

St. Rocco School Reopening Plan
DRAFT SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO FLUID ASSESSMENT OF
BEST PRACTICES AND DIRECTIVES PROVIDED BY RIDOH;CDC AND RI STATE

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Message from the Diocese of Providence/ Catholic Schools Superintendent: Mr. Daniel Ferris

As continuously demonstrated over two millennia of the Church's history, faith in Jesus Christ and adherence to a common mission to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel give strength and light to believers during uncertain times. In the last two centuries in the United States, the growth and expansion of Catholic schools have provided an extension of the Church's mission to teach as Jesus taught—providing a means to proclaim the Good News through a love of one another, particularly those who are most in need of God's love, and in leading us as Catholic educators to give thanks to God our Father, who sustains us in this life and prepares us for eternity with him in the next.

Now More Than Ever Diocese of Providence Catholic School Office Seven Guidelines for Continued Excellence in the Safe Reopening of Our Schools As continuously demonstrated over two millennia of the Church's history, faith in Jesus Christ and adherence to a common mission to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel give strength and light to believers during uncertain times. In the last two centuries in the United States, the growth and expansion of Catholic schools have provided an extension of the Church's mission to teach as Jesus taught—providing a means to proclaim the Good News through a love of one another, particularly those who are most in need of God's love, and in leading us as Catholic educators to give thanks to God our Father, who sustains us in this life and prepares us for eternity with him in the next. Now more than ever, Catholic schools play a vital role in forming the future. They raise up faith filled and educated individuals to serve a world desperately in need of light and love. We rejoice to respond to our Savior's call to guide these individuals through excellent educational and spiritual programs that serve the Church and the world.

In the Diocese of Providence, Catholic education has been a source of boundless hope for generations of families. Our schools have formed the minds and hearts of our students in the teachings of Our Lord and his Church, promoted the common good of society, and prepared countless students to lead lives of service, dignity and purpose. All students in our Catholic schools receive an invitation to know and love God, beckoning them to respond in service and sacrifice for those who in this life suffer or go without and to set their sights on the glories of eternal life.

Our principals, teachers, and staff labor in the Catholic schools as ministers of the Gospel. Embracing the teaching mission of the Church, theirs is a sacred as well as a professional vocation, a call to serve the least in the Kingdom of Heaven, a call that knows no limits and rises to all challenges.

Today we face such a challenge with the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Catholic schools have already adapted swiftly and efficiently to distance learning. They have sought to meet the educational, emotional, and spiritual needs of each child in a manner that has been deemed superior to other school systems and commended by professional educators across the state, including the Rhode Island Commissioner of Education. Unified in a common goal, the Catholic schools are now working confidently and collaboratively to prepare for a safe return to school in the fall.

To orchestrate this preparation, the Catholic School Office for the Diocese of Providence has commissioned a team of over 15 Catholic school leaders. This leadership team represents schools that teach children from ages 18 months to seniors in high school. It includes experts with years of experience in both Catholic and non-Catholic schools. This team has researched the best educational and safety practices for reopening schools and outlined broad guidelines for use by our school communities. And while specific directives remain unknown about what recommendations the state will issue for reopening schools, the team is confident that the successful adoption of its guidelines will lead to safe school environments for students and faculty and give parents assurance of a whole-child education that continues with effectiveness and quality.

Our Catholic schools are now poised and ready to further their shared faith-based educational mission with courage and creativity. The steps taken to deliver instruction remotely were only the beginning. The journey continues with a vision for in-person and hybridized learning paths that will allow us to respond quickly and nimbly to any foreseen or unforeseen circumstances. With faith in Jesus Christ and a common mission to proclaim the Gospel, we have the strength and the light to overcome the challenges this pandemic presents to us in the future. We have persevered and will continue to persevere; we have served and will continue to serve. The safety of the children God has entrusted to our care is our first priority. An exceptional Catholic education dedicated to the formation of each student's mind and spirit is our final goal. Yours in Christ.

Message from the Principal: Lorraine S. Moschella

Dear Students, Families, Educators and Staff Members:

The face of Rhode Island education changed on March 13, 2020 when Governor Gina Raimondo announced that schools would be closed and instruction will be moved to distance learning. That announcement initiated a statewide response from all schools to put a plan in place that responded to the educational needs of students. As we experienced the weeks of Distance Learning, we learned that there were many areas that we hadn't initially addressed that needed to be put in place such as social emotional supports, realistic expectations for at home learners and consideration of other family pressures. Looking forward to the next school year and school opening on August 31st, a new plan must be put in place to now tackle the task of schools safely reopening.

