



Reopening IUFSO

Public Forum
August 13, 2020



Reopening Our Schools Guiding Principles

Ensure the safety and well-being of all students and employees.

Promote equity and accessibility to learning for all students.

Provide instructional delivery that meets the needs of all students.

Address the social-emotional needs of all students and employees.



Hybrid Schedule to be Implemented: Alternating Attendance Model

<i>M</i>	<i>T</i>	<i>W</i>	<i>TH</i>	<i>F</i>
A	A	FLEX	B	B

Flex Days:

- Remote learning for all students with 2 ½ hours teacher contact time
- Elementary: Specials, small group, conferences
- Secondary: Alternate periods 0-4 one week, periods 5-9 the next
- 2 ½ hours committee meetings, professional learning and collaboration



Cohort Model to be Implemented

- **Cohort A**
 - Last names beginning with **A through L**
 - Onsite Learning Monday and Tuesday
 - Distance Learning Wednesday through Friday
- **Cohort B**
 - Last names beginning with **M through Z**
 - Onsite Learning Thursday and Friday
 - Distance Learning Monday through Wednesday
- **Cohort C**
 - Special class students onsite Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

In order to meet DOH guidelines, some class and schedule changes may be required.



Phased in Reopening - September 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL	8 100% Distance Learning	9 100% Distance Learning	10 100% Distance Learning	11 100% Distance Learning
14 A1 On-Site, others Distance Learning	15 A2 On-Site, others Distance Learning	16 100% Distance Learning	17 B1 On-Site, others Distance Learning	18 B2 On-Site, others Distance Learning
21 A On-Site B Distance Learning	22 A On-Site B Distance Learning	23 100% Distance Learning	24 B On-Site A Distance Learning	25 B On-Site A Distance Learning
28 YOM KIPPUR NO SCHOOL	29 A On-Site B Distance Learning	30 A On-Site B Distance Learning	1 B On-Site A Distance Learning	2 B On-Site A Distance Learning

Calendar modified to reflect school closure on September 28th



Distance Learning in a Hybrid Model

- All students will have a structured school day
- All students will be required to attend all classes on their schedule (elementary and secondary) - attendance will be taken and participation will be monitored
- Students will interact with the teacher and classmates as well as view live streamed instruction, watch recorded videos, complete independent work, etc.
- Small group sessions will be scheduled at all levels based on student need and instructional objectives
- Some elementary specials will be delivered remotely; PE will be outdoors when possible
- Flex day, Wednesday, will provide opportunities for direct instruction, small group sessions, individual support and independent work
- Parent & Student Distance Learning Guidelines will be communicated and enforced



100% Distance Learning

It Doesn't Equate to Distance Learning in a Hybrid Model

- Limited personal interaction with teachers
- Limited personal interaction with peers
- Limitations on learning that is interactive, hands-on and engages students physically
- Limits teachers' ability to meet the needs of all students



Expectations for Students in a 100% Distance Learning Model

- Attendance at all scheduled classes
- All curricular learning standards
- All assigned classwork, project and assessments
- Commitment through the end of the quarter/trimester



Information Regarding the 100% Distance Learning Model

- Parents must commit through the end of the quarter/trimester
- Cohort/Class assignments will not be changed
- The number of days on-site for students in the hybrid model will not change
- District will not consult with or support tutors or teachers facilitating pods



100% Distance Learning

Process and Timeline

1. August 13th: Survey distributed to all Irvington families
2. Week of August 18th: Follow-up communication will be sent to parents who expressed intent to select 100% Distance Learning
3. August 20th: Deadline for submitting the commitment letter
4. Week of August 24th: Confirmation and details will be sent to parents



Exploration of K-1 Four Half-Days/Week In-Person Learning

Through its planning process, the District did not advance a model that would have students in school for in-person learning due to:

- Concern for the ability to follow in-school social distancing requirements
- Transportation limitations:
 - Additional cost
 - Social distancing
 - Routing needs
- Anticipation of significant increase in staffing to provide appropriate supervision



Exploration of K-1 Four (4) Half-Days/Week In-Person Learning

Since the initial planning process, having heard significant feedback from parents and further exploration, the District is now investigating the possibility of having Kindergarten and 1st grade attend school for four (4) days per week.

This model would include:

- Students remain in two cohorts who attend separate AM & PM sessions
- Students participate in on-site learning four (4) half-days:
 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
- Students also participate in asynchronous distance learning on the four days they attend school.

Note: All grades have a half-day of distance learning on Wednesdays.



Exploration of K-1 Four (4) Half-Days/Week In-Person Learning

What will influence the District's ability to implement this model?

- Ability to provide & afford transportation
- Ability to perform necessary cleaning between AM and PM sessions
- Learning must be for the full school day for attendance to “count”. Asynchronous, distance learning plans must be developed for the half-day students are at home
- Impact on child care needs & parent work schedules

Note: Half-days will not be an *additional* option.

Only one model will be implemented for K-1.



