



## School Reopening Plans: What Parents Need to Know

As Kenilworth Public Schools prepared for this crucial year, the district mobilized committees to tackle the most fundamental issues at hand. The groups, made up of parents, teachers, school board members, administrators and local officials, have extensively evaluated the needs of students and staff for safe in-person instruction and effective online learning. This summary captures some of the most essential takeaways from each committee; see the links to each committee's Fact Sheet for full details.

### ACADEMICS

- **School day model:** Harding Elementary students will attend school on a five-day modified schedule. Brearley Middle School and High School students will have a combination of in-person and distance learning. Students from any Kenilworth school who choose full-remote learning will have some live instruction.
- **Catch-up:** Staff will evaluate students' academic status, and will provide supplemental and remedial lessons as needed.
- **Online learning:** The district will take multiple steps to strengthen distance learning protocols, including the creation of a Kenilworth handbook to provide clarity and structure in the event that the state orders a return to all-remote learning.

For more details, see the [Academics Fact Sheet](#).

### HEALTH and WELLNESS

- **Cleaning:** High-touch areas such as handrails, doorknobs and bathrooms will be cleaned throughout the day. Classrooms will be cleaned daily before school. Buses will be sanitized between the morning and afternoon runs, and at the end of the day.
- **Ventilation:** The district purchased special items -- including HEPA filtration vacuums and misting surface disinfecting systems -- that are specifically designed to combat COVID-19. All building rooms are being evaluated to ensure adequate ventilation.
- **Screenings:** Parents will be expected to complete a daily health screening survey for each child prior to arrival at school. Students exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19 must remain home.

- **Social distancing:** Extra equipment and furniture will be removed from classrooms to allow for greater social distancing. To the extent possible, students will not share supplies.
- **Face coverings:** Every student will be required to wear a face covering (unless doing so would inhibit his or her health) at all times when in a school building, as well as when entering and exiting the buildings. On school buses, students must wear face coverings if social distancing is not possible. Parents should help their child practice wearing a face covering that's comfortable for him or her. Teachers will look for opportunities to offer mask breaks with social distancing and, ideally, outside when the weather permits or indoors with open windows.
- **COVID-19 response:** The district will rely on guidance from the Kenilworth Health Department to develop response protocols for a positive COVID-19 case, such as the conditions under which that student or staff member would be allowed to return to school.

For more details, [see the Health and Wellness Fact Sheet.](#)

## PHYSICAL and EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Recess and gym:** Recess and Physical Education classes will continue. Individual activities will be prioritized over team activities, and participants will avoid sharing equipment. Staff members will supervise to ensure proper social distancing between students and small groups.
- **Sports:** Brearley High School has released a [Return to Athletics and Activities Guide](#) with sports information.
- **Band and theater:** Kenilworth plans to proceed with its band and theater programs, although special precautions, including social distancing protocols, will result in modifications to some activities. Students can expect smaller groups and no sharing of instruments. Vocal programs are suspended.
- **Afterschool clubs:** The committee is still working to determine which clubs can meet in-person, which can operate virtually, and which have to be paused until conditions improve.

For more details, see the [Physical and Extra-Curricular Activities Fact Sheet.](#)

## SCHEDULING

- **Surveys:** Parents' responses to learning surveys helped the district shape its schedules.
- **Pick-up and drop-off:** Grades K through 6 will have staggered pick-up and drop-off times to reduce the number of children gathered at one time. Drop-off times will go by last name (A-L from 8:30 to 8:40 a.m.; M-Z from 8:40 to 8:50 a.m.), and pick-up times will be staggered by grade: K and Grades 2, 3 and 5 at 12:50 p.m.; Grades 1, 4 and 6 at 12:55 p.m.
- **Full remote learning form:** Parents who do not want their child(ren) to attend school in-person must sign and return an [acknowledgement and release form](#) no later than Friday, August 14. Due to scheduling difficulties, students who opt for full-remote learning will not be able to transition to in-person instruction until Monday, November 16. That decision to transition must be communicated to the district by Friday, October 30.

For more details, [see the Scheduling Fact Sheet.](#)

## STUDENT PERSONNEL SERVICES

- **Social and emotional Health:** Recognizing the stress that has resulted from the pandemic and disrupted routines, Kenilworth is prioritizing social and emotional health through teacher training, and staff and student resources.
- **Mental health screenings:** A Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) provides a variety of screenings and interventions if needed. And all are welcome to benefit from a Staff/Student Virtual Wellness Room.
- **Continuing support:** The Student Personnel Services Committee will continue to serve in an advisory capacity throughout the school year.

For more details, [see the Student Personnel Services Fact Sheet.](#)

## TECHNOLOGY

- **Chromebooks for home:** All students in grades 7-12 will receive Chromebooks to take home and use in school as part of Kenilworth's 1:1 program to ensure technology equity.
- **Online platforms:** Students in grades K-2 will continue to use Seesaw, and grades 3-12 will again use Google Classroom. The educational management systems will allow for ongoing communication among teachers, families and students.
- **Looking ahead:** The district has hired a technology facilitator, who will provide coaching for teachers and help strengthen virtual learning initiatives.

For more details, see the [Technology Fact Sheet.](#)

*Kenilworth's reopening committee has set forth very detailed information, in addition to this very parent-focused summary. The district's website has committee Fact Sheets and extensive FAQs. If you're looking for information and do not find it there, please send questions to [Fall2020@KenilworthSchools.com](mailto:Fall2020@KenilworthSchools.com).*