

So will masks be provided by the school for the kids or do we need to provide them?

The student can bring their own mask or the school will provide one if needed.

Why are these masks required if they do not actually stop the virus from spreading? Are you providing N95 masks for each child?

We have to follow the guidelines set by the CDC and the Dept. of Health if we hope to reopen for in-person instruction.

I am a speech therapist and tried the face mask that was clear and it is not efficient (not the face shield, the actual mask with the clear window). It fogs up immediately and all the listener or conversational partner can see is wet, breath condensation. Just so you know =)

Thank you! We will pass that on!

What is the status of the ECEAP program for the upcoming year?

We are still waiting to hear from the Community College (who is the fiscal agent for our program in Deer Park) and from DCYF (Dept. of Children, Youth, & Families) about ECEAP. Frustrating to not have this information just yet, but we hope to know soon!

It sounds as though the face covering mandate; whether mask, shield or clear mask will be provided by the district? Is this correct?

Schools will provide face masks as needed and shields when requested. Please work with the appropriate building principal.

So besides all the ridiculous requirements to attend school my biggest concern is that kids get sick (not COVID) usually starting around the end of September. So, if one of my kids has a cold then not only does that child have to stay home does the rest of the household as well? With 6 kids I can guarantee that I might as well not even bother to start them until around March.

We are currently working with Spokane Regional Health on guidance on this question. We appreciate that many families have children in multiple schools.

I was curious with what special needs children such as autism, speech and such how this school year will look? Should we as parents be looking at other options for those kids who we know cannot abide by the guidelines. Between medical problems and being exempt and not always understanding the governments purposes how will these kids benefit from this year's academic year?

The special services team will be working with parents to meet IEP needs and recognize the challenges you identify!

The school district really doesn't have a choice? Do [you] have to go with the State Health Department and Governor mandates.

Districts truly don't have a choice as it pertains to pandemic related requirements. Public schools do have some local decision-making authority, but when the State issues requirements/mandates for schools, local school boards and/or school leaders cannot simply willfully defy those requirements.

Will Inslee's announcement today about extending the pause indefinitely on counties moving ahead in the Safe Start plan affect where the district is at right now with planning, etc?

The State's phasing plans are not connected to school re-opening plans.

What percentage of kids are planning on returning?

It is hard to predict/know an exact number at this time; we are hoping **all** kids will return to school on day one or as soon as possible.

Will kids be going to school 5 days a week?

At this time, we are planning an A/B rotating schedule (either two or three days each week). Students would attend on alternate days. We would hope to bring back all students later in the year if COVID numbers drop.

What consideration is being given for the special ed students who rely so heavily on much needed services? Virtual learning is not optimal for many of them. Can IEPs be tailored to allow them more in-person time if we have to do a rotating schedule?

We absolutely recognize the need to address Special Education instruction in ways that may look different from any modified schedules designed for our general education population. IEP teams will play a large role in this work.

Thank you for all that you are doing to try to get classes going for this next school year while also trying to keep our kids safe and attempting to stay in compliance with the current health mandates. I'm sure this is a very stressful and frustrating time for you all, I appreciate your efforts.

You have no idea what a comment like this means – thank you!

Would the rotating schedule apply to all grades?

The rotating days will apply to all levels.

Wouldn't it be better for families to have kids in school Monday Tuesday or Thursday Friday and take Wednesday to clean between groups? How can the working parents go-to work with a rotation schedule. I know you all have your hands tied behind your back, but this is hindering their focus to be educated to the fullest and hindering household income.

We are still considering all options, including back-to-back days and alternating days. Please email your ideas and suggestions to travis.hanson@dpsdmail.com

Would there be online classes for the off days?

We are planning for this option. We hope to have more details next week.

What if you have multiple kids in different schools, could you get them on the same attendance schedule?

Families with multiple kids in different schools will be scheduled on the same day.

In the rotating models - are you thinking on the days the group is not onsite will be working remotely or attending the classes virtually in real-time?

When students are off-site they will be provided access to online academics, detailed homework assignments, and structured assignment expectations. We are definitely considering how we might provide Zoom (or similar) opportunities to classroom instruction when students are off-site.

With the majority of holidays falling on a Monday how will group A not miss a lot of in classroom time?

