Mt. Blue Regional School District
Fall 2020
Re-Entry Proposal

August 11, 2020

Priorities During 2020–21 Programming Development

- Health and safety of RSU 9 staff, students, and families
- Staff and student considerations
- Academic and social/emotional well-being of our staff and students
- **Meeting the guidelines set by the DOE for return**

Required Health & Safety Measures

These six items are non-negotiable based on the guidance from the Maine DOE and the Maine CDC.

- Symptom self-screening before coming to school
- Physical distancing and facilities
- Masks/Face coverings
- Hand hygiene
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Return to school after illness

Highlights from Parent Survey

- Expectations of safety guidelines (masks and social distancing requirements)
- Daycare or participation concerns if students are not in school
- Safety concerns for high risk individuals and families
- Technology concerns

Highlights from Staff Survey

First choice of staff (392 took the survey)

- 50% Hybrid
- 30% Full return
- 20% Full remote

Re-Entry Models

FULL RETURN

SCHOOLS REOPEN WHILE ADHERING TO CDC/DOE GUIDELINES FOR SAFETY

HYBRID

SCHOOLS REOPEN WITH A HYBRID SCHEDULE AND PARTIAL REMOTE INSTRUCTION

REMOTE LEARNING

SCHOOLS RESTRICTED TO FULL REMOTE INSTRUCTION

Remote Learning Models

Regardless of which instructional model implemented by Mt. Blue Regional School District, families will have an **option to pursue full remote learning.**

Families who opt for the full remote learning model will need to commit to this model for one academic quarter.

K-5 Full Remote Students

- Attendance will be taken and monitored with guidance from the Maine Department of Education.
- Students will follow a schedule as provided by a designated full remote teacher. It will be a combination of group instruction, one on one instruction, and independent work and practice.
- Each student will be issued an iPad with a case that includes designated apps that the teacher will use with the student. Students in grades 3-5 will receive an iPad with a keyboard.
- Students and parents will receive training
- Students will receive a supplies
- Students will have access to reading materials and academic materials, that will be updated throughout the year.
- Students will receive feedback and grades on their work in the same way in-person learners would.
- Students would return designated work for teacher feedback and grading.
- Progress Reports and Report Cards will be issued.

6-12 Full Remote Students

- Attendance will be taken
- Students will follow their schools' schedules for classes and be taught by the in-person teachers.
- Students will use a digital meeting tool to connect to their classroom for teacher delivery of content, group work, presentations, discussions, etc.
- Teachers will work with students in small groups and one on one conferencing as needed.
- Students and parents will receive training
- Students will receive supplies
- Students will have access to reading materials and academic materials that will be updated throughout the year.
- Students will receive feedback and grades on their work equivalent to what in-person learners would.
- Students would return designated work for teacher feedback and grading, as required by the teacher.
- Report Cards will be issued and grades will be updated in PowerSchool.

Full Return Model

Educational	Facilities
- Same class sizes - Cleaning supplies for teachers to access - Limit the classroom materials to allow for easier cleaning - Students use individual items and less communal items - Mandatory face covering for all 3ft social distancing students 6ft social distancing for teachers - Encouraging social distancing - Handwashing to be done prior and after each transition - Health screening prior to the school day	- Limit # of students in communal areas (lunch, recess, dismissal, arrival, etc.) - Limit the interactions of people outside - Classrooms assessed for space and safety

Full Return Model

Food Services	Transportation
● No self serve bars, packaged items only ● No contact meal purchasing (barcode scanners, classroom roster check off sheets, students voice pin # to cashier) ● Classrooms rotate in and out of the cafeteria, (staggered release) ● Breakfast available in the cafeteria to be consumed in a designated location	● Buses arrive 30 minutes later across the district for appropriate coverage and supervision ● Create specific parent drop-off times and pick up times ● Individual schools will modify their schedule to allow time for arrival and dismissals within the school day

Hybrid Model for Grades Pre-K - 8

This model is based on having **50% of our students in-person at a time**.

