



Resurrection Lutheran School

BUILDING A LIFELONG FOUNDATION

4520 19th Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901-8270

(P) 507.282.8280
(F) 507.285.9724

www.rlsrochester.com

School Reopening Plan 2020-2021

Dear Families,

We are pleased to share with you the plans for how we will operate in the coming school year which begins on August 31. The faculty, staff and school board were all called upon to help in the development of this plan. Changes in the pandemic over the course of the year could require us to make changes to this plan. Nevertheless, this document provides a summary of our plan as it currently stands.

We have developed these safeguards to protect the health and safety of our students and staff, while also creating an environment where all learners can be successful. We trust God's Word and promises completely as we plan for the future. Proverbs 16:9 reminds us, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps." We have thoughtfully and carefully planned for the next school year trusting our Lord to guide our steps in the way he knows best.

If you have any questions regarding this plan, please contact Mr. Renner.

Resources

In developing this plan, which has been reviewed by our School board, we have considered information and recommendations from these and other sources:

- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Minnesota Department of Health (MDH)
- Minnesota Department of Education (MDE)
- Olmsted County Public Health Services
- Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod Commission on Lutheran Schools (CLS)

Educational Setting

Having considered the resources and objectives above, and following plans and guidance given by the Minnesota Department of Education, Resurrection Lutheran School plans to offer On-Campus education beginning on August 31, 2020. We plan to offer this education five days per week for all students according to our previously published calendar. As a school with small class sizes and large classrooms, we have researched and determined that we can provide recommended social distancing and proper cleaning and disinfection while having all of our students on campus at the same time.

We will switch to Distance Learning for all students if required to do so by the level of viral transmission within our school or community, or by a lawful directive that clearly applies to our school. We will not automatically go to Distance Learning just because the Rochester Public Schools do. We will work with Olmsted County Public Health Services, local medical experts and our Regional Health Team to determine when it would be in the best interest of our students, staff, and school to do so. We will be prepared to notify parents and switch to Distance Learning, should it become necessary.

While we are praying that the majority of our students will be on campus on August 31, we realize that for various reasons, some families will choose, or may be required for a time, not to be on campus. Our Distance Learning plan provides an option for families to not be on campus while participating as fully as possible in the education we offer.

COVID-19 Program Coordinator

Mr. Renner will serve as our coordinator. Mr. Renner will communicate concerns, challenges, and lessons learned related to COVID-19 preventive activities as needed with staff, students/families, school leadership, and local health officials.

Arrival/Dismissal

Arrival

Varied Entrance

- Depending on their grade level, students will enter the building as follows:
 - Preschool and Kindergarten through the Preschool entry door #2. Preschool parents will sign their child in from outside using a smartphone.
 - Grades one, five, six, seven, and eight should enter through the main entry door #1.
 - Grades two, three and four should enter through the school kitchen door #3.
- Students should attempt to remain six feet apart from other students who are not in their family as much as possible.

Upon arrival, students should immediately go to their classroom. The teacher will dismiss students individually to take items to their lockers. A staff member will be in the two through eight hallway to help students remain socially distanced.

Student Screening

- Before arriving parents will need to complete a screening for each child. More information will be provided to families in the next few weeks about that screening and how it will work.
- Upon arrival students who have not been screened or are showing signs of illness will be directed to the office where their temperature will be checked along with other symptoms as follows:
 - New unexplained cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing not associated with asthma or other breathing conditions
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - New headache not associated with migranes or another medical condition
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- If a child has a fever, or these other symptoms of illness that cannot be explained by a diagnosis other than Covid 19, parents will be asked to take the child home and contact their health care provider.
- Students with these symptoms will be monitored in the nurses room in the office until they are taken home.