This document outlines the strategic plan St. Rocco School has adopted for the safe reopening of our schools. In designing this plan, we gathered stakeholders to meet and share observations and input. The result of the collaboration is a plan to safely return students, teachers and staff to the classroom. The plan is designed to provide three options for the 2020-2021 school year. For this plan the models are as follows:

Full return of all students to the classroom, a Hybrid model which accommodates students who need to learn distantly with teacher instruction and finally learning totally remotely.

As we navigate next year, a combination of these plans may be used based on the recommendations of the Rhode Island Department of Health. While there continues to be uncertainties as we look toward next year, we remain committed to providing a quality and equitable education for all students.

Vision and Guiding Principles for Reopening

1. We will put safety first. The DOP/CSO will use science, data and public health information regarding the decisions we will make.

2. We will provide a High Quality of Catholic Education.

We will provide the optimal spiritual, educational and socially best practices for all of our students.

3. We will be transparent. We will share what we know and what we do not know. We will be clear about what we can control and what is out of our control while the plan quite possibly will be ever changing and fluid.

4. We will be equitable. We will make all decisions based on what is best for all students, families and educators, especially those most impacted by educational inequalities and COVID-19. We will remember that equitable does not mean equal and we will strive to give students, families, educators and communities what they need, knowing that our communities have been hit by the virus at different magnitudes.

5. We will be decisive. Given the size and scope of the challenge, we must move deliberately and make tough choices. We will need to be flexible and we will adapt quickly as variables may change.

Strengths and Challenges Learned from Spring 2020:

Strengths:

Strong Distance Learning plan given the time constraints and staff knowledge.
Virtual “face-to-face” interactions with staff and students on a daily basis.
Social emotional support and check-ins with all students and families.
Ongoing support to parents, teachers, and students providing constant contact and communication.

Challenges:

Attendance and compliance in a virtual classroom.
Some students lack the concentration and organization in a virtual classroom.
Required protocols in the Distant Learning delivery of instruction.

Critical Components of the Reopening Plan:

1. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Face Masks and Coverings**Per the Governor’s Office-July 29th 2020**

Masks are required in the K-12 setting, even when students are in stable groups and socially distanced (greater than 6 feet apart). The Rhode Island Dept. of Health (RIDOH) understands and supports the exceptions to wearing masks for health consideration, as outlined in the CDC guidelines. Parents will be responsible for providing two face masks. Staff may choose to wear their own mask or one provided by the school

Social Distancing and Organizing personnel

Responding to a Positive Case or Outbreak

Minimizing Access by COVID-19 Positive or Symptomatic Individuals

Communication with Staff and Students

Cleaning and Decontamination

Industry Specific Guidance and Updates

2. INSTRUCTION

Instruction (Remote and in-person)

Differently abled learner services*TBD by Local Education Agency of varying cities and towns-
ie. Special Education; Federal Title Services

Ongoing professional development for all staff

Family and Community Engagement

3. SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Social-Emotional and mental health support

Adequate resources to meet the individual needs of all students

4. REOPENING OPERATIONS

Maintaining safe and clean facilities

Provide transportation that is consistent with the Center for Disease Control guidelines

Provide accessible technology

Family and community engagement and communication

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Model Overview	Students will be instructed as they follow their daily schedule by their appropriate grade level teachers. 100% until authorized to return per State mandates.	As needed for a variety of reasons students will remain home and be instructed via Distance Learning and follow their daily schedule as they are instructed by their grade level teachers.	Elementary-Students per class. ~6 feet apart, All Students in-person learning. Teacher movement, students remain in the classroom and with the same pod throughout the day.

Distance Learning

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Distance Learning	Same as above	Same as above	All students learn in the classroom and those who are unable to come to school will attend classes virtually throughout the day.

