



East Ramapo Central School District

105 South Madison Avenue, Spring Valley, NY 10977

A Unified Community Educating the Whole Child ...

Dr. Deborah L. Wortham
Superintendent of Schools
845-577.6011

Harry Grossman
President, Board of Education

Sabrina Charles-Pierre
Vice-President

Carol Anderson
Mark Berkowitz
Joel Freilich
Ashley Leveille
Yoel T. Trieger
Ephraim Weissmandl
Yehuda Weissmandl

August 2020

Dear East Ramapo Central School District Families:

I hope that this communication finds you well. Beginning March 6, 2020, the District endeavored to provide continuity of learning for our students. We selected a mode that supports the overall health and safety of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Several Regional, Rockland County, and East Ramapo Central School District multi-stakeholder committees have convened to address the provisions of the New York State Education Department Reopening Guidance. This process involves the active engagement of stakeholders and data-collection from surveys, virtual meetings, and information sessions to develop recommendations for a safe return to school for students, faculty, and staff.

In alignment with the Governor's office, schools will OPEN if the region (Rockland County) is in Phase IV (4), and the daily COVID-19 infection rate remains below 5% using a 14-day average. The East Ramapo Central School District's unwavering Mission to providing a healthy, safe, supportive, engaging, and challenging learning environment, remains true as we devise a return to school plan to resume instruction during the 2020-2021 school year.

Per the New York State Education Department and the Department of Health, schools have been provided with guidance to make critical adjustments to instructional models, addressing a combination of in-person instruction and remote learning. Using said guidance, input from the Board of Education, as well as your input, we are preparing for an efficacious reopening of our school buildings for the 2020-2021 school year. I am grateful to those who actively contributed their time to volunteering for committees, responding to surveys, as well as sending emails and phone calls with your input.

Our return to school plan is on our website: www.ercsd.org/reopening

We officially welcome our students in Kindergarten through grade twelve back to school, remotely, on Monday, September 14, 2020, with the exception that select groups of special education students will be attending in-person, beginning September 16, 2020 (families of said students will receive an additional informative mailing). The East Ramapo Central School District will employ *a phased-in hybrid* approach of weekly rotations, beginning October 13, 2020, to physically return all students and staff to schools this fall. This modified approach to traditional schooling will allow for 1/3 of the student population, during a given week to alternate between reporting to school for in-person instruction, four-full days per week, while the remaining students engage in at-home remote instruction. This mode of education will be evaluated quarterly (10 weeks) and revisited at the end of the first semester (20 weeks).

A **phased approach** means we will carefully consider current conditions and official health recommendations **before bringing back a small subset of our whole school population at a time**. The guidance provided from the New York State Education Department and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) suggests that mitigation in the form of staggered schedules with a reduction in the number of students present at a given time provides a safer educational environment. The Superintendent of Schools will decide on moving into and out of phases and will include consideration of the guidance and health conditions. We will deliver continuous, high-quality instruction through a remote learning

As a unified community, the East Ramapo Central School District is committed to educating the whole child by providing a healthy, safe, supportive, engaging and challenging learning environment.

experience for all students. We have identified early learners and students with disabilities as a priority for a return to in-person services. The District will give additional attention to transitioning grades within each building.

Families will receive their child's Cohort assignment prior to the start of the school year, from their assigned building, as traditionally delivered - via mail, as well as eSchool Portals. Parents can expect to receive their child's Cohort assignment/schedule during the week of September 8th, no later than September 11, 2020. For a detailed overview of the phased-in model, to safely reopen our schools for the 2020-2021 school year, please visit our website: www.ercsd.org/reopening

Throughout our planning process, we endeavor to serve our educational community and community at large, with the understanding that their health and safety are paramount, as we strive to maintain an equitable, high-quality learning experience. This process operationalizes preventative mitigation measures (health screenings; healthy hygiene practices; social distancing; issuance of personal protective equipment and face coverings; cleaning and disinfection; and management of ill persons) to foster a healthy and safe environment. If a confirmed case of COVID-19 is reported from within one of our schools, we will immediately contact the Rockland County Department of Health for further guidance relative to the next steps the District must take and fully cooperate as contact tracing is conducted. Should a school(s) or District be directed to close for an extended period, we must be prepared to convert to fully remote instruction in a fast and fluid fashion. While we recognize the challenge that such a shift may present, as a community, we must prepare in advance for the real possibilities that a pandemic may introduce.

Our success as a District garners the awareness, understanding, and support of parents, teachers, staff, students, and the entire East Ramapo community. We are elated that our community has come together, and at the persistence shown by leaders of the reopening committee, school-based teams, and greater community. As we enter uncharted waters, we will guide our actions around the greater good achieved when students are learning, healthy, safe, and supported. We continue to reflect on our guiding principle...“ Is it Good for Kids?”

