

FAQ Follow Up from Zoom Parent Meetings  
Ridglea Hills Elementary

- **What safety measures are being put in place for return to in-person learning?**
  - The district is providing us with very specific instructions regarding safety protocols. We will receive further guidance as we get closer to in person instruction. Students will be instructed to enter the building through the front door only. All traffic will go through one location. A nurse and/or other staff members will be set up to help process students into the building.
  - Every teacher has received PPE, masks, hand sanitizer, thermometer guns for their classroom.
  - We will provide more specific protocol and guidance as we get closer to in person instruction.
  
- **Do you feel that FWISD is or has considered revising in person learning before 10/5 as all other districts around DFW have set dates for in person learning?**
  - This is a board decision. The board will meet prior to October 5<sup>th</sup> to make decisions about our return to in person learning. We will disseminate information as we receive it.
  
- **Will each grade be taught at the same time for the live teaching portion of the virtual learning?**
  - Each grade and teacher teams have created schedules that will be communicated to parents prior to September 8. We are still making adjustments to schedules. Due to the required minutes, most teachers will overlap the live teaching. However, teachers are required to videotape the lesson, and it will be available to students if they are unable to attend the lesson live. This will enable students to access the lesson and assignments at any time throughout the day. There will be scheduled times, however, for students to work directly with teacher one on one or in a small group through Google Meet.
  
- **How does the school plan on serving the IEP requirements for special education students?**
  - We are still receiving information on this but our Sped team will be making schedules to support our students during the live lessons as well as with their assignments.
  
- **When will the student/class schedules be available?**
  - We do not have a hard date on this yet. Our clerk returns August 24 and will be adjusting class schedules based on our enrollment. There will be many changes due to the number of withdrawals we have had, as well as new enrollees.
  - Class schedules should be available the week of August 31 prior to Meet the Teacher night on September 4.
  
- **When will school end for summer 2021?**
  - The last day of school is June 18
  - [https://www.fwisd.org/cms/lib/TX01918778/Centricity/Domain/735/2020-21\\_FWISD\\_NewStartDate\\_Calendar\\_8-4-20.pdf](https://www.fwisd.org/cms/lib/TX01918778/Centricity/Domain/735/2020-21_FWISD_NewStartDate_Calendar_8-4-20.pdf)
  
- **Will there be a virtual learning dress code?**
  - We will not require a dress code, but we encourage students to dress for the day. We discourage students from attending class in pajamas. Students who dress and prepare for their class day might be more focused and ready for their day of learning.
  
- **Will AR be available from home as it was in the spring?**
  - More information will be forthcoming, but we anticipate that AR will be available.
  
- **When will we know who our child's teacher is?**
  - The week of August 31, prior to Meet the Teacher night on September 4. Our clerk returns August 24 and will be doing scheduling adjustments.

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- **Will kids interact with their assigned teacher for the year during the virtual four weeks? Or will it be a different virtual instructor?**
  - We anticipate student schedules will reflect their teachers for the year, both virtual and in-person. However, adjustments might need to be made when we return to in-person learning due to students who will remain with virtual instruction. When we return to in person learning, students who have chosen to continue with virtual instruction will be grouped into their own homeroom. We do not anticipate a hybrid model.
  
- **How will virtual Meet the Teacher work?**
  - Teachers will receive guidance on this when they return on August 31. Parents will receive information from their homeroom teacher and be given Zoom or Google Meet information.
  
- **After reviewing the district plan for virtual learning, it looks very similar to what we did in the Spring (google classroom with teacher office hours). Is that correct? If not, how will it differ/be improved?**
  - Students will receive a structured schedule that will include opportunities for live instruction, as well as opportunities to work with the teacher in small groups.
  - Instruction will consistent for every teacher. Every teacher will have a Google Classroom with daily assignments. Live lessons will be done through Google Meet. We will NOT use Zoom.
  - In the Spring, students were required to complete one assignment per week. This year students will be required to show participation, and teachers will be taking grades for daily assignments.
  
- **Please explain the 4 hours a day of in-person online instruction required of students. I read through the virtual learning outlined by FWISD this week, But feel the four hours plus the other amount of time after that is a huge amount of time.**
  - The state and the district are required to provide a minimum amount of minutes per subject. This time can be broken up, and students can complete assignments at their own pace. Live lessons can be accessed live or at a later time, as lessons are recorded. The schedule is going to reflect an average school day. This will help prepare students for a full schedule when we return in-person.
  - For example, the required minutes for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade are as follows: Literacy 95 minutes, Math 75v minutes, Science 20 minutes, Social Studies 20 minutes, Small Group check in 30 minutes, Specials 30 minutes. Students will have a specials class each day. There will be one art class per week and one music class.
  - Learning Support for Parents and Students- <https://www.fwisd.org/Page/24263>
  - Virtual Learning Overview- <https://www.fwisd.org/Page/24281>
  
- **Since Meet the Teacher is Sept. 4, how will we know which teacher to meet?**
  - The assigned classroom teacher will contact parents prior to Sept 4.
  - The school will also communicate information to parents with Meet the Teacher night procedures prior to Sept 4
  
- **What metrics is the board considering in order to open up safely (whenever that may be)?**
  - The board will make decisions according to guidance from the state, county health department, etc. They will advise us as to next steps when the decision is made to return to in-person learning.
  
