

OSPI Reopening Guidance recognizes that there will be limited times when students and/or staff may need to be within six feet for short periods of time.

This includes the accommodation of students with disabilities or others who meet the exceptions in order to deliver equitable services.

Student Transitions

Student Drop-Off / Pick-Up

Parents/guardians will be asked to remain in vehicles when dropping off or picking up students. Morning drop off-of students at RIS will be moved to the lane where buses park in order to facilitate an increase in parent drop-offs. A fence will be installed to create a walking lane in the drop off area for student safety. Work with Grant County has begun to create an additional exit out of the intermediate school parking lot. RRE & RMS will continue to enforce their new parking lot drop-off and pick-up procedures. Detailed instructions on the drop-off and pick-up guidelines will be communicated with families prior to the start of school.

Transitions Between Classes

To help avoid situations in which large groups of students are gathered in one place, we will adjust the way students move between classrooms and other spaces in our schools. While in hallways, students will transition by class and will maintain six feet of distance between themselves, wearing face coverings at all times.

At Red Rock and Royal Intermediate Schools, students will transition as a class or grade level. Six feet of distance will be maintained, and face coverings will be worn at all times.

In our middle school, students will have staggered class dismissal. Six feet of distance will be maintained, and face coverings will be worn at all times.

In our high school, we will have staggered class dismissal where possible and utilize the outside of the building for transitions. Six feet of distance will be maintained, and face coverings will be worn at all times.



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Entering/Exiting Schools

To protect students' safety and provide for more orderly temperature taking, all students will enter and exit each building at identified sets of doors. Family members should not leave their vehicles when picking up or dropping off students.

Reopening Schedule Options

We know that the question at the top of families' minds is whether students will return to the classroom for in-person instruction at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Each of these scenarios are dependent upon the guidance and allowable activities directed by the Washington Department of Health. We are currently planning for several options:

Option #1 – Grades K-3 In School All Days / Grades 4-12 In School + Remote Learning (50/50 split)

Grades K-3:

The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) has set the current physical distancing requirement at six feet for all K-12 schools. With this requirement, Red Rock Elementary **can accommodate all K-3 students in-person, Monday through Friday**. Mondays would remain 1-hour late starts, as per our calendar approved by the Royal Education Association (REA).

Grades 4-12:

Students in 4th-12th grade at the Royal Intermediate, Middle, and High School would spend half their time in school and the other half engaged in remote learning at home. Under Option 1, we would have A days and B days. Half our students would attend in-person classes on A days, while the other half would learn remotely. The key characteristics include:

- Split/alternating schedule on-site with continuous remote learning off-site, e.g. students would be split into a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday grouping
- Predictable schedules for families, students, teachers, community childcare, tutoring, and activities
- To the extent possible, priority for students within the same family to follow the same weekly schedule – M/W or T/TH
- Fridays would be designated remote learning days for ALL students. In-person interventions or enrichment for students who need additional services would be available. This provides equitable access to students requiring additional educational services and support.



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The table below shows the 50/50 weekly rotation for students in grades 4-12, with 2 groups of students designated (A, B):

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>In-person interventions or enrichment for students who need additional services would be available</i>	A	B
Week 1	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 2	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 3	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 4	A	B	A	B		2	2
Total Days On-Site Learning per Month:						8/20	8/20

Option #2 - ALL Grades In School + Remote Learning (50/50 Split)

Option #2 would begin the school year with ALL students (K-12th grade) spending half their time in school and the other half engaged in remote learning at home. As with Option 1, we would have A days and B days for Option 2. Half our students would attend in-person classes on A days, while the other half would learn remotely. In addition to including all grades, another key difference with Option 2 is that we would reassess current health conditions and community transition rates in mid-October to determine whether students in K-5th grade could return to school in-person full time starting November 4, 2020 (when 2nd Quarter begins).

Mondays would remain 1-hour late starts, as per our calendar approved by the Royal Education Association (REA).

The key characteristics include:

- Split/alternating schedule on-site with continuous remote learning off-site, e.g. students would be split into a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday grouping
- Predictable schedules for families, students, teachers, community childcare, tutoring, and activities
- To the extent possible, priority for students within the same family to follow the same weekly schedule – M/W or T/TH
- Fridays would be designated remote learning days for ALL students. In-person interventions or enrichment for students who need additional services would be available. This provides equitable access to students requiring additional educational services and support.



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The table below shows the 50/50 weekly rotation for students in grades K-12, with 2 groups of students designated (A, B):

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday <i>In-person interventions or enrichment for students who need additional services would be available</i>	A	B
Week 1	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 2	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 3	A	B	A	B		2	2
Week 4	A	B	A	B		2	2
Total Days On-Site Learning per Month:						8/20	8/20

ALL Schools:

For **ALL** students and schools, health and safety requirements would include:

1. All students, staff, volunteers, and guests must wear cloth face coverings or face shields at all times.
2. Enhanced cleaning protocols
3. physical distancing
4. adjustments to how students enter and exit buildings
5. changes to how we manage transitions between classrooms throughout the day

****Remote-Only Option for Families****

You have options on what returning to school looks like for you and your family. Royal School District will offer a remote-only learning option for families who do not yet feel comfortable having their students return to school in-person. We anticipate having capacity limits on this option and will provide more details soon.