Hand Sanitizer

- Hand sanitizer will be available for students to use as they enter the building and will also be available outside and inside the classroom

Dismissal

- All students will remain in their homeroom until they are dismissed by their teacher.
 - All teachers will have walkie talkies to hear announcements to dismiss students.
 - Childcare students and those walking home will be dismissed first.
 - Bus students will not be dismissed until the buses have arrived and are ready to transport students.
 - Students in car line will wait in their classrooms until their family is called to the number their car is at.
 - Teams with sports practice will be dismissed after all other students are dismissed starting with the oldest grade down to the youngest grade participating.
- Depending on their grade level, students will exit the building as follows:
 - Preschool and Kindergarten through the Preschool entry door #2. Preschool parents will sign their child in from outside using a smartphone.
 - Grades one, five, six, seven and eight should exit through the main entry door #1.
 - Grades two, three and four should exit through the school kitchen door #3.

Capacity – Scenario 2 – Hybrid Learning

- The number of students and staff allowed in the building will be limited to 50% of capacity with strict social distancing. Under this Scenario, all students would still be able to attend Resurrection since we would be able to meet capacity and social distancing requirements.

ChildCare

- A determination about attendance will be made for students who are showing the following symptoms:
 - a fever of 100.4 or higher
 - chills
 - a new unexplained cough not associated with asthma or a cold
 - shortness of breath not associated with asthma or other breathing conditions
 - fatigue
 - muscle or body aches
 - a new sore throat not associated with a cold
 - new muscle or body aches
 - new headache not associated with migranes or another medical condition
 - new loss of smell or taste
 - nausea or vomiting
 - diarrhea
- Every attempt will be made to keep children six feet apart.
- Toys/equipment will be disinfected frequently and after the end of each session.
- Attempts will be made to keep staff the same each day.
- Social distancing requirements will limit the number of children we are allowed to serve. Sign-up for care will be done on a first come first served basis until our limit is reached. Those who sign-up after the limit is reached will be placed on a waiting list.
- We will attempt to limit mixing of grades by making use of both childcare rooms.

- Childcare will have their own equipment for use outside and in the gym.
- We will provide emergency childcare for essential workers if we are in Scenario 3 (Full Distance Learning).
- Face coverings will be required for all staff and all students in grades kindergarten through eight. See the section on face coverings for a list of acceptable face coverings.

Classrooms

Setup and teaching

- Seating will be arranged all facing the same direction with 6 feet of distance between students. Classroom floors will be marked to help achieve social distancing.
- Grades Kindergarten-Five
 - Student homerooms will be static, meaning that the students will remain with their homeroom group throughout the day.
- Grades Six-Eight
 - Students homerooms will be static, except for math for grades 6-8, and catechism instruction for grades 7-8.

Handwashing and Sanitizer

- Each classroom has a sink which will have soap and paper towels available for washing hands. In addition each classroom will have hand sanitizer in the classroom and at the entrance to the classroom.

Learning Plans – All student learning plans will be evaluated to ensure that accommodations are made for students with special health needs.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Many of the steps listed below for prevention of COVID-19 are not new protocols, but their importance is being reiterated.

- Steps will be taken to ensure ventilation systems are operating properly.
- Hard surfaces, including door knobs, and hard surface floors will be disinfected
- We have a schedule for cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day.
 - Clean, sanitize and/or disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched. This includes but is not limited to cleaning objects/surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, desks, chairs, chromebooks, cubbies, and playground structures.
- Our cleaning service also has instructions for cleaning and disinfecting the building, along with frequently touched surfaces.

Communication

If a child or member of the household have symptoms of COVID 19

- Contact the principal.
 - Share any information from the doctor and dates of first symptoms.
 - Communicate to the principal and follow any instructions from the doctor regarding quarantining.
- If necessary, the principal will send home a notice, keeping privacy laws in mind, that a student in a particular class or someone in close contact with them is displaying symptoms of COVID.

If child tests Positive for COVID

- Contact the principal.
 - Share any information from the doctor and dates of first symptoms.
 - Communicate to the principal and follow any instructions from the doctor regarding quarantining.
- The principal will alert families, keeping privacy laws in mind, that a student in a particular class has tested positive for COVID.