- **How many hours per day is required for virtual kindergarten? Would love to hear a more detailed plan for virtual instruction for kindergarten.**
  - Schedules will be provided the week of August 31, but the required minutes for Kinder-2<sup>nd</sup> are as follows: Literacy 80 minutes, Math 60 minutes, Science 20 min, social studies 20 min, small group check in 30 min, specials 30 min

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- **If a teacher tests positive for COVID what is the school's safety plan/ protocol?**
  - Mrs. Cotton and Mrs. Starr will be receiving training on Covid workplace safety protocol on Thursday, August 20. More information will be forthcoming.
- **Is 10/5 a hard date for in person learning to start if there is no worsening in local Covid rates?**
  - We do not make those decisions at the school level. The board will make decisions before October 5.
- **Will we have access to workbooks and textbooks during virtual learning for those students that are tactile learners? Or will it be 100% digital? If you don't have an answer can we please consider that as an option?**
  - Workbooks will be available, and we will communicate a schedule for picking up materials at a later date before September 8
- **What will the mask policy be for our under 10 children once we start in person schooling? Dr. Scribner only mentioned mandating masks according to the state which is 10 and over.**
  - At this time we expect to follow the state mandate and Dr. Scribner's mandate of 10 and over. However, we will have masks available and encourage parents to provide masks for their children if they wish to do so.
- **Will teachers wear face shields or masks?**
  - The district has provided masks for all staff members. Masks are required on campus for all people age 10 and over.
- **Is enrollment down due to opening of private, charter and religious schools opening this month?**
  - We are monitoring our enrollment daily and encourage parents to register through Power Schools if they haven't already done so. We can't make any estimates about our enrollment percentage at this time until we complete registration/enrollment.
  - Registration link through FWISD- <https://www.fwisd.org/domain/6965>
- **When will we get a school supply list?**
  - Teachers are currently downsizing the district supply list. When students return, they will not be sharing their supplies as we have done in past years.
  - Lists will be posted as soon as they are complete.
- **What will social distancing look like in a kinder / younger elementary classroom? Will their actual socializing be hindered? Will they be free to move about the classroom? It can be so hard for younger kids to sit still!**
  - This will definitely be a challenge. The class size in person will depend on the numbers of students enrolled in virtual vs in person. Teachers will set up their classrooms to accommodate social distancing guidelines. Teachers will use this as a learning opportunity when students return. Students will be redirected continuously to maintain distance from others, physically. There will be other protocols that teachers will practice with students as well, such as walking on the right side of the hallway. We will be strict with these guidelines. Students will be redirected not to walk on the left or center of the hallway and maintain distance from others.

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- **Please speak to a typical online preK schedule. We will keep our daughter enrolled at her current daycare through the month of September while we both work and hope to come to RHE in October. Are there any specific TEA requirements for preK we will have to complete online until school starts in person?**
  - Beginning September 8, prek teachers will be implementing a daily schedule just like all other grades. Once they start online, they will have the same attendance and participation requirements as all other students.
  - The Prek required minutes are as follows: 180 minutes daily: Literacy 90 minutes, Math 65 minutes, Science/Social Studies 10 min, Social Emotional Learning 10 min, Movement 5 min.
  - PreK will not have specials.
  - Teachers will speak more specifically to prek schedules and requirements at Meet the Teacher on September 4.
  
- **If we requested to do in school instruction, but changed our mind and want to do online for the first semester can we do this?**
  - When the board makes the decision for us to go back to in person learning, parents can make the decision about in person vs. virtual. If a student continues with virtual learning, they must complete the six weeks grading period with virtual learning.
  - Students cannot change from one to the other in the middle of a six weeks grading period.
  - Students can return to in person learning at the beginning of any 6 weeks grading period.
  
- **Is 22 kids per class acceptable social distancing?**
  - This is a challenge, and teachers will work on creating an appropriate learning environment where students are safely distanced to the greatest extent possible.
  - Our campus lacks additional spaces due to our large student population. It is possible that there will be 22 students in a class.
  - If we have a more even split of online learners vs in person learners, we will better be able to adjust classes and level them in order to create a better environment for social distancing.
  