- Students will be assigned to a Blue or Gold cohort **roughly** based on last name
  - A-J - **Blue Cohort**
  - K-Z - **Gold Cohort**
- Cohorts will alternate in-person days on a two-week cycle.

★ On remote days, PreK-5 students will be completing assigned work from the previous day without support or direct instruction from the classroom teacher.

★ On remote days, 6-8 grade students will be remoting into the classroom and learning along with their in-person peers.

Hybrid Model for Grades PreK – 8 Sample Schedule for an A–J Student

Monday - Blue **A-J In-person** **K-Z Remote**	**Tuesday - Gold** **K-Z In-person** **A-J Remote**	**Wednesday - Blue** **A-J In-person** **K-Z Remote**	**Thursday - Gold** **K-Z In-person** **A-J Remote**	**Friday - Blue** **A-J In-person** **K-Z Remote**
Monday - Gold **K-Z In-person** **A-J Remote**	**Tuesday - Blue** **A-J In-person** **K-Z Remote**	**Wednesday - Gold** **K-Z In-person** **A-J Remote**	**Thursday - Blue** **A-J In-person** **K-Z Remote**	**Friday- Gold** **K-Z In-person** **A-J Remote**

Hybrid Model for Grades 9 – 12

This model is based on having **50% of our students in person at a time**.

- 2 Days of In-Person Learning
- 3 Days of remote learning into instruction

★ On remote days, 9-12 grade students will be remoting into the classroom and learning along with their in-person peers (except Fridays when all students will be remote and zoom with the teacher).

Hybrid Model for Grades 9–12 (Sample schedule of a K-Z Student)

Monday Blue **K-Z Remote** **(A-J in Person)**	**Tuesday Gold** **K-Z Remote** **(A-J in Person)**	**Wednesday Blue** **K-Z in Person** **(A-J Remote)**	**Thursday Gold** **K-Z in Person** **(A-J Remote)**	**Friday** **Blue** **Remote for All**
Monday Gold **K-Z Remote** **(A-J in Person)**	**Tuesday Blue** **K-Z Remote** **(A-J in Person)**	**Wednesday Gold** **K-Z in Person** **(A-J Remote)**	**Thursday Blue** **K-Z in Person** **(A-J Remote)**	**Friday** **Gold** **Remote for All**

Revised Proposal for Quarter One (Sept. 8 – Nov. 6)

For the start of the school year, there will be NO after school activities or late shuttle bus.

- **Grades Pre-K thru 8**
  - *Hybrid model*
  - *First day of school - Sept. 8*
  - *School day hours*
    - Student Time Grades PreK-5: 9:30-3:12
    - Student Time Grades 6-8: 8:15-2:02
    - Teacher Hours: 8:45-3:42
- **Grades 9 thru 12**
  - *Hybrid model*
  - *First day of school - Sept 8*
  - *School day hours*
    - Student Time Grades 6-12: 8:15-2:02
    - Teacher Time: 7:30-2:30

- Our recommendation is to remove LAWS and discuss other options for staff work and training as needed.

Considerations for Revised Proposal

- Start school after Labor Day
- Four additional staff days (maybe more if we keep the 2 workshop days in October and March
  - Contractual language of 175 days needs to be addressed
  - Health and safety training
  - Training and preparation of staff
- Four fewer student days (see above)
  - Request a waiver from Maine DOE for fewer student days

Special Populations

- Programs that require intensive support, may have full return
- Foster Tech Center will be working on having their required in person hours be completed

Considerations to Support Success

- Funding to support our teaching during Covid-19
  - Technology
  - Materials, books, and supplies
  - Safety supplies
  - Training for staff, students and families
- Working with staff to problem solve and prepare for a safe and effective learning environment

Franklin County Categorization –

Maine Department of Education / Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention – July 31, 2020

Green - Categorization as "green" suggests that the county has a relatively low risk of COVID-19 spread and that schools may consider in-person instruction, as long as they are able to implement the required health and safety measures. Schools in a "green" county may need to use hybrid instructional models if there is insufficient capacity or other factors (facilities, staff, geography/transportation, etc.) that may prevent full implementation of the required Health and Safety Measures for All Schools.