



Ravenna Public Schools

Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan

August 4, 2021

Ravenna Public Schools appreciates the enduring patience and flexibility the community has shown throughout the past several months as the Administration team and the Ravenna Public Schools Board of Education have worked extensively on plans for returning to school for the 2021-2022 school year. While we value the many perspectives that have been shared, we speak collectively as one school district in an effort to communicate clearly with the best interests of students as our priority.

With this deep care for all students in mind, a key aspect of this Return to Learning Plan will be adaptable, flexible measures in order to carefully observe rates of transmission in our community as well as other variables which might warrant a reconsideration of current measures.

At the time of this draft, transmission rates remain 'moderate' in Muskegon County, though last academic year in Muskegon County we were operating at 'substantial' to 'high risk' transmission levels. Given the current transmission rates of COVID-19 in our community, the following are aspects of the RPS Return to Learn plan to be implemented:

- Schools will be open for full-day, in-person instruction and learning. Families seeking an online learning format for their student can contact their building principal by August 6 which was explained in earlier communications.
- Layered and measured approaches increase safety and protection for staff and students. As such, RPS will promote physical distancing/cohorting as much as is feasible.
- Staff, students, and visitors will be encouraged but not required to wear face coverings, regardless of vaccination status. RPS will not separate students or staff based on whether or not an individual chooses to wear a face covering.
- Staff and students are required to wear face coverings while on RPS transportation due to a federal order that districts are required to follow. [Order under Section 361 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 264) and 42 Code of Federal Regulations 70.2, 71.31 (b), 71.32 (b)]
- RPS will comply with orders from local and state health departments if a face covering order is issued due to elevated levels of community transmission of COVID-19.

- Students and staff will not be tested for COVID-19 unless it is mandated by the MHSAA, MDHHS, or the MCDPH. The COVID-19 vaccination is not required for school enrollment or attendance.
- The MCDPH will continue to require quarantine for household close contacts of COVID-19 cases and close contacts in outbreak situations (two or more connected cases).
- Before and after school extracurricular activities will be provided for the enrichment of our students.

Once again, key aspects are reliant on current COVID-19 transmission. RPS has several measures in place to maintain low levels of transmission, including an emphasis on personal hygiene (frequent hand washing), continuous deep cleaning, and regular communication with the local health department to monitor transmission rates. If transmission rates increase, additional mitigation measures may be warranted, and RPS will comply with mandates by local, state, or federal agencies.

RPS is committed to pulling together all resources to meet the various needs of our students, including physical needs such as food scarcity, mental health supports, and emotional health supports. We will remain vigilant in our commitment to provide every possibility for a learning environment where excellence thrives. Together, we will meet the challenges of this academic year with strength, sensitivity, and resilience.

Visit Guidance for [COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#), & [Interim Recommendations for Operating Schools Safely When There Is COVID-19 Community Transmission](#) for more information.