

COVID Update

A Presentation for
the
Rescue Union School District Board of Trustees

December 15, 2020

Background Information

- Started with a Reopening Committee
- Focused on 4 main areas: Health and Safety, Academics, Technology, and SEL
- Worked all summer to develop our plan
- 1st largest district to come back in hybrid in August
- We opened when no one else did. We found a way.
- AM/PM hybrid model so every child could have daily contact with an adult - 2,750 students
- Established Frontier Virtual Academy- 702 students
- Created criteria for staff to work in Frontier with Union groups
- Worked with both bargaining units to develop MOUs to return fully when safe to do so
- Developed calendar for phased in model
 1. October - December: Hybrid model with Friday distance learning days
 2. January - February: Students attend all day - early release day schedule
 3. March 1 (3rd Trimester) - Fully reopened

Health & Safety Protocols successfully implemented under Hybrid Model

- No more than 15 students per session (Social Distancing)
- Masks for grades 3-8
- Plexiglass barriers where needed
- Hypochlorous machine to manufacture our own disinfectant
- Air purifiers in multipurpose and classrooms
- MERV 13 filters
- Additional custodians
- COVID Quarantine tents
- Extra Room Available “Clean rooms”
- Screening tools
- Backpack sprayers
- All employees help disinfect
- Additional hand washing stations / Hand Sanitizer
- Counseling at all sites/Frontier for social/emotional health (*Clara Hawkins, counselor at PG, and Danielle DeSimoni, counselor at Jackson and Lakeview will share how we are supporting SEL needs of our students during COVID*)

Positive COVID Cases by Month

Location	August	September	October	November	Through December 13
Green Valley	0	0	0	2	2
Jackson	0	0	0	3	0
Lakeview	1	0	0	5	1
Lake Forest	0	0	1	1	3
Rescue	0	0	1	2	3
Marina Village	0	0	0	6	1
Pleasant Grove	0	0	0	5	4
Staff	0	0	0	3	2
TOTAL	1	0	2	27	16

- As of December 13, no positive case or transmission of COVID has occurred through RUSD.
- Only cases where testing was positive and confirmed by RUSD nursing staff and EDCPH are noted on this chart.
- Data shows confirmed COVID cases by site and month for students, and by month for staff.
- Data for December is only through December 13.
- Our nurses are doing a fantastic job contact tracing and managing the cases, but it is getting increasingly difficult as number increase. Our nurses are working on weekends, late into the night, and far beyond their daily hours.

Percent of Total Confirmed Positive Cases Broken Down by Program

	August	September	October	November	December 13
Students (Total) 3,452	0.03%	0.0%	0.06%	0.7%	0.5%
Staff (Total) 419	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.2%
Hybrid Students (in-person) 2,750	0.04%	0.0%	0.07%	0.9%	0.5%
Hybrid Staff (in-person) 388	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.3%
Frontier Students (distance learning) 702	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Frontier Staff (distance learning) 38	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Student Absences by Month

	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
Quarantine - A student/staff member is placed on quarantine when he/she is determined to be a close contact to a confirmed positive case, either in school or the community; the student/staff will be excluded from school for 14 days from the last contact with the confirmed positive. The student may return to school after 14 days if asymptomatic.	129	241	133	223
Total absences 2020 - ALL Absences combined - Significantly fewer absences even WITH COVID due to our extreme care, caution, and health and safety protocols within our Hybrid program and fewer students in classes. We also have 200 fewer students this year over last year, so that would account for some of it as well.	672	1,458	1,274	1,271
Total absences 2019 - All absences combined	856	1,920	2,100	1,854

This chart depicts how many certificated and classified staff members at the sites have been absent and how many positions have been unable to be filled for the past two weeks.

District positions are not counted, such as the Utility Techs, M&O positions, and district office employees.

We have done a great job so far covering absences and quarantined staff, but it is more and more difficult to fill positions. Our principals and vice principals are regularly covering classes. We are concerned that during the spike after the holidays, this will be virtually impossible to fill all positions and we would need to close campuses affected.