Regards,



Dr. Deborah L. Wortham, Superintendent

East Ramapo Central School District

Table 1:
Bell Schedule

School	Daily Bell Schedule
Ramapo High School	7:26 a.m. – 1:40 p.m.
Spring Valley High School	7:26 a.m. – 1:40 p.m.
Early Childhood Center (ECC)	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Grandview School	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Lime Kiln School	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Summit Park School	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Kakiat STEAM Academy	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Fleetwood School	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Eldorado School	8:10 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Hempstead School	8:55 a.m. – 2:25 p.m.
Margetts School	8:55 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Elmwood Intermediate School	8:55 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Chestnut Ridge Middle School (IB Campus)	9:40 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.
Pomona Middle School	9:40 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.

Table 2:

Cohort Assignments

(Please see Table 3 for the semester calendar of in-person instruction, by Cohort)

Please Note: Cohort assignments are subject to change based on classroom student-roster numbers and student need. Final cohort assignments/schedules are forthcoming from the school level.

School	Cohort A Student Last Names	Cohort B Student Last Names	Cohort C Student Last Names
Chestnut Ridge Middle School	Abisch -- Guayllas	Guerra-Duarte -- Oviedo-Sandoval	Page-Choice -- Zumba-Portillo
Early Childhood Center (ECC)	Agualongo-Chisaguano -- Godoy-Garcia	Gonzalez -- Nakpil	Navla-Sarmiento -- Zapatanga-Granda
Eldorado Elementary School	Acero-Jerez -- Garcia-Quizhpi	Garcia-Vasquez -- Orozco-Morales	Orozco-Orozco -- Zumba-Hernandez
Elmwood Elementary School	Adelson -- Gonzalez, S.	Gonzalez-Blandon--- Oliva-Chinchilla	Orellana-Aragon -- Zupnick
Fleetwood Elementary School	Acero-Jerez -- Garcia-Salvatierra	Garcia-Sandoval -- Moscoso, K.	Moylan -- Zapata- Carranza
Grandview Elementary School	Aariz -- Flores-Lucero	Floyd -- Navarrete-Rizo	Naveed -- Zurita-Orbe
Hempstead Elementary School	Acevedo -- Francois	Fray -- Morales-Cantaderio	Morales-Sandoval -- Zuniga-Alarcon
Kakiat Elementary School	Abellard -- Gonzalez	Gonzalez-Aguilar -- Noel	Nolasco -- Zumba-Loja
Kakiat Middle School	Abraham -- Guaman-Salto	Guaman-Saltoi -- Noel	Ntloko -- Zumba-Loja
Lime Kiln Elementary School	Acosta-Contreras -- Garcia-Cordero	Garcia-Flores -- Najarro-Garcia	Najera-Garcia -- Zulme
Margetts Elementary School	Abylkasym -- Germain, C.	Germain, R. -- Palma-Garcia	Palma-Martinez -- Zhu
Pomona Elementary School	Abellard -- Giron	Giron-Bonilla -- Mullings	Murphy -- Zuniga-Alarcon
Ramapo High School	Abellard -- Fraser	Frias-Sanchez -- Moran-Rodriguez	Moreira-Portillo -- Zuniga-Corado
Spring Valley High School	Abelard -- Garcia-Milian, M.	Garcia-Milian, Y. -- Naranjo	Narinesingh -- Zumba-Siguencia
Summit Park Elementary School	Acevedo -- Garcia-Alvarado	Garcia-Camarena -- Morocho, S.	Morocho, T. -- Zuniga-Ramirez

Table 3:
2020-2021 Semester 1 Cohort Weekly Rotation Calendar

**EAST RAMAPO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEMESTER 1 COHORT WEEKLY ROTATION CALENDAR 2020-2021**

Remote Learning
Cohort A: In-person Learning
Cohort B: In-person Learning
Cohort C: In-person Learning

Note: Students will be remote when not in-person.

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
SEPTEMBER			1	2	3	4	5	9/7 – Labor Day (schools closed)
	6	7	PD 8	SC 9	SC 10	SC 11	12	9/8 – Teachers’ first day – Professional Development Day (no school for students)
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	9/9, 9/10 & 9/11 – Superintendent’s Conference Days (no school for students)
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	9/14 – Students’ first day
	27	28	29	30				9/28 – Yom Kippur (schools closed)
OCTOBER					1	2	3	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10/12 – Columbus Day (schools closed)
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
NOVEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	11/3 – Election Day (schools closed)
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	11/11 – Veteran’s Day (schools closed)
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	11/26-11/27 – Thanksgiving Recess (schools closed)
	29	30						
DECEMBER			1	2	3	4	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	13	14	15	16	17	PD 18	19	12/18 – Professional Development/Parent-Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	12/24-12/31 – Winter Break (schools closed)
	27	28	29	30	31			
JANUARY						1	2	1/1 – New Year’s Day (schools closed)
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	1/18 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (schools closed)
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	31							