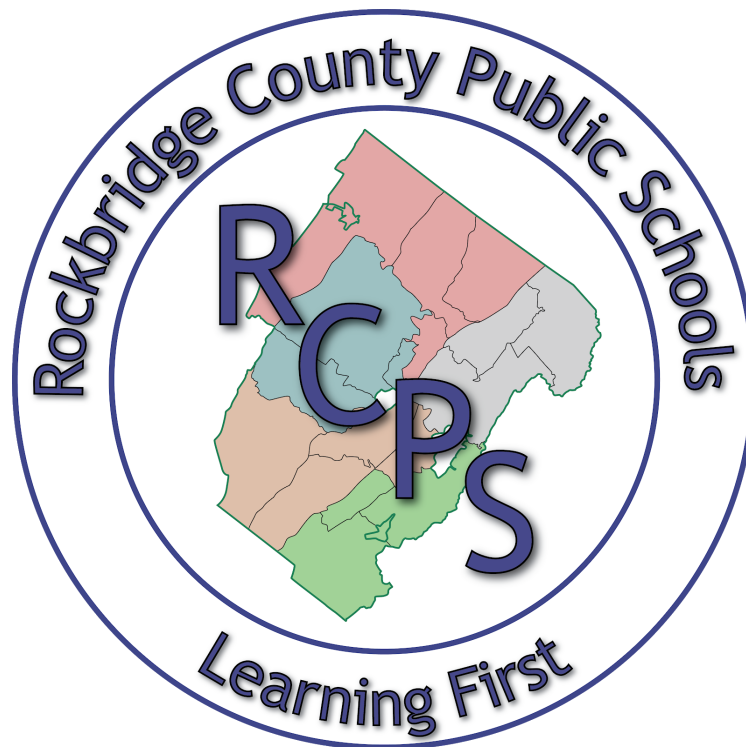


**Rockbridge County Public Schools  
Continuity of Learning Plan  
Fall 2020**



## **Overview**

The 2020-2021 school year will be one of the most challenging that public educators have ever experienced. The “norm” for a school year will significantly change for communities, teachers, administrators, parents, and most importantly learners. The traditional school day will now become a blended learning approach while learners are staggered in attendance as well as implementing social distancing and other safety expectations.

Before we can begin leading high quality instruction we need to ensure the safety of learners, faculty, and staff. Rockbridge County Public Schools (RCPS) will collaborate with our local health department as we develop health plans for each school. Student and staff temperatures will be taken upon entering school buildings. Entry and transition plans will be created to ensure proper social distancing as learners enter school buildings, eat lunch, and transition throughout the day. RCPS is collaborating with the Virginia Department of Health to develop specific steps to follow should a student or staff member become ill or infected with COVID-19. The transportation department is coordinating student schedules to ensure that social distancing practices can be implemented on school buses.

In order to properly prepare for this unique and challenging experience on June 17, 2020, the Rockbridge County School Board approved an amended 2020-2021 school calendar. The newly approved calendar provides 15 professional development days prior to learners returning to school. These days are critical as all educators will have opportunities to learn, collaborate, and reflect on best practices. A targeted and specific professional development plan has been developed while allowing time for teachers to have extensive time to collaborate.

While this school year will be like no other it also provides educators an opportunity to grow professionally and instructionally. New practices for delivering instruction will be established. Lesson plans will look different than in the past. Whether we educate our students in a face to face school environment, or educate them in an online environment we have an obligation to provide students exceptional learning opportunities. They deserve our best!

Teaching and learning is always one of our top priorities, but the mental health of students and staff members is of the utmost importance. During this challenging time we recognize that many may struggle. We will continue to focus on providing learners high quality instruction, but also take into strong consideration the emotional needs of our learners. School counselors will be

readily available to assist any learner in need. An entry plan is being developed in an effort to ensure our learners' social and emotional needs are met during this trying time.

In the following pages you will find instructional framework plans for high, middle, and elementary schools. There is some variance between the elementary and secondary school framework plans. All elementary schools will follow the same framework to ensure consistency across the school division. Please note that the following established plans are fluid. Depending on certain circumstances and outcomes they will continually be evaluated, modified, and enhanced.

## Rockbridge County High School

Rockbridge County High School (RCHS) poses the most significant challenge in regards to planning a staggered start due to nearly 1,000 learners attending RCHS. The student body will be divided into two groups (Team A and Team B). This will allow approximately 500 learners to attend school on a given day. Each learner will report to RCHS two days per week. The other three days of learning will take place virtually. Teachers will be expected to hold office hours when they are not directly teaching students. Specific office hour schedules will be established and distributed at the school level.

Weekly Instructional Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In School, Team A	In School, Team B	Deep Cleaning	In School, Team A	In School, Team B
Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team A	Virtual, Teams A & B	Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team A

All core and elective classes noted in the Program of Studies will be offered as planned. Career & Technical Education (CTE) classes will take extra safety measures when sharing equipment by using gloves as needed, safety goggles, and masks. In addition, all equipment used during class will be wiped down at the conclusion of each period. It is recommended that all learners identified with a disability who participate in a functional classroom attend school four days per week to ensure equity and a continuous focus on Individualized Educational Program (IEP) goals.

