



Pike Lake Kindergarten 2020 Reopening Frequently Asked Questions

****Will start & end times be the same?**

At this point our start times have not changed. Busing schedules may require an adjustment. More to come on this:

Early Start Schools: 8:20a.m. – 3:00p.m. (Bel Air and Sunnyside)

Late Start Schools: 9:05a.m. – 3:45p.m. (Pinewood and Valentine Hills)

****It was mentioned that kids who are learning at home will be provided Chrome Books, how about the kids who are attending school in the Hybrid model, will they be provided Chrome Books as well for the at home learning days?**

Pike Lake will provide Chromebooks and a learning bin of kindergarten appropriate materials and activities for students to use during at home learning days.

****Do the students have to wear the mask for the whole day?**

Wearing a mask for an entire day can be a lot, even for adults. There are specific rules in the MDE documentation for when masks can be removed and we will follow those guidelines for safety. For example, during lunch and out on the playground children can remove masks while maintaining physical distancing.

****Is there a care option available for children of essential employees? I heard this may be available on days when the parent is working?**

School-age Care Equitable and affordable school-age child care programs are essential to support working families and provide enrichment and care for students. Over 100,000 students across the state rely on school-based child care programs as their trusted child care provider. Care for school-aged children, especially those children of workers in critical sectors, will continue to be crucial for frontline workers to continue to confront the pandemic. The state will continue to work with child care providers, school-age programs, schools, and all other child care settings to prioritize this need. Executive Order 20-82 indicates that a school district or charter school that operates a hybrid or distance learning model “must provide school-aged care for Eligible Children at no cost during the time those children are not receiving instruction in the school building during regular school hours.” This school-age care must be provided for school-age children age 12 and under who are children of critical workers in Tier I of the state critical worker list. Children of Tier I workers only will be cared for at no cost during the typical school hours. For more information about providing school-age care, including the list of Tier I

workers, see the [“School-age Care Programs in Schools” section of MDE’s 2020-21 School Year Planning Guidance](#).

Information above is from [Safe Learning Plan MN](#)

**How many students will be in the class?

Once we have determined how many families choose between the Distance Learning and Blended Learning models we will begin making class lists. We will keep class sizes within the school board approved ranges. At the time of answering this question I believe the class size average will be close to 24. If the numbers remain consistent, and only for illustrative purposes, the children would be in blended AT SCHOOL learning groups of 12 students on their assigned day to come to school.

**Will the school be sanitized daily?

Our custodial staff, with the help of other Pike Lake Staff, will be cleaning and sanitizing on a routine basis throughout the day to promote a healthy learning space.

**What is the plan if child is in a classroom with the blended learning and someone in the classroom gets a positive covid or suspected covid? Does the whole class switch to distance learning?

The recommendation for quarantine (14 days out - that's the incubation period for this virus) is that any close contact would go into quarantine. This is potentially very few individuals - especially if systems for social distancing are solid as close contacts are considered those within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more.

Examples can be helpful:

If Ava in 2nd grade tests positive, and through contact tracing we learn that Ava comes to school and goes straight home each day. The class is practicing regular hand hygiene and able to maintain distancing and there are no other "red flags", there could be no one that would need to quarantine.

If we learn that Ava plays hockey with 3 classmates, goes to an after school program with 2 different classmates, and regularly plays with 3 others in the evening, this is more likely result in wider spread quarantine.

Here's the [What To Do When Notified of a Lab-Confirmed Case](#) - that might be helpful.

MDH also just published the updated [Exclusion Decision Tree](#) that we'll be relying on.

**Ramsey county test positivity rates are greater than 5% already, and trending upward, which is concerning. What changes would cause you to switch from the hybrid model to all distance learning?

We will follow the criteria in the MN Safe Learning plan which uses county-by-county data to outline options for districts. At the time of answering this, the 2 week count was at 19.62 and that number has been on an upward trend.

Learning Model Parameters

Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Learning Model
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In-person learning for elementary students; hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students

**Do you have a plan for when you would make that move - for example, a certain number of people who test positive in the school, or a certain rate of infection in the community?
We will follow guidelines from the state. It appears that prior to a change from one model to more restrictive model (i.e. from hybrid to full distance) the district would need to give 24 hours notice to families. In the case of localized high rates of increased infections we would work with our health care staff to create a plan for short term decisions that may need to be made.

**What/when are the “natural breaks” that would allow students to switch between models?
Natural breaks may differ by level. In the middle schools and high schools this may be viewed as quarter/semester breaks. At Pike Lake we will continue to develop these parameters and would work with families if a request was made to change models.

**What time will school be? Previously there was going to be staggered start/end times based on schools the students feed into - is that still the case?

At this time school start times will not be changed.

**Will drop off and pick up times be staggered to support physical distancing so there is not a bolus of students arriving/entering together?

We will provide appropriate staffing during these times to ensure there is a flow and distancing can be maintained.

**Will students still be allowed to bring home lunch to school?

Students will be allowed to bring their own lunch.

**Will everyone be required to wear masks during recess/when outdoors?

Masks are not required during outdoor activities, but physical distancing will be maintained.

**Will ChromeBooks be given to students who choose the hybrid model to use during their days at home? Yes

**What are the policies re: sick students/staff? Answers to these questions will be consistent with CDC/MDH guidelines.

- Will students/staff be required to stay home with ANY symptoms (e.g. just a headache or stomach ache)?
 - Per decision tree [Exclusion Decision Tree](#) "If a person has a new symptom (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it, they should stay home and talk to their health care provider about testing for COVID-19, even if it is the only symptom they are experiencing
- Will students/staff be asked to stay home if they have a sick family member?
 - See above decision tree--it makes a difference if the family member has a specific diagnosis other than Covid (e.g. strep, Norovirus, etc)
- Will school policies support students/staff staying home from school sick instead of penalizing them for missing days?
 - Yes, we will not put things in place that in any way encourage individuals to attend our schools if they are not well.

**Is the YMCA after school programming still being offered?

There will be before school and after school fee-based programming at Pike Lake. It is run by our partners with the YMCA.