Class and Group Size Limits

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning (Case by Case)	Full In-Person Learning
Elementary	N/A		Stable pods of up to 19 students-

		This model will reflect Full In Person Learning. Minus the high risk students which may change the daily roster.	6ft. distanced. These groups will remain in their pods and the specials will be traveling to them having pod spend most of the day together.
Middle	N/A	Same as above/full in Person Learning	Same as Elementary. Content area teachers to travel to the stable groups.
Non-classroom Settings (Elementary)	N/A	*See above - pod travels together and spends most of the day together/Staggered Passing and use of a mask when in hallways	*See above - pod travels together and spends most of the day together/Staggered Passing and use of a mask when in hallways.
Non-classroom Settings (Middle)	N/A	MS- Unused classrooms will be used to create "stable group" faculty rooms for team/off-team teachers and for storage of necessary items such as file cabinets, materials, etc.	MS- Unused classrooms will be used to create "stable group" faculty rooms for team/off-team teachers and for storage of necessary items such as file cabinets, materials, etc.
Staff (Elementary)	N/A	*Included in counts- staff are expected to physically distance from each other unless they are part of the same class or stable group. Staff who are not assigned to a stable group should maintain six feet physical distance whenever possible and wear a mask.	*Included counts - staff are expected to physically distance from each other unless they are part of the same class or stable group. Staff who are not assigned to a stable group should maintain six feet physical distance whenever possible and wear a mask.
Staff (Middle)	N/A	Same as above	Same as above

Classroom Layouts and Use of School Spaces

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
General Spacing and Movement (Elementary)	N/A	Stable groups must occupy consistent space as much as possible. Each stable group must use the same classroom every day, the same entrance every day, the same hallways, bathrooms, and other areas of the school building. Shared objects must be limited to sharing within that stable group/pod	Stable groups must occupy consistent space as much as possible. Each stable group must use the same classroom every day, the same entrance every day, the same hallways, bathrooms, and other areas of the school building. Shared objects must be limited to sharing within that stable group/pod
General Spacing and Movement Middle School	N/A	Same as Above	Teachers will rotate between stable groups per RIDE guidelines. Students may be escorted for specific academic supports.

Classroom Layout (Elementary)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> desks/tables spaced apart Assigned seating for all students within the stable groups/pods Teachers must utilize seating charts Students must be faced in the same direction and not facing each other If tables are being utilized students must be sitting in a half-moon shape and all facing forward and equally 6 ft distanced apart <p>Student Masks not required</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> desks/tables spaced apart Assigned seating for all students within the stable groups/pods Teachers must utilize seating charts Students must be faced in the same direction and not facing each other If tables are being utilized students must be sitting in a half-moon shape and all facing forward and equally 6 ft distanced apart <p>Student Masks not required</p>
Classroom Layout (Middle)	N/A	Same as above	Same as above
Hallways (Elementary)	N/A.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing hallway plan Minimizing congestion Staggered arrival time per grade into classroom Staggered passing times No lockers used- each student to have a large plastic bin for their belongings will be used instead of lockers Individual Pencil Cases to be provided Classroom doors to be left open so not to have doorknob contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing hallway plan Minimizing congestion Staggered arrival time per grade into classroom Staggered passing times No lockers used-each student to have a large plastic bin for their belongings will be used instead of lockers Individual Pencil Cases to be provided Classroom doors to be left open so not to have doorknob contact
Hallways (Middle)		MS- Teachers travel in the hallway from class to class; Students will travel in a	Teachers travel in the hallway from class to class, students will travel in a

