



RSU 9 Update

July 31, 2020



Reopening of School Plans!

We hope you all are finding safe ways to relax and enjoy some of what summer in Maine has to offer. We are working to finalize a detailed back to school plan for approval by the RSU 9 Board of Directors in mid-August and encourage your feedback beforehand. We are planning virtual Feedback Forums for parents and staff on August 6th:

- RSU 9 Staff 4:00 - 5:00 pm
- Family and Community 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Implementing a student transportation model that complies with the state's physical health and safety requirements continues to be our district's largest hurdle. Ensuring that students maintain a minimum of 3 feet distance while on the bus significantly reduces the number of students we are able to transport on each bus run. If possible, we are asking parents/guardians to transport their children to and from school. If you are able, please let us know on the Planning for 20/21 [survey](#).



We plan to offer two options for a safe return to school:

- An in-person model--this could be a hybrid model or a full return--that meets all safety requirements set forth by the Maine Department of Education ([see link here](#))
- A full remote model for any child whose parent/guardian requests

Families will be asked to commit to one of these options for each child for one quarter at a time. At the end of the quarter, if desired, families will be able to change to a different model. *Attendance will be taken and grading of student work will occur in all models.*

1. Remote Learning: students would learn remotely with a teacher(s).
 - a. Students will work from home under the supervision of their parents/guardians, with the teacher leading the academic instruction.
 - b. Students will be assigned a computer or tablet and receive instruction and assignments, as well as other academic resources remotely.
 - c. This model will remain the same throughout the school year.



2. In-person: students would return to school to the fullest extent possible while following all safety requirements.
 - a. In-person could be a full return or a hybrid model.
 - b. A hybrid model would consist of some in-person learning and some remote learning.
 - c. This model may change throughout the year and will be dependent upon the conditions in our area.

We plan to present a detailed draft of our reopening scenarios to the Board of Directors on Tuesday, Aug. 4. The Board is expected to make a decision on which scenario to adopt at its Aug. 11 meeting after receiving the latest information about Franklin County’s standing in the state’s color-coded advisory report.

The decisions facing Mt. Blue Regional School District about reopening are challenging, but with staff, families, and students working together, we can provide a quality learning experience for all. You’ll be hearing from us again soon.

Sincerely,
Tina Meserve (Superintendent) and Laura Columbia (Curriculum Coordinator)

| What are the safety requirements? | What do I need to know? |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students will self-screen prior to school or entering the bus. ● All students age five and above are required to wear an approved face covering on buses and at school. Masks are recommended for children ages two to four, when developmentally appropriate. ● Students will be a minimum of 3ft apart. ● Sharing of materials will be limited. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Families will only be allowed to drop off their students at a specific time and not earlier. ● All school visitors will be by appointment only. ● For health and safety reasons, all schools will limit visitors. ● Each school will outline how items are dropped off and how students are picked up. |

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|  <p>Our federal grants are available for viewing and feedback.</p> <p>They can be seen here. Please email lcolumbia@mbtluersd.org with any feedback.</p> | <p>NEW SURVEY: Information Needed from ALL families</p> <p>Please complete this new survey by August 7th. We will be making phone calls to gather the required information if a survey is not completed.</p> |
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