- **When we start Sept. 8th with a RH teacher if the student then chooses virtual after that point will they get a different teacher?**
  - This is a possibility. We foresee one teacher per grade level who will continue with virtual learning. If a student in one class chooses to continue with virtual learning, that student would have to be moved to the online classroom.
  
- **Going back to the 4 hrs per day, will that all be between 8-3?**
  - Yes
  - Recorded lessons will be available for students to access at a later time. Although the schedules are written for 8-3, students are able to access all material at any time. This will benefit many working families who need the flexibility to support their children after 3:00.
  
- **Is there a plan for any further technology distributions? Will the policy of one device per household be relaxed to allow for easier access for families with multiple children at multiple different levels?**
  - Chromebook and Hotspot distributions are planned for the week of August 31.
  - In order to receive a Chromebook, parents must complete the Technology Access Survey. Parents can also call the school to request a device and we will submit the information from here.
  - Priority is being given to grades K-5. PreK students will not receive devices until all requested devices for grades K-5 have been distributed. If we have devices following the initial deployment, we will begin distribution for PreK when the district gives the ok.
  - The district is continuing with **one device per family**. This does not include other children in grades 6-12.

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- There are exceptions for families with 3 or more students at our campus. If a family has 3 or more children on our campus, they may receive an additional device.
- Appointments will be made for parents to pick up devices. They are not first come first served as they were in Spring. Devices will be distributed according to the survey and the date the survey was submitted.
- The district is providing devices in Phases. At this time we do not have enough Chromebooks to disburse. As we receive them we will make appointments with families to checkout devices, according to the order in which the survey was completed. If parents called the school to request a device, Mr. Starr submitted the survey in the order the requests were made.
  
- **What is the board considering in order to open up safely (whenever that may be)? If it's not safe to open up now because Covid cases are high, what numbers is the district looking for before schools can open?**
  - This question was answered previously. The Board makes those decisions according to guidance from the state and health department. We are not privy to those numbers.
  
- **When in person learning begins do we have enough teachers-staff for students who wish to participate.**
  - We are currently fully staffed and will be ready for in person learning. Once we return to all in person learning, all staff members will be on campus.
  
- **Will teachers wear face shields so teachers can see their facial expressions or masks where they cannot?**
  - The district has provided masks for all classroom teachers. Some teachers will be wearing face shields.
  
- **How is the school planning to fix the problem in the restrooms with soap? As a parent who was in the school almost every day last year there was rarely any soap in the restrooms. Toilet paper covered the floors and most toilets were full.**
  - In the past 3 years, we have not been fully staffed with our custodians. Our custodians work hard to keep our building clean.
  - There are instances that students do not dispose of toilet paper correctly and/or make a mess in the restroom. Parents can help us by reinforcing appropriate behavior at school and in the restrooms. Teachers will also speak to their students about this. We have a large building with lots of restrooms, and our custodial staff does a great job of addressing any issues as it comes to their attention.
  - All restrooms will be stocked with soap.
  
- **I have a 3rd and a 1st grader. Not knowing which and how many kids are going to elect to continue with virtual instruction, how can you ensure that my 1st grader will have the same instructor throughout the year?**
  - This was answered previously. We cannot guarantee that the teacher will stay the same. It depends on the numbers of students who continue with virtual instruction and the teacher at each grade level assigned to teach that class. Please see response above.
  
- **Is there a plan to collect technology from families that are not returning/have been promoted?**
  - The district has directed us not to collect devices that were previously distributed.
  
- **So are teachers going to be expected to do online and in person if /when we transition to in person learning?**
  - There will be one class per grade level for virtual instruction after we return to in-person learning. There will be 2 teachers for virtual instruction if there are large numbers of students who continue with online learning. These decisions will be made closer to the date of starting in-

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person learning and our numbers. Parents will be surveyed later so we can better assess our numbers.

- **Will the teachers be teaching virtually and in person at the same time when in-person begins?**
  - Teachers will not do both
  
- **I meant that if in person starts and we instead choose to do stick with virtual the rest of the semester will there be a different teacher teaching the virtual class. You aren't expecting RH teachers to continue teaching online once in-person starts, correct?**
  - Teachers teaching online will be determined by the number of students continuing with virtual instruction. This was answered in detail above.
  
- **Would it be possible to send email information in a weekly update format? I know many have tried to be off social media (me!) but I still really want access to this information!**
  - We are considering many ways to disseminate information. Our widest reach is on social media and through PTA communications.
  
- **Why not let those teachers who want all virtual do so and let the ones who want in person to do so when school resumes?**
  - Those are decisions that are made by administration, considering what is best for our students, as well as the numbers for both options. We can't have students at school without an adequate number of teachers. Once we start back to in person learning, all staff members will be required to return to campus.