		limited basis. (special groupings, reading support, SpEd Service Providers. Students wear masks while traveling to and from classes and during arrival/dismissal **Same as above	limited basis. (special groupings Reading Support, SpEd Service providers Students wear masks while traveling to and from classes and during arrival/dismissal**Same as above.
Bathrooms (Elementary)	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaned and disinfected frequently in line with CDC Bathroom schedules will be developed so that the pod of students travel to the bathroom at the same time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaned and disinfected frequently in line with CDC Bathroom schedules will be developed so that the pod of students travel to the bathroom at the same time
Bathrooms (Middle)	N/A		
		<p>** each classroom/pod assigned bathroom/s, 1 student at a time, students sign out and sign in, bathroom monitor/group bathroom time in a schedule</p> <p>Faculty Bathrooms-Locations-CCD office;Kitchen;Multipurpose Room Schedule to be developed</p>	<p>**each classroom/pod assigned bathroom/s, 1 student at a time, students sign out and sign in, bathroom monitor/group bathroom time in a schedule</p> <p>Faculty Bathrooms-Locations-CCD Office;Kitchen; Multipurpose Room Schedule to be developed</p>
Dining: Elementary	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the time lunch will take place in the same space as class activities Possibility of an alternative (when feasible) cafeteria (larger space) schedule that would be developed for stable groups. Approximately 4 tables can be utilized in cafeteria will keeping minimum distance requirements of 14 feet. Water jugs will be filled and provided to rooms with no sinks for refill of individual water bottle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most of the time lunch will take place in the same space as class activities .. Possibility of an alternative(when feasible) cafeteria (larger space) schedule that would be developed for stable groups. Approximately 4 tables can be utilized in cafeteria will keeping minimum distance requirements of 14 feet. Water jugs will be filled and provided to rooms with no sinks for refill of individual water bottle.
Dining: Middle School	N/A	<p>MS- Two lunch options (all peanut free included) Homeroom takes orders. Lunch is delivered via grade or team. Lunch in classroom (monitored by OA staff/support staff/ admin)</p> <p>Same plan as above</p>	<p>MS- Two lunch options (all peanut fee option) Homeroom takes orders. Lunch is delivered via grade or team. Lunch in classroom (monitored by OA staff/support staff/ admin)</p> <p>Same plan as above</p>

Cleaning Surfaces and School Areas

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Cleaning and Disinfecting	.	Maintenance and custodial staff will have a prescribed schedule for cleaning each bathroom, classroom, common area, and equipment following each use. A Large Area Oil diffuser cleaner will be utilized for large areas through the building	Maintenance and custodial staff will have a prescribed schedule for cleaning each bathroom, classroom, common area, and equipment following each use. A Large Area Oil diffuser Cleaner will be utilized for large areas throughout the building.
Hygiene and Hand washing		Each pod of students will have a schedule for regular hand washing. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building and at entrances. Each pod of students will be given a bathroom break schedule and the bathroom will be disinfected between pod assignments.	Each pod of students will have a schedule for regular hand washing. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building and at entrances. Each pod of students will be given a bathroom break schedule and the bathroom will be disinfected between pod assignments.

Face Coverings

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Face Coverings (Overall)	N/A	Families are asked to provide their student with their own solid colored mask for grades p3-8 for the use of, but not limited to, entering and exiting the building and corridor passing.	Families are asked to provide their student with their own solid colored mask for grades p3-8 for the use of, but not limited to, entering and exiting the building and corridor passing.
Face Coverings for Differently -abled Student Classrooms	N/A	Same as Above	Same as Above

Screening Students and Staff

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Screening	N/A	All students attending in person sessions must be cleared through the online assurance document including a temperature check each day by a parent/family member. Students attending who have not been precleared must be cleared prior to entering the classroom with a temperature check and screening tool.	All students attending in person sessions must be cleared through the online assurance document including a temperature check each day by a parent/family member. Students attending who have not been precleared must be cleared prior to entering the classroom with a temperature check and screening tool.

School Schedules

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Overall Student Schedules	.N/A	School schedules will be adjusted to avoid overcrowding of corridors and common areas. When possible, corridors will be one way. When not possible, the corridor will be marked for orderly passing, having	School schedules will be adjusted to avoid overcrowding of corridors and common areas. When possible, corridors will be one way. When not possible, the corridor will be marked for orderly passing, having

		students pass in a single file on one side of the corridor and maintaining appropriate distancing.	students pass in a single file on one side of the corridor and maintaining appropriate distancing.
Pick up/Drop off	N/A	Drop off and pick up times will be established for each grade level to reduce the number of cars and busses gathering outside each building. In the case of multi student families, the drop off/pick up time of the youngest student will be used.	Drop off and pick up times will be established for each grade level to reduce the number of cars and busses gathering outside each building. In the case of multi student families, the drop off/pick up time of the youngest student will be used.

School Visitors

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Visitors	N/A	No walk in visitors will be allowed in the building to reduce the number of visitors in the building at one time. All visitors must make an appointment before coming to a school building. Visitors will be screened using the symptom screening tool.	No walk in visitors will be allowed in the building to reduce the number of visitors in the building at one time. All visitors must make an appointment before coming to a school building. Visitors will be screened using the symptom screening tool.

