



Township of Franklin Public School District Reopening Committee Update on Reopening Plan for September 2020

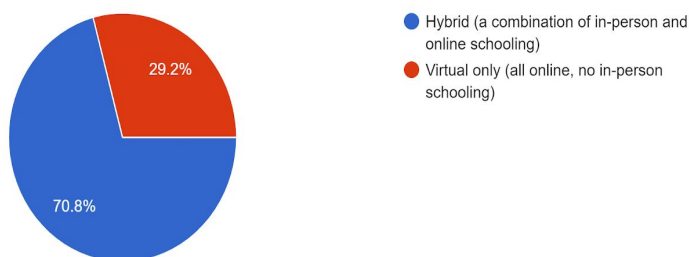
July 31, 2020

As promised, the Township of Franklin Public School District’s Reopening Committee is providing the information listed below as an update on the planning for the reopening of the district in September. The committee's decisions have been based upon the NJDOE’s guidance document, [The Road Back](#). The committee met on Thursday, July 30, 2020 to finalize recommendations for the Reopening Plan. The Google slide agenda from Thursday’s meeting can be found on the [Reopening of Schools Webpage](#). The information listed below will be included in the final plan. As always, please let us know if you have any questions.

SURVEY RESULTS

The most recent parent/guardian survey (#3) garnered 1,032 responses. Thank you! Your input is very valuable and certainly assists with the planning for September. The chart below shows that 70% of our parents selected the Hybrid model, while 30% opted for the Virtual Only Learning model.


Will your child participate in hybrid or virtual learning?
1,032 responses



HYBRID SCHEDULE

The Hybrid schedule that was listed in the previous update **is the schedule that will be listed in the plan**. This hybrid learning schedule calls for bringing **50% of the students** into the buildings for **half-day sessions twice a week on alternating days** with Wednesday being a fully online learning day for all students. A friendly reminder that this is a starting point for September. The district will continually reflect on its ability to provide a safe environment with the possibility of increasing the capacity and frequency of students attending in-person instruction.

Instructional Schedule

Monday / Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday / Friday
In-Person Group A	ALL STUDENTS REMOTE  REMOTE LEARNING	Remote Learning Group A
Remote Learning Group B		In-Person Group B
In-Person Group C		In-Person Group C
Remote Learning Group R		Remote Learning Group R

Group Summaries:

- **Group A** will attend in-person instruction on Monday and Thursday and will be remote on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday.
- **Group B** will attend in-person instruction on Tuesday and Friday and will be remote on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.
- **Group C** will attend in-person instruction on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and will be remote Wednesday.
 - Please note that Group C will include students in self-contained special education programs
- **Group R** will be completely remote.

STUDENT GROUPING-HYBRID MODEL

The principals are currently using the survey data to roster students in groups knowing that adjustments will need to occur. These groups are being selected randomly and are not based on academic levels. They are also working closely with Delsea to try and ensure that students from the same families, even if they are in different schools, will have matching schedules and be in school on the same day. While this cannot be guaranteed, we will do our best to accommodate these families. We will not be able to accommodate parental requests for a specific group as the placement will be based on space. Please understand that this is a very daunting task and **the student grouping information will be released as soon as possible.**

VIRTUAL ONLY MODEL

The parents/guardians that selected the Virtual Only model on the survey will be receiving an email containing a Virtual Only application. **The application will serve as the final selection of this instructional model.** Parents/guardians will be asked to acknowledge that if the Virtual Only instructional model is selected, **there will not be the ability to switch back to the in-person Hybrid model until October 1, 2020.** Additionally, due to the complexity of scheduling students while maintaining social distancing, any requests to return to in-person instruction after October 1, 2020 will require a two week notice. The deadline to fill out the Virtual Only application will be **August 16, 2020.** Parents/guardians that didn't select this model on the survey, but have changed their decision are certainly permitted to fill out the application. **If a Virtual Only application is not filled out, the district will assume that your child(ren) will be participating in the Hybrid model.** The application will also be posted on the district website (early next week).

IMPORTANT DATES

- **August 10, 2020**-BOE meeting-plan presented and approved by the BOE. Although this is the date of the full plan release and presentation, it is our hope that these updates have assisted parents/guardians in staying up to date and trying to plan for September.
- **August 12, 2020-LIVE CHAT DAY**-Open Zoom meeting to allow for parents to ask questions. More information, including the meeting link to follow.
- **August 16, 2020**-Virtual ONLY model applications due to the district (via Google Form)
- **September 1, 2020**-Teaching staff members report to school.
- **September 8, 2020**-First day of school for students

LIVE CHAT DAY

In efforts to answer questions regarding the Reopening of School plan, the district has set up a **LIVE CHAT DAY.** The LIVE CHAT will occur via the Zoom meeting platform and be open all day (times to be determined). This will allow parents to log on and ask questions at their convenience. A flyer with specific information will be forthcoming.

EMAIL ACCOUNT FOR QUESTIONS

We have created an email account for specific questions regarding the Reopening of Schools plan. Questions can be sent to reopening@franklintwpschools.org.

SCREENING/MASKS

We have received several questions regarding screening and the requirement to wear masks.

SCREENING- The committee strongly encourages parents/guardians to take their child's temperature prior to leaving the home each day. **If your child has a fever or doesn't feel well, please keep your child home.** Upon entering the school buildings, staff members will greet and visually screen the students. However, in accordance with new [CDC recommendations](#), **we will not take the temperatures of all students** prior to boarding the buses or entering the school buildings. The students will be directed to the hand sanitizer station located in the hallway near the entrance before proceeding to their homeroom.

MASKS-The committee has included in the plan the requirement for students to **wear masks only when social distancing cannot be maintained** (bus, arrival/dismissal, hallway, etc.). The classrooms have been set up so that all desks/tables are facing the same direction and are six feet apart. Masks will not be required when students are in the classroom and at their seats. All staff and visitors will be required to wear masks while in the school buildings. There will be "mask breaks" permitted for staff when social distancing can be established.

TRANSPORTATION

As previously stated, transportation will be one of our biggest challenges and we will provide it to the best of our ability. Our district will comply with the NJDOE required "minimum standard" of 22 students on a 54-passenger bus with **required face masks** for the duration of the route. Students will sit at the window seats and will load buses from back to front and unload front to back. Bus windows will be kept down when the weather permits to allow for air circulation. We are kindly asking for your patience with transportation services as daily routines will take longer to establish this year.

REOPENING OF SCHOOLS WEBPAGE

As a means to keep the school community informed, we have developed a Reopening of School Webpage that can be accessed from the district's main page at www.franklintwpschools.org. It is important to remember that at any point in time, new circumstances could result in a change in plans. Please visit our website for up to date information.

THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT

The Reopening of Schools committee is VERY appreciative of the parent/guardian support during this planning process. The committee released three separate surveys that resulted in a total of **2,149 responses**. All of which were reviewed and used to drive some of the decisions for the fall. It is our commitment to keep you informed and to be available to answer questions. We realize how difficult this situation is on everyone and cannot say THANK YOU enough. We are in this together and will get through this together. Stay safe.