Confirmed Case of COVID

- If a case is confirmed at Resurrection, the following procedures will be implemented regardless of the level of community spread:
 - Local health officials will be notified.
 1. Students and staff may be dismissed for 2-5 days.
 - a. A determination about how much of the school will be dismissed and for how long will be made by the principal in consultation with local health officials and the school board chairman and vice chairman. The determination may be made that a longer dismissal or no dismissal is required.
 - b. If school or some classes are dismissed all extracurricular events will be cancelled.
 - c. Students and staff will be discouraged from socializing anywhere.
 - d. Teachers may be allowed into the building to deliver lessons and materials as needed during a whole school dismissal.
 2. If needed, the distance learning plan will be implemented.
 3. All dismissal decisions and information that is known about transmission will be communicated by the principal to all staff, parents and students while maintaining student or staff confidentiality.
 4. Cleaning and disinfecting thoroughly.
 - a. Closing off all areas where the ill student or staff member was.
 - b. Waiting 24 hours to begin cleaning.
 - c. Cleaning and disinfecting all areas used by the ill person, especially focusing on high touch areas.
 5. Decisions about extending or ending a dismissal
 - a. The principal, school board chairman and school board vice chairman in coordination with local health officials will make a determination regarding ending or extending a school dismissal.

Distance Learning

- Distance learning options will be provided for those who are unable to attend due to high risk, illness and related concerns.
- A Distance learning plan has been developed and will be shared with families.

Face Coverings

- Preschool – Face coverings are strongly recommended, but not required.
 - Students should not wear a mask or face shield if they are not capable of putting it on and taking it off themselves.

- Students should not wear a mask if they have trouble breathing, or cannot wear one due to a doctor's order related to medical issues.
- Face coverings should not be worn during recess, gym, snack and lunch
- The school will provide one face covering for each student if desired.
- Grades Kindergarten through Eight – Face coverings are required with the following exceptions:
 - Students should not wear a mask if they have trouble breathing, or cannot wear one due to a doctor's order related to medical issues. A face shield may then be worn instead which extends below the chin, to the ears, and does not leave a gap between the forehead and the face piece.
 - Masks will be available from the school if a child forgets one
 - Masks should not be worn during recess, gym, snack and lunch
 - The school will provide one mask for each student.
- Faculty and Staff - Masks or face shields are required with the following exceptions:
 - Faculty and Staff should not wear a mask if they have trouble breathing, or cannot wear one due to a doctor's order related to medical issues.
 - Appropriate masks or face shields will be provided by the school
- Types of allowable face coverings include:
 - Paper or disposable mask
 - Cloth face mask
 - Scarf
 - Bandanna
 - Neck gaiter
- All face coverings must conform with school dress code

Gatherings

- Chapel will be streamed to classrooms each Friday. Classrooms will be able to attend in person on a rotating basis while observing social distancing. Parents and other adults are asked not to attend chapel at this time.
- Off campus field trips are being postponed at this time. Field trips will resume only if CDC guidance allows for them.
- Sporting events will be addressed in another document. CDC and local health guidance will be followed.
- Other on campus events will not be held if CDC guidance does not recommend it. As we approach each event CDC guidance will be considered when making a decision if that event should be held.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

- Each classroom has a sink which will have soap and paper towels available for washing hands.
- In addition each classroom will have hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol in the classroom and at the entrance to the classroom for when students are unable to wash their hands.
- Proper handwashing techniques will be taught and reinforced by teachers in all classrooms.
- Each student will be encouraged to have facial tissues at their own desk.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or to cough and sneeze into their elbow.
- Used tissues will be thrown in the trash and if a tissue was used, hands will be washed immediately with soap and water, or hand sanitizer used if soap and water are not readily available.
- Posters will be used to promote and reinforce expectations.

Illness

Staff and students who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms during the day will be monitored in the nurses room until they are able to be picked up. Students who show symptoms and staff who are monitoring them are required to wear a mask.