Parents who choose to keep their child at home but continue to keep them enrolled at RCHS will be provided with virtual instruction. In order to meet the needs of all learners at RCHS each student will be provided with a Chromebook. This will allow learners who have internet availability to access their work via the internet. In the event a learner does not have internet access they will have the ability to pre-load and download all necessary work via Google when they report to RCHS or from any wireless “wifi” internet connection. In the rare event that we have a learner who has absolutely no access to an internet connection, RCPS will provide a thumb/flash drive in order to deliver assignments and assessments.

## **Maury River Middle School**

Maury River Middle School (MRMS) has approximately 630 learners registered for the 2020-2021 school year. The student body will be divided into two groups (Team A and Team B). This will allow for approximately 315 learners to attend school on a given day. Each learner will report to MRMS two days per week. The other three days of learning will take place virtually. Teachers will be expected to hold office hours when they are not directly teaching students. Specific office hour schedules will be established and distributed at the school level.

### Weekly Instructional Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In School, Team A	In School, Team B	Deep Cleaning	In School, Team A	In School, Team B
Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team A	Virtual, Teams A & B	Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team B

All core and elective classes noted in the Program of Studies will be offered as planned. CTE classes will take extra safety measures when sharing equipment by using gloves as needed, safety goggles, and masks. In addition, all equipment used during class will be wiped down at the conclusion of each period. It is recommended that all learners participating in a functional classroom attend school four days per week to ensure equity and a continuous focus on IEP goals. Any learner currently receiving 50% or more service time through the Special Education program will be given consideration through the IEP process to attend In School more than two days per week.

Parents who choose to keep their child at home but continue to keep them enrolled at MRMS will be provided with virtual instruction. In order to meet the needs of all learners at MRMS each student will be provided a Chromebook. This will allow learners who have internet availability to access their work via the internet. In the event a learner does not have internet access they will have the ability to pre-load and download all necessary work via Google when they report to MRMS or from any wireless “wifi” internet connection. In the rare event that we have a learner who has absolutely no access to an internet connection, RCPS will provide a thumb/flash drive in order to deliver assignments and assessments.

## **Rockbridge County Elementary Schools**

Rockbridge County Public Schools is home to four elementary schools in grades K-5. Learners at each elementary school will be divided into two groups (Team A and Team B). This will allow for approximately half of all learners at each elementary school to attend school two days per week. The other three days of learning will take place virtually. Teachers will be expected to hold office hours when they are not directly teaching students. Specific office hour schedules will be established and distributed at the school level.

Weekly Instructional Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
In School, Team A	In School, Team B	Deep Cleaning	In School, Team A	In School, Team B
Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team A	Virtual, Teams A and B	Virtual, Team B	Virtual, Team A

The general education curriculum will be offered in full while carefully following the Standards of Learning. Music, PE, and Library will be offered once per week to each student group. Art will be provided at least once each month. All students identified as a student with a disability will be provided the opportunity to attend school four days a week. This will allow case managers the opportunity to continue to focus on individual student needs and goals.

Parents who choose to keep their child at home, but continue to keep them enrolled in an RCPS elementary school will be provided with virtual instruction. Learners in grades K-5 will be provided a device to access online learning. This will allow learners who have internet availability to access their work via the internet. In the event a learner does not have internet access they will have the ability to pre-load and download all necessary work via Google when they report to their elementary school or from any wireless “wifi” internet connection. In the rare event that we have a learner who has absolutely no access to an internet connection, RCPS will provide a thumb/flash drive in order to deliver assignments and assessments.

## **Rockbridge County Preschools**

Preschools served through Rockbridge County Public Schools, depending on the final number of learners registered, will attend school four days a week. This will allow for an optimal learning experience for our youngest learners.

Weekly Instructional Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Full Class	Full Class	Deep Cleaning	Full Class	Full Class

Delivering high quality instruction to our youngest learners will be a challenge. A large majority of preschool curriculum is based on play and social interaction. Significant modifications will need to be made to the written and taught curriculum in order to maintain social distancing and student safety. Specific bathroom and snack procedures will also need to be established.

## **100% Digital Learning**

During the 2020-2021 school year the Virginia Department of Education has given parents the opportunity to allow their children to be educated at home while continuing to be registered as a learner with Rockbridge County Public Schools. Each learner who will be participating in a RCPS school through a digital format will be provided an electronic device to ensure that they are able to fully access the content and curriculum.

Teachers of learners enrolled in full digital format (learning from home) will make contact with each learner at least two times per week (phone call, virtual chat). Those learners without internet access will have the opportunity to download content from a wifi connection at any of RCPS's six schools or the RCPS Central Office (former Effinger Elementary School). In the rare event that we have a learner who has absolutely no access to an internet connection, RCPS will provide a thumb/flash drive in order to deliver assignments and assessments.

There will also be a help desk available for parents to contact if there are any challenges accessing content in a digital format. Teachers will provide weekly feedback to each digital learner to ensure that they are receiving the necessary support for an authentic learning experience.