The schedule will be rotated so that every student attends an equal amount of days. There are actually an equal amount of Monday's and Fridays missed over the course of a 180 school year.

In the AA/BB schedule, could the alternating day be Wednesday instead of Friday?

This is absolutely an option we're considering; we are working to build the best schedule we can that is both supportive of the best educational experience as well as convenient for the largest number of families.

How are the kindergarten and preschool levels going to explain and enforce social distancing and wearing masks/shields to the children? and especially those with special needs?

There's no doubt this will be challenging, but kids are flexible and we intend to adapt in any way necessary to try to get kids back for in-person instruction.

As a working parent I have struggled with keeping up with any curriculum.

We know a lot of people are in that same situation – and we understand the need to provide more support in the upcoming school year. We are hoping we have a more structured process with dedicated staffing to help with this!

Is the district office currently open? We have updated our contact information several times with the school office but are not getting e-mails, phone calls or peach jar info from the district and we'd like to be included in those communication avenues.

Please contact gloria.hartley@dpsdmail.org and she will update your information.

If the children are at their desks and social distancing, do they need face coverings? Aren't face coverings required when social distance isn't possible?

The Dept. of Health has been very clear on this – both physical distancing AND masks are required when indoors.

Are we going to do zoom meetings if we are rotating and or wanting to keep kids home?

We are considering how we may do Zooms for students who are off site.

So if you go with a rotating schedule, will start and end times be the same as usual?

We are planning start/end times remaining the same currently.

Has there been any discussion on incoming kindergarten?

Yes, we're looking at ways to have our annual jump Start for incoming Ks.

When do you plan on knowing what the true plan is? We as parents have to make plans for our children and can't wait till the last minute.

We absolutely understand the need for more definitive school structures and hope to have a final plan to submit to the board of directors on Aug. 10 and to families on Aug. 11.

How do you plan to handle lunches, bus, PE and recess?

We have teams working to create plans for each area to ensure that each follows the required guidelines.

Also, if you go with the rotating schedule are you guys going to load the kids up with so much homework for the off days that it makes the whole household miserable?

We want the at-home work to be reasonable and we will work with parents when the work at home is too challenging.

How will bussing be handled?

It will look like it has before but busses will simply have fewer students.

Do you guys know how the A and B groups will be decided? By Grade, teacher, or last name?

A/B groups will be assigned by family so that all students in a family attend on the same day.

Forget that fact that my husband and I both work full time, and we live in an area that doesn't have internet access. Are there options for people who don't have internet access?

We completely understand this reality and are looking at options for those that do not have internet access.

Will zoom classes be available for the kids on the a/b rotation? on the days they aren't in the school?

We are working with the staff on what might work best on days that students are home.

My child is with Homelink Deer Park campus...all I'm wondering is how do we get my child's curriculum for the fall semester? Do I just wait for the staff from that location to contact me?

Yes - Molly and her staff will be contacting Homelink parents!

Will children be tested before they get on the buses?

No - the health department and district are counting on the required parent attestation that says they don't have COVID related symptoms and are not aware of being exposed.

Will you put kids from the same family on the same rotating schedule?

Yes

Is there a plan for masks during PE and sports?

Masks must be worn in PE unless students are outside and 6 feet apart. Our plan is to hold PE classes outside weather permitting.

If not tested before going on buses why at the school then?

They aren't screened at school unless the parents haven't done the web-based/app-based attestation (or haven't signed the appropriate paperwork each day). We will be working with parents to have students screened prior to getting on the bus.

CDC and pediatricians say send kids to school full time due to the low transmission rate. How much consideration has been given to the facts that if schools get closed how many kids are in trouble from possible drug or alcohol abuse, suicide or schools being there safe place during the week? This is a legitimate concern.

The concern is real and there are clearly a number of different opinions about whether or not to send kids to school. We would love to have kids back in our classrooms but are unsure the health dept. will allow this to happen.

Will we be allowed to bring in school supplies? That sounds weird, but I've heard all sorts of crazy things people are doing and I don't want to buy them then have to return. Thank you!

Students can bring their own school supplies. This will be needed.

When is the deadline for deciding what will be put in place? Waiting until mid/late August or even September seems reckless not only for parents to plan daycare but also to provide sufficient time for the teachers to plan for us parents to have confidence that they will have time to prepare on how to support learning whatever that looks like.