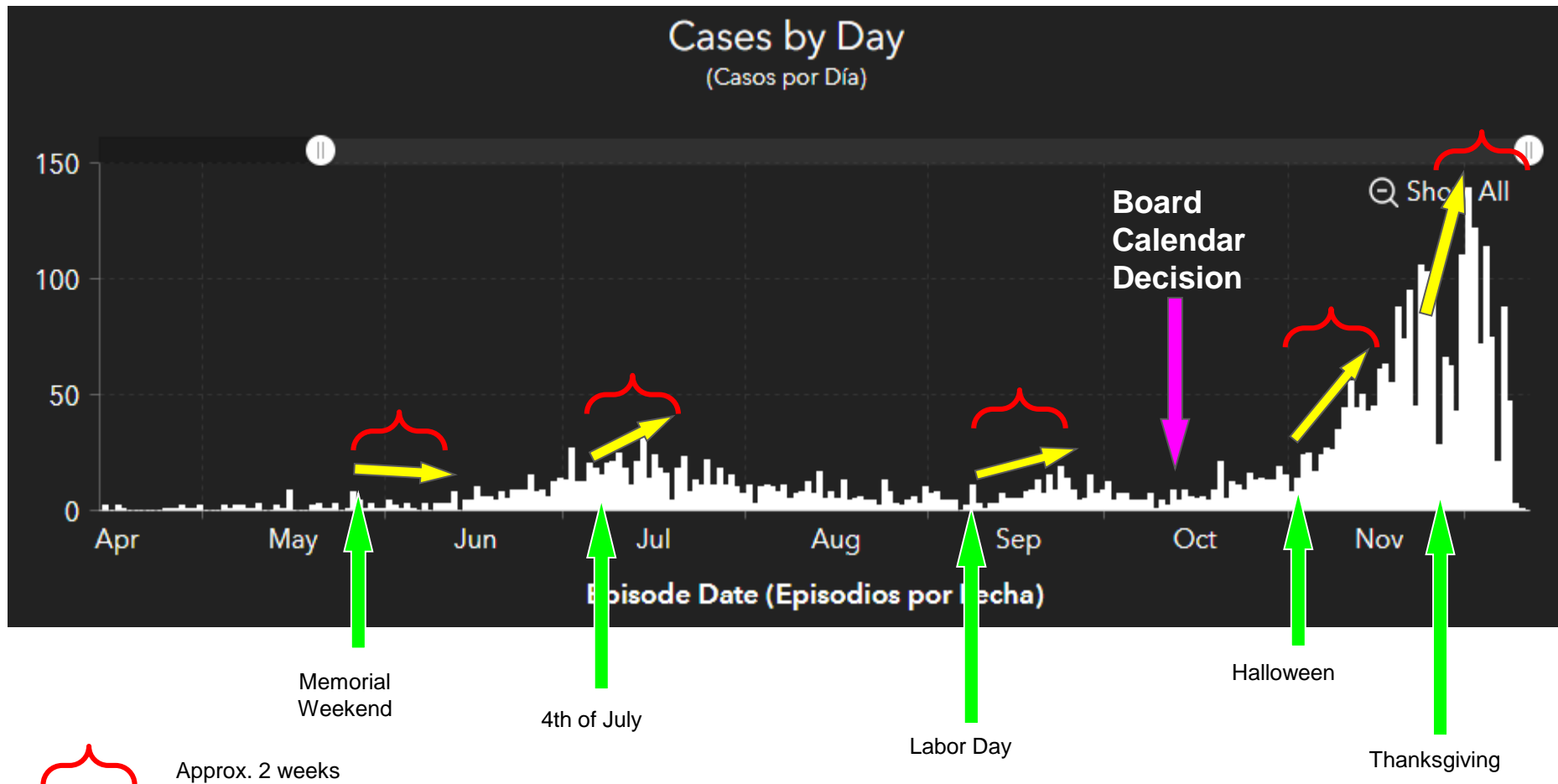
District Teachers/Staff	Cert. Absent	Cert. Unfilled	Classified Absent	Classified Unfilled
30- Nov	6	2	15	6
1- Dec	8	5	15	6
2- Dec	5	2	13	11
3- Dec	4		6	6
4- Dec			4	4
7- Dec	8		10	8
8- Dec	10	3.5	7	5
9- Dec	11	3.5	9	8
10- Dec	9	3	7	7
11- Dec	3	2	3	3

District Data

- We will share our district data with the Board of Trustees so that we can see where we have been, where we are currently, and then ascertain whether we should revise our timeline for a full reopening.
- We **know** it is safe to have our schools open and it is in the best interest of our students for them to be at school, in person. However, as the county, state, and district data indicate, we are concerned that during the weeks after winter break there will be a surge in positive cases, as has happened after every other holiday this year.
- It would be prudent to remain in hybrid until the surge subsides so that we could then bring our students back in a more full time capacity and not have to worry as much about the surge in positive cases, higher numbers of quarantine, and inability to fill positions of absent employees and teachers that would be brought about by returning full time directly after the holidays.