Important Notes About K-1 Four (4) Half-Days/Week In-Person Learning

- Students will remain in the assigned cohort (A-L/M-Z).
- The distance learning component of the experience will be asynchronous and will need adult support and supervision (similar to homework).
- Attendance and participation in the asynchronous, distance learning portion of the day will be monitored through login to Google classroom and completion of assignments.
- The District will provide all learning supplies needed for assignments done at home.
- The District will provide all technology needed to support asynchronous, distance learning.



Exploration of K-1 Four Half-Days/Week In-Person Learning

Process and Timeline

1. August 13th: Survey distributed to all Irvington families
2. Week of August 17th: Curriculum and Instruction Reopening Committee meets, reviews survey results and develops a recommendation to the Reopening Steering Committee and Board of Education
3. Week of August 24th: Parents will be notified of the final decision and provided with transportation schedules



Health & Safety



School Visitors

To provide for the health and safety our students and staff:

- Visitations to the schools will be greatly reduced
- Volunteer opportunities will be eliminated
- All meetings will be scheduled remotely when practicable
- Visitors will be required to complete a health survey upon arrival and must provide information for contact tracing purposes
- Vendor and contractor access will be limited and scheduled after-school when possible (with the exception of Aramark - our food service vendor)



Social Distancing

Social distancing will be supported at all times:

- No large-group gatherings will be held
- All student desks will be placed a minimum of 6 feet apart
- Students will be seated facing the same direction
- Stairway access will be modified for one-way traffic only, with the exception of emergencies
- Hallways will be marked with a dividing line
- Elementary students will eat lunch in their classrooms or the cafeteria to provide necessary spacing
- Travel to/from other locations will be limited where possible
- Use of outdoor space whenever possible
- Signage and floor decals will be installed throughout each school to guide traffic
- Specific pick-up/drop-off procedures will be implemented at each school to reduce congestion/contact



Face Masks

Face Masks:

- The District will require that masks will be worn at all times except during mask breaks and lunch
- Supervised mask breaks will be provided with social distancing
- Masks will be worn during Physical Education & Recess
- Students and staff members will be trained in the proper use of masks
- Families are encouraged to provide their child with 2 comfortable masks of their choosing
- The District will provide disposable masks when needed
- Clear masks will be provided to reading teachers and some staff as appropriate for instructional purposes

Types of Masks Permitted:

- Cloth masks that securely cover the nose and mouth and fit snugly against the sides of the face (cloth masks, surgical masks, etc.)
- Surgical masks
- Face shields may not be worn in place of a face mask, but may be worn in addition to a mask

Specific guidance will be communicated to parents and posted on the website



Handwashing and Hygiene

The District will take proactive measures to encourage healthy practices by:

- Providing instruction on proper handwashing procedures
- Displaying reminders throughout each school
- Installing handwashing stations in each school to eliminate congestion in restrooms
- Providing instruction on proper coughing and sneezing hygiene
- Providing hand sanitizer in all classrooms and in common spaces such as hallways
- Posting resources on the District website for parents to support school practices
- Closing water fountains and using only bottle-filling stations of which more have been added throughout the buildings
- Not permitting the sharing of learning materials, devices, desks, etc.
 - Students will be provided with personal Chromebooks
- Using barriers for services that require closer spacing, i.e. speech, OT, PT or where it is impractical to create necessary social distancing



Cleaning and Sanitization

The District will comply with all recommended cleaning protocols:

- All schools will be deeply cleaned & sanitized twice per week
- High-contact areas will be cleaned throughout the school day, including bathroom sinks and bottle filling stations
- All surfaces will be treated with Bio Protect that does not permit virus to adhere to it
- Classrooms will be regularly cleaned with a Clorox Disinfectant Sprayer or similar product
- IMS & IHS desks will be covered with newsprint/butcher paper that will be changed between classes (pilot)
- Teachers will be provided with disinfecting wipes



Transportation

The District and the transportation contractor will take measures to support health and safety:

- Survey data informs the District that ridership will be dramatically reduced
- The goal is to have students seated one per seat except for siblings who will be seated together
- All students and staff must wear masks at all times
- No eating on the bus (as per current practice)
- Bus seats will be wiped down between routes by IUFSD custodians
- Buses will be sanitized daily by the transportation contractor



Food Services/School Lunch

The District will continue to support the proper nutrition of its students, while providing for the health and safety of everyone:

- Elementary students will eat in their classrooms or cafeteria to provide for distancing
- Lunches will be delivered to the classroom and/or distributed through spaced pickup lines
- Meals will be pre-packaged to limit contact
- IMS & IHS cafeteria tables will be spaced further apart and students will not be seated across from one another
 - Alternate dining locations will be provided and supervised
 - All surfaces will be cleaned routinely and between lunch periods
- Food service staff will undergo necessary training
- Food preparation spaces and equipment will be sanitized daily
- Lunches will be available for students engaged in distance learning
- Free and reduced-priced meals will be provided to eligible students