Busing and Transportation

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Busing and Transportation	N/A	Follow CDC Guidance regarding bus transportation, including one student per seat, every other seat. Siblings may sit together on one seat. Busses will be disinfected after each use with seats cleaned with disinfecting wipes and the entire bus disinfected with disinfecting mist.	Follow CDC Guidance regarding bus transportation, including one student per seat, every other seat. Siblings may sit together on one seat. Busses will be disinfected after each use with seats cleaned with disinfecting wipes and the entire bus disinfected with disinfecting mist.

School Specific Activities

Section	At Home Distance Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Recess	N/A	Allowed for pods of students keeping a 14 foot distance between pods. Recess periods will be scheduled according to space available to accommodate the gathering guidelines.	Allowed for pods of students keeping a 14 foot distance between pods. Recess periods will be scheduled according to space available to accommodate the gathering guidelines.
Recess (MS)	N/A	Same as Above	Same as Above
Field Trips	N/A	Virtual field trips only	Virtual field trips only
Athletics	N/A	As scheduled per the Catholic Athlete League of Rhode Island	As Scheduled per the Catholic Athlete League of Rhode Island
Band and Chorus (MS)	N/A	In person maintaining social distancing and meeting the number of people gathering limits as set by the Rhode Island Department of Health	In person maintaining social distancing and meeting the number of people gathering limits as set by the Rhode Island Department of Health

Before and After School (Elem, MS)	N/A	Afternoon extended care programs conducted only with students from the same pod. Grade Level teachers will supervise immediately following school until 4:00pm. Dismissal will follow the same exit locations as arrival.	Afternoon extended care programs will be conducted only with students from the same pod. Grade Level teachers will supervise immediately following school until 4:00pm. Dismissal will follow the same exit locations as arrival.
		Before Care: Students enter the building at 7:15am and proceed directly to location distanced 14ft apart. Separate entrance for before care.	Before: Students enter the building at 7:15am and proceed directly to location distanced 14ft. apart. Separate entrance for before care.

Supporting Vulnerable Groups in Returning to In-Person Activities

Section	At Home Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Educationally Vulnerable Students	Educational Plan Development For preplanning of return protocols	Educational Plan Development for preplanning of return protocols	Educational Plan Development for preplanning of return protocols
Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff	See the School Nurse for return protocols	See the School Nurse for return protocols	See the School Nurse for return protocols

PPE for School Nurses

Section	At Home Learning	Hybrid Person	Full In-Person Learning
PPE for School Nurses	N/A	*See Full In-Person Learning.	PPE for School Nurses Same as full in-person Same as full in-person Equip school nurses with the same PPE recommended for any healthcare provider who is in close contact with patients suspected to have COVID-19, in accordance with CDC guidance which may be found here. The ideal PPE is an N-95 respirator, face mask, face shield, eye protection, gloves, and gown. If an N-95 respirator is not available, use a face mask (i.e. surgical mask). Due to the shortage of gowns nationwide, some innovative substitution may be necessary (i.e. lab coats). It is also important to conserve PPE when it is in short supply. Please see this guidance document for recommendations on PPE conservation.

Responding to Staff or Students who are ill

Section	At Home Learning	Hybrid Learning	Full In-Person Learning
Response to Ill Student	See Full In-Person Learning.	See Full In-Person Learning.	Any student experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html) before the school day begins should stay home. If a student develops symptoms of COVID-19 at school, the student should be taken to the school nurse and the isolation room immediately. Parents/guardians should be notified to pick up the student within the hour. Parents/guardians should seek medical advice for the student within 48

			hours and schedule a COVID-19 test as needed. As soon as possible, remove, clean, and sanitize any items touched by symptomatic student. Clean and disinfect any common surfaces which can't be moved, and if feasible, increase ventilation in room.
Response to Ill Staff Member	See Full In-Person Learning.	See Full In-Person Learning.	Anyone who feels ill before the school day begins should stay home. If staff develops COVID-19 symptoms while at school, they should go home immediately, seek medical advice within 48 hours, and get a COVID-19 test. Staff should notify school administrator of the COVID19 test result as soon as possible. As soon as possible, remove, clean, and sanitize any items touched by symptomatic student. Clean and disinfect any common surfaces which can't be moved, and if feasible, increase ventilation in room. Substitute coverage will be provided by utilizing in house staff –not combining pods.