Staff and students must stay home if:

- They have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms, until they meet criteria for return.
- They have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, until they meet criteria for return.
- **For people who received a lab test for COVID-19**
 - **Positive test result:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.
 - **Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.
- **For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis without a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 without a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)**
 - Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms. Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days
- **For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition**
 - Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider. Siblings and household members do not need to stay home.
- Families should contact the principal by phone or email if they or their child have symptoms of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or had a close exposure to someone with COVID-19 within the last 14 days.
- Appropriate accommodations including distance learning will be implemented in coordination with the principal, the classroom teacher and the family for all students who need to miss school for an extended period.

Lunch and Snacks

Lunch

- Students must wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating
- Lunches will be eaten the classroom rather than in the cafeteria
- Students will not be allowed to share food
- Staff members are required to wear a mask

Snacks

- Students must wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after eating

- Snacks will be eaten in the classroom
- Students will not be allowed to share snacks

Mental Health and Wellness

- Mrs. Beth Sarkaria, our school counselor, will work in coordination with our principal to provide appropriate information on how to access resources for mental health and wellness.

Movement

- Every effort will be made to keep students six feet apart as students move throughout the building. Markings will be used to help maintain social distance.

Piano and Band

Piano

- Students and teachers will wear face coverings
- Social distance will be maintained to the extent possible
- Frequently touched surfaces and instruments will be sanitized between lessons

Band

- Students and teacher will wear face coverings as much as possible
- Social distance will be maintained to the extent possible
- Frequently touched surfaces and any equipment that is reused will be sanitized between lessons
- Group rehearsals will be held if all reopening guidelines are able to be met

Recess and Gym

Recess and Gym

- Only one homeroom group will be at recess or PE at a time.
- Shared spaces and equipment such as the playground handrails, and gym equipment will be cleaned and disinfected as often as possible.
- Students will wash hands after each recess and PE period.
- Each classroom will have its own set of playground equipment that will be used only by the students in that classroom whether outside or in the gym.
- Doors to the gym will be marked as entrance and exit, and times between classes will be staggered.

Restrooms and Drinking Fountains

- Only two people at a time will be allowed in hallway restrooms. Every effort will be made to maintain six feet of social distancing with spacing marked on the floor.
- Students will not be able to use drinking fountains individually. Students are instead encouraged to bring water bottles from home and fill them using the bottle fillers or sinks in the classroom.

Student Supplies

- Each child's supplies will be kept separate from others and students will be reminded to not share supplies with each other
- Adequate supplies will be maintained to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student their own art supplies, equipment) or the use of supplies and equipment will be limited to one classroom at a time and will be cleaned and disinfected between use.
- Students in grades three through eight will each have their own chromebook.
- Toys and other items not related to school should not be brought from home.

Visitors

- Parents and visitors will not be allowed to enter without a mask. If an adult does not have a mask, one will be provided.
- As usual, all visitors must report to the office.
- Parents and volunteers are not allowed in the hallways or classrooms at this time.
- If you are dropping off something for your child you will be asked to leave it in the office so it can be delivered to your child by school staff.
- People who are here for church functions/activities will be directed to use the church kitchen or church sanctuary entrances.
- Parents picking up children for appointments will be asked to call in from their vehicle when they arrive and will need to wait in their vehicle for their child. The office will take care of signing children in and out.
- Parents will not be allowed to wait in the office, entry way, or hallways to pick up their child for appointments or at the end of the day.
- Preschool parents will sign their children in and out from outside the building.

Vulnerable/High Risk Groups

Based on currently available information and clinical expertise, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. To protect those at higher risk, it's important that everyone practices healthy hygiene behaviors.

- Any staff members who are considered higher risk are encouraged to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should stay home. If they should stay home, that information should be communicated to Mr. Renner so that appropriate plans may be made.
- If you have children with underlying health conditions, please talk Mr. Renner about your concerns. Appropriate accommodations including the possibility of distance learning will be developed in coordination with the principal, program coordinator, the classroom teacher and the family.