

ROCS Reopening Q & A 11/2020

<i>What Questions do you have for school leadership?</i>	<i>Answers and/or links to resources</i>
Every child will need some kind of daycare on the 3 days they aren't at school. Hybrid seems much more germey than a full opening.	Link to CDPH Cohort Guidance for Red Tier. Students in hybrid may be in a childcare cohort and a school cohort.
For children that go back 2 days a week that leaves 3 days a week that you say only a little bit of online check in.... that is a lot of time without help or guidance- less than now. Since only 3 hours 2 days a week at school seems like very very limited time with any support of regular schedule. What does that look like for children that need a lot of support or a schedule to keep them on track?	There is the possibility of an open zoom into the classroom to be receiving the same instruction while not at home. This is difficult because we only have one class per grade.
How will we be supporting the students in social interactions. There is a group of students in the 4th grade class that are already spending time together, can they be put in the same cohort?	Individual cohort questions should be brought to the teacher's attention so they can be considered within the groups we've already established to first connect siblings and serve special education students.
I defer to ROCS' decision. I support either in person or continuing distance learning.	Thank you, this is not an easy thing to navigate.
I feel as though river oak, will be wasting the opportunity by waiting until after winter break to open. As I understand, if a school opens in the red, and the tier goes back to purple, they are not required to close. Is it a priority for river oak to open?	It is a priority for River Oak to keep all students/staff/families safe. If the county returns to the Purple tier, it would be unlikely that though the school would remain open, even though it COULD. This will be made clear before returning.
I would like the option to join the hybrid option when we feel safe to do so.	Decisions are for the remainder of the school year because we may need to change staffing to accommodate staff needs. If there is flexibility when you feel safe, we would of course consider that, but can't promise it at this point.
I'd encourage admin form that lists commitments from health order for parents to initial and sign.with verbal discussion	An agreement like this is something every hybrid family would need to sign. We have a re-opening committee that will be developing things like this.
I'd like to wait until after Winter Break to make any changes since we're moving into flu season with still not enough prevention	We do not anticipate opening before winter break.
Is it possible to have my 1st grader do the 2 day cohort and my Golden Sun child to continue distance learning?	Yes, just make sure your teachers know of your wishes.
Is there a waiver for the school to be open like St. Mary's?	We have not chosen to file a waiver at this time.
It doesn't seem like a good time of year to be open, when the weather is cold and people will need to be inside. Thanks!	Cold weather is definitely a consideration!
Red tier offers no certainty. You can't expect certainty from parents. Do you have faith or certainty that going back is the right thing? This needs to be a conversation. I hope this survey initiates and doesnt end the conversation.	Agreed! This is the conversation for sure.
School needs to reopen full time....	This is not allowed by the state at this time.
We would like to follow the teachers' lead on this question. We understand from previous communications that we are talking about starting after winter break, is this still true? We would prefer to put a buffer in after the holiday travel season to allow for travel-related cases to subside. If cases stay low through the winter "sickness season" is there a possibility for 4 days per week school?	Link to MCOE tiered reopening document. (to address 4 day question) Mendocino County would have to be in the Orange Tier for this to be possible.
What is the plan for closing if cases occur? What if we feel uncomfortable once we see what the hybrid model is like in actuality? Can they switch back to DE?	Mendocino County Public Health works with COVID-19 Liaison to conduct contact tracing and notify exposed children/staff following FERPA protocol for student information. Mendocino County Public Health determines whether quarantine and testing is necessary based on length of exposure, number of people exposed and closeness of contact. If families are uncomfortable with hybrid, they may choose to switch to distance learning.
What will distance learning look like? Packets or zoom classroom?	Likely a combination of zoom and independent work.
When might the hybrid model realistically be starting? I work for UUSD and I'm hearing January at the very earliest.	The Charter Council will consider this question at the November 9 meeting.