Ventilation and Air Circulation

The District will take measures to ensure proper ventilation:

- Classrooms have mechanical ventilation systems that provide the required air exchanges
- All outside air dampers will be programmed/set for 100% fresh air until the weather cools
- All air-handlers will have MERV-13 filters installed
- Each classroom will have windows open to support fresh air circulation
 - Some windows don't open as wide as others by design or for safety purposes
- Classroom doors can be opened to aid air circulation
- Each classroom will have air conditioning (central cooling or window units)



Health Screening, Health Care & Treatment

- Daily health screening will be required before students report to school and bus stops and prior to staff reporting to work
 - An app will be introduced for the reporting of viral symptoms, fevers, contact with others who are ill per guidelines
 - Students and staff who are ill or were in contact with others who are will be required to stay home
- The District is fortunate to have expert nurses caring for our students who will monitor the health of students and staff
- Those who display signs of viral illness will be quarantined from others in a designated space until they can safely leave the school
 - All areas of contact will be immediately sanitized
- Routine health care will be provided; however, minor needs may be tended to outside the health office



COVID-19 Testing

- IUFSD is not equipped or permitted to conduct COVID-19 testing.
- We have a standing relationship with the Westchester County Department of Health (DOH), and in the event that testing is required, we will defer to the Westchester County DOH for any required or relevant information.
- Testing is readily available in our community.
- Students, staff or visitors requiring COVID-19 testing should contact their health provider, a local urgent care, federally qualified health center or visit the NYSDOH website to locate a nearby testing facility.
- The District will be able to provide expedited testing for staff members through its health insurance plan.

Testing locations can be found at:

<https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you>



Contact Tracing

The IUFSD will notify the state and local health department immediately upon being informed of any positive COVID-19 diagnostic test result by an individual within school facilities or on school grounds, including students, faculty, staff, and visitors to the District.

To assist the local health department with tracing the transmission of COVID-19, the District has developed and maintains a plan to trace all contacts of exposed individuals in accordance with protocols, training, and tools provided through the New York State Contact Tracing Program.

The District may assist with contact tracing by:

- Keeping accurate attendance records of students and staff members
- Ensuring student schedules are up to date
- Keeping a visitor log that includes the date and time, address and phone number, and which area of the school they visited
- Assisting the local health departments in tracing all contacts of the individual in accordance with the protocol, training, and tools provided through the NYS Contact Tracing Program
- Informing local health department of staff member testing positive regardless of county of residence.
- For all contact tracing, the DOH will require the name, address, and phone number as well as the name and phone number of the guardian of a student.



What Will Happen if there is a Case of COVID-19?

If/when COVID-19 cases are discovered, in consultation with the local health department and the school medical director/school physician the District will do the following:

- Close or quarantine locations of potential exposure for 24 hours, if possible
- Clean and disinfect locations as necessary
- Provide DOH with information as required per contact tracing protocols (i.e. 14 days of quarantine)
- Ensure student/staff member's return to school meets DOH/CDC guidelines
- Ultimate determination to close schools will be at the Superintendent's discretion

Confidentiality must be maintained as required by federal and state laws and regulations. Staff should not try to determine who is to be excluded without guidance and direction from the local health department.

The District will always proceed with an abundance of caution.



Planning Updates

- Technology needs:
 - a. 500 Chromebooks ordered
 - b. Classroom cameras ordered and delivered
 - c. Classroom microphones ordered
- Health screening:
 - a. District to introduce an app for daily reporting by parents and staff members
- PPE needs:
 - a. District currently attempting to order necessary materials
 - b. Creative sourcing methods being taken



How Do We Learn More About the Reopening Plan?

- One more public meeting via Zoom:
 - a. Thursday, August 20th, 9:00-10:30 am
- The community will be surveyed for questions in advance of the meeting
- The meeting will focus on:
 - a. Health & safety protocols
 - b. Health screenings
 - c. Transportation
 - d. Food Services
 - e. Building Cleaning & Sanitization



How Do Parents Get Their Questions Answered?

- Review the Reopening IUFSD webpage
- Email questions to Reopening@IrvingtonSchools.org for specific questions on the reopening
- Questions to the Board of Education can be sent to Board@IrvingtonSchools.org
- Consistently review the Reopening FAQ document posted on the Reopening IUFSD page
 - a. will be regularly updated with new content
- School-level meetings to be held
 - a. look for communications from principals
- Review school-level communications and past District-level communications
- Note: Student schedules to be communicated in approximately two weeks

The logo of Irvington Union Free School District is a circular seal. The outer ring contains the text "IRVINGTON" at the top and "UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT" at the bottom. Inside the ring, there is a central emblem consisting of a stylized "I" and "J" shape. Above the emblem, the words "NEW JERSEY" are written, and below it, the year "1856" is visible. At the bottom of the inner circle, the Latin motto "PER ASPERA AD ASTRA" is inscribed.

**The health and safety of
every student & every staff member, every day!**