Option #3 – 100% Remote Learning

It remains possible that we will need to begin the 2020-21 school year with students engaged in all-remote learning, similar to the final few months of the previous school year. If this is the case, all remote learning would be required. This would be a “new and improved” version of the spring’s Continuous Distance Learning. Additionally, as the 2020-21 school year progresses, all school districts must be prepared to switch to remote distance learning if cases spike or local outbreaks occur and schools are forced to close. During remote learning, attendance, grades, assessments, and daily work would all be tracked. Royal School District will utilize Google Classroom as our consistent learning platform. Royal teachers will deliver instruction and learning through a blend of synchronous (teacher interacting “real-time” online with students) and asynchronous (non-“real-time”) instruction.



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Food Services

The district will provide meals to children on a daily basis, even if they are not physically in our school buildings on a particular day. We have altered physical spaces, reconfigured schedules, and adopted necessary plans to provide **meals to students** that ensures six feet of physical distance between all persons.

In-School Cafeteria Procedures

To avoid situations in which students are gathered in groups, we will adjust our typical breakfast and lunchroom service schedule in each of our schools.

At Red Rock Elementary and the Intermediate School, students will be seated six feet apart during breakfast and will eat at tables assigned by grade level. During lunch, students will pick up meals by their homeroom class, maintaining six feet of distance and wearing face coverings. Red Rock students will return to their classrooms to eat lunch, removing their face coverings while eating and maintaining six feet of distance between students at all times.

At RIS, students will eat their lunches outside (weather permitting) or in the gym. Face coverings will be removed while eating, and six feet of distance will be maintained. Students will be seated by homeroom class.

Grades 7-12 will have staggered lunch times. Students will maintain six feet of distance while in line and when eating. Face coverings will be worn at all times, except when students are eating. All students will be encouraged to eat outside (weather permitting).

Out-of-School Meal Service

Just as we did during the Spring 2020 school closures, we will ensure all students receive meals each weekday, even if they are not in our buildings. For grades 7-12 on A/B schedules, students will use their on-site days to pick up their meals for the following day when they will be engaged in remote learning at home. (For example, a student on-site Mondays would pick up his/her Tuesday meal before leaving school on Monday, and his/her Thursday meal before leaving school on Wednesdays. More information and detailed instructions will be provided to students and families.

In the event of a school closure, we will communicate our meal delivery schedule and process, as we did during the Spring 2020 closures.

Technology Access

Due to the high likelihood that all students will need to engage in remote or online learning at some point in the school year, the district will provide Chromebooks for students who do not have reliable access to a computer at home. During the Spring of 2020, all Royal students in grades K-12 were issued a Chromebook and instructed to keep it over the summer. If you did not receive a device at that time and would like to



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learn more about reserving a device for your student, please call our Technology Department at 509-346-2455 or email tech@royalsd.org.

We also know that not all families have reliable internet access at home. The district provided Wi-Fi hotspots to many families during the spring of 2020. These hotspots are disabled during the summer months and will be reactivated on the first day of school. We want to ensure all students have the tools they need to learn remotely. If you did not receive a hotspot during the spring of 2020 or are experiencing connectivity issues, please contact our Technology Department.

Athletics & Extracurriculars

Washington's schools will follow the guidelines provided by the [Washington Interscholastic Activities Association \(WIAA\)](#).

All Royal school facilities will remain closed to the public until the district's Reopening Plan is approved by the Grant County Health District.

Washington's schools will follow the guidelines provided by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA). All Royal school facilities will remain closed to the public until the district's Reopening Plan is approved by the Grant County Health District. On July 21, 2020, the WIAA [announced its decision](#) to continue with athletics on a modified sports schedule for the 2020-21 year. Instead of the traditional Fall, Winter, and Spring sports seasons, the upcoming school year will include four seasons as follows:

WIAA Season 1: Cross country, Slow-pitch Softball, girls swim & dive*, golf (alternative season), Tennis (alternative season).

WIAA Season 2: Basketball, Bowling, Boys Swim & Dive, Gymnastics, Cheerleading, Wrestling.

WIAA Season 3: Volleyball, Girls Soccer, 1B/2B Boys Soccer, Football

WIAA Season 4: Tennis, Fastpitch Softball, Track & Field, Baseball, Golf, Boys soccer, Dance/Drill.

In order for Season 1 to be offered, certain benchmarks must be met. The criteria will be determined and announced by the WIAA Board on July 28. Should criteria not be met, Season 1 sports will be moved to season 3.

Currently, the Royal School District has a number of athletic programs that have created a "return to play" plan that the Grant County Health District has approved, and more athletic programs with "return to play" plans pending. The return to play plans consist of several points of emphasis to follow during phases 1 through 4, which allow student athletes to participate in summer athletics responsibly. As we move forward, we can expect that practices and games to look very different for everyone involved, depending our county currently is in Washington's reopening phases.

Transportation



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Ensuring students remain physically distanced on school buses is a significant challenge, and OSPI reopening guidance requires that students sit one child to a seat, to the extent possible, as long as there are enough seats to do so. OSPI has designated busing as an exception to the six-foot physical distancing rule, so long as the district exercises proper cleaning, maximum ventilation when reasonable, face coverings on students and adults, and proper PPE for our drivers.

Face coverings must be worn by bus drivers and all students. Students not wearing a face covering will be provided a disposable face covering. All students will sanitize their hands prior to boarding the bus and will be assigned seats by household. Outside airflow will be maximized by keeping bus windows open as much as possible.

Students living within city limits will be asked to walk or be driven to school. We will be sending home a detailed map with identified safe walking routes. We are working with the Royal City Police Department and Fire District on ensuring the safety of our students walking to and from school. We will be placing crossing guards at all major intersections.