Will Acorn hut be open?	Very unlikely until Mendocino County is in the Orange Tier. The mixing of cohorts of students would not be allowed in Red. Even in the Orange Tier, it seems difficult, the committee will work on this issue.
Will and how often are teachers being tested for COVID19? Their health and safety is incredibly important!	Surveillance testing protocols will be established. California public health officials largely have left testing choices to individual counties, suggesting only that school districts work with county health officers to periodically test teachers and staff, depending on community transmission levels and "as lab capacity allows."
Will my child have snacks provided by the school? Will plexiglass be used in areas of possible contact?	Snacks will have to come from home. Other than the front office, no plexiglass has been ordered at this point. If/when food service happens, yes, we would have a physical sneeze barrier.
Will students have specialty classes and other enrichment programs? Sports, drama, fieldtrips etc.	Specialty classes will continue to be provided by video in the red tier as contact with additional adults is not allowed under the health orders. Field trips will not happen at this point. Sports may be considered as long as they are allowed under the health orders.
Will there be an increase in time spent outdoors (weather permitting)? Are the teachers being given the option to continue distance teaching? Who will cover for the teachers should they develop symptomatic COVID?	Yes, classes will have extended outside time and possible learning outdoors with sun shades. Teachers are also being surveyed about their preferences. If a teacher develops symptomatic COVID, the class will shift to distance learning and the aide and a substitute will facilitate distance learning.
Will you consider outdoor learning without face covering as well?	No, face coverings will be required outdoors as well.
How will we be sure parents are not sending children to school when they are ill or when they have been exposed? How will we know if families are complying with social distancing restrictions ?	We will have an agreement that families sign. Students will be distanced and wearing facial coverings. There will be daily symptom checking and temperature taking.
Will ROCS have to buy all masks for children and staff? Will the children be forced to receive vaccines?	We have a supply of facial coverings for staff and students. We will encourage families to provide and launder their own, and we have some when needed. We cannot answer the vaccine question without guidance from the state. ROCS follows existing state law governing immunization requirements for established vaccines.
What happens if we return to school and a student refuses to wear an approved mask or wear the mask correctly? How will this be handled?	The re-opening committee will consider this question and come up with a protocol. Students who are not compliant will not be able to be at school as per the health orders.
Given new data on contraction indoors and the importance of ventilation more than social distancing, what information do you have about our current ventilation system at school?	We have purchased and installed MERV 13 filters for the HVAC systems. The ratio of fresh air to recycled air has been increased.
Right now my children are receiving 5 days of effective instruction led by their teachers. 2-3 hours of school is not really an option for us. In addition for onsite days, to then transition to online work or what sounds like packets in the survey. The form said "independent work" - that sounds like a whole lot of packets and a lot like the part of last spring that did not work well. I want my children to continue to receive 5 full days of teacher lead instruction. If that can not be offered in a hybrid model then we officially prefer to send our children back to school when they can attend 5 days a week. The only hybrid I would consider would be 2 full days onsite and the other 2 days online as they are functioning currently. If that can not be done we will wait for 5 days on campus. The last thing I want is my children getting 2 days of school onsite and working on packets the rest of the week. What we are experiencing now is working, the children are in a rhythm and learning.	There is much to consider in this thoughtful reply. Having two full days on campus would not allow teachers to support those that are at home.

<p>Boy, this is not an easy time to be a parent, student, teacher, or administrator. Thank you for your leadership through this process; and it truly is a process. We read through the survey and found it difficult to respond. We want to thank you for being very clear as to how the hybrid would look. With that said, wondering if we could keep the successes we're having with the current remote model going until times are a bit less turbulent? When students are checking in daily and making progress it's difficult to say that an independent packet or less instructional time would be a viable option for us. We just wondered if it had been considered that the current model remain in place in its entirety.</p>	<p>We will consider this reply, and the model will remain as it is for now.</p>
<p>We like the current rhythm of daily interaction with teacher & independent work. Two days of three hour in person instruction with three independent days does not seem like a good solution. It doesn't feel best for students or teachers. Our first choice is to continue with the current model until 5 days of in person instruction is available.</p>	<p>We will consider this reply, and the model will remain as it is for now.</p>
<p>From what I understand per the survey children who return will only be attending school 2 days a week for 3 hours. The other 3 days it sounded like they would have very minimal online classes or screen time due to the fact that teachers would be teaching the other group. My concern is that this is very little organized or structured time for children if they are neither attending physical school or having zoom classes for 3 days of the week and only 3 hours for 2 days. I understand that there is no easy way to go about this. My suggestion is that the days children attend it be for a full day or at least 5-6 hours. Also is there a way for the days they are not on campus that they still have zoom class to keep them focused. This could be the specialty classes, physical education, study groups etc.</p>	<p>The main obstacle is that teachers cannot work harder than they are. They cannot support those at home and those at school if school is longer than 3 hours/day. Another teacher for each class would have to be hired, and there is absolutely no way our budget can handle that.</p>
<p>With so many student how do you plan on keeping everyone 6' apart?</p>	<p>We have measured the classrooms and the students will fit in their 1/2 class groups spaced out 6'. Start/end and break times will be staggered and that's part of the short day reasoning. Students can spend part of the time outside in their class groups.</p>