We hope to host another community forum next week (or at least provide an update on our website and via email) and will present the final plan to the school board on Aug. 10.

Will there be sanitizing throughout the day? When the kids leave the classroom to go outside will you bleach it down, hand wash when they come in, take temps before getting on buses?

If we have kids back in our schools, the plan is to clean and sanitize throughout the day and disinfect at night.

If a child tests positive will everyone in the class be notified of a positive in the class and be asked to quarantine for 2 weeks?

We will work with the Spokane County Health Dept. for guidance in these situations.

How does the rotating schedule affect staff with students in school? If the kids are in school 2-3 days per week, do staff parents still work 5 days per week?

At this time staff will be expected to work 5 days a week.

Also, if our children are going to eat in the classroom will another teacher be coming and monitoring them or do the teachers now responsible and what about their off period?

Principals will work with staff on these issues to make sure kids are supervised but also staff gets their lunch.

Can we request to be in a specific group to help accommodate our schedules?

Yes. If your schedule does not work, please contact the district office to request a change.

Can we pre-request?

Yes, contact travis.hanson@dpsdmail with your request.

Is there a tentative plan for band?

Band will practice outside to start the year. We will provide sanitizer for all instruments. We will continue to discuss how to keep our music programs with our music teachers.

Will teachers be held accountable when they make no contact whatsoever with students for months.

Please contact your building principal immediately if teachers are not contacting your student.

Is the possibility of children attending classes via Zoom?

This is a possibility. We are uncertain to what extent.

If a vaccine is available this fall, will school return to normal? And will we HAVE to vaccinate our children, or will it be optional?

Have you considered everyday learning smaller sized classes and individual desks with barriers? I want my child in school f/t being a healthcare worker my children are at risk always; will health care worker children be coming back? Are there any discussions about kids coming back full time who need the help?

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How will Becca's Law & absenteeism be handled given children cannot attend school w/any health issue at all for @min of 24hrs post fever, cough, etc

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Will children/staff that are "medically exempt" from wearing a facial covering, be it a face shield or a mask, be allowed to expose that are wearing the appropriate ppe by attending in person class, or will these "medically exempt" be limited to online instruction?

Exemptions from use of PPE are hot topic – both in the medical community (what conditions qualify an individual for an exemption) and, of course, in our schools. We are working closely with health professionals to establish the right approach to this issue.

Looking into the worse case scenario - no in person instruction and back to strictly online instruction - our household and others that had students in high school found that education was lacking. Will teachers be held accountable to have a stricter education plan in place?

We are committed to a *much* different experience at every level for students and families this fall.

Is there funding for chrome books and home materials?

There is a strong possibility that tech tools will be provided, and of course, we'll also ensure students have access to all the learning materials they need to receive the education they deserve.

how will childcare options alleviate the goal of separating and limiting contact?

We absolutely understand the hardships (to include childcare) these scenarios create for many families and we want to be a part of any solution that helps reduce the burden on our families. Two resources available to families in need of childcare are *Childcare Aware of Washington* (<https://childcareawarewa.org/>) and *Community-Minded Enterprises* (<https://community-minded.org/>).

What will recess look like? Are they just sitting in their desks the entire day?

We absolutely understand the importance of some physical activity and fresh air for students and the positive impact these “breaks” in a school day can have in a school day. Should kids be back in school, we plan to observe a regular recess schedule and have been told by the health dept. that masks to not need to be worn while students are outside – assuming we are working hard to encourage and enforce physical distancing guidelines.

Is it possible for BI and SPED kids to attend in person more often since they are already in small groups?

Definitely a possibility were considering.

I have kids with different last names will they still all be on the same day

Yes, the families are grouped together by their family ID number

We are new to the district. While a traditional orientation may not be possible, can we expect that there will be some form of orientation for transferring students? And how can I learn more?

Welcome to DPSD and the Deer Park Community!! Depending on the age of your children, each building has slightly different structures and processes for welcoming new students – of course, this year might look somewhat unique, especially if we're forced to return to a fully remote model. Please either reach out to the main office of the building your child(ren) will attend (school offices open on Aug. 17) or send an email to travis.hanson@dpsd.org