County Data That Correlates With District Data

El Dorado County COVID Case Trends by Holiday (Updated 12.11.20)



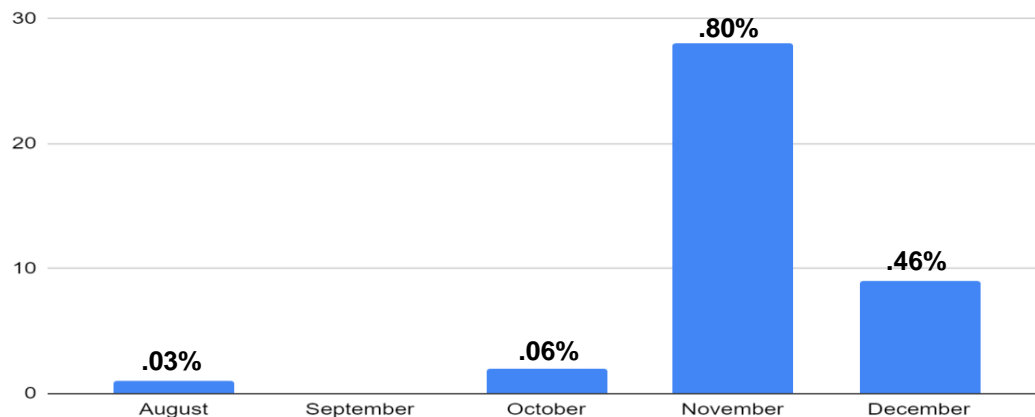
Comparison of RUSD COVID Cases per Month with El Dorado County COVID Cases per Month

Updated 12.14.20

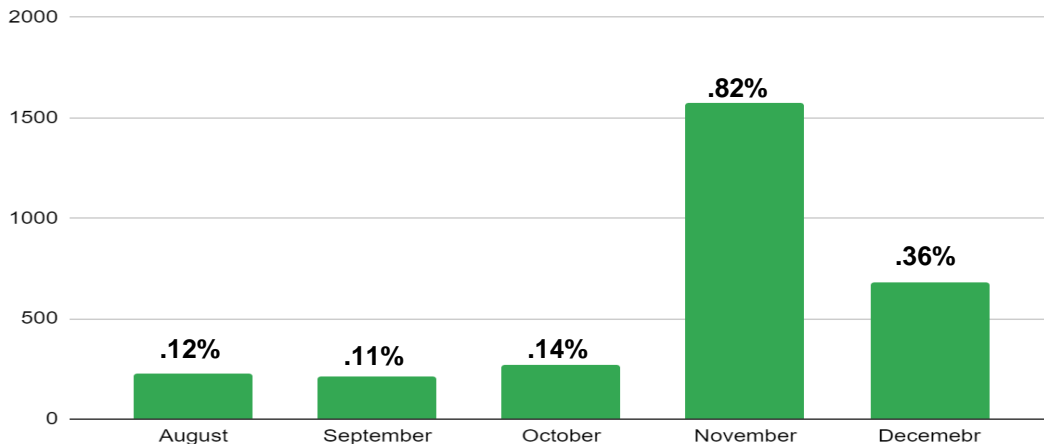
Note: Y Axis scale
differs between the two
charts.

Figures indicate positive
cases as a percent of
RUSD enrollment (3460)
and El Dorado County
Population (192,000).

RUSD COVID Positive Cases by Month (Staff and Students)



COVID Cases El Dorado County



Full Day Program

- January and February would be Phase 2. Students would return to school for a daily early release day. They would have a 45 minute lunch period and 24-30 students per class.
- Social distancing will be minimal.
- All students will be required to wear masks.
- Disinfecting will continue.
- Air scrubbers have been ordered for the multi purpose rooms and gymnasiums.
- For elementary students, students will eat at assigned seats in cafeteria and only with their cohort. Recess will be with cohorts.
- For middle school students, lunch will be with an entire grade level.
- Additional handwashing stations will be provided.
- Because school will be dismissed 1 hour early each day, evening custodians will be able to come to work earlier and help disinfect throughout the day and evening.
- Beginning March 1, students will be at school for the traditional full day.

Scenarios

If “Johnny” tests positive for COVID in **Hybrid** vs. Full time School

Hybrid:

Johnny is in 5th grade, AM Cohort
14 students, 1 teacher

If Johnny tests positive for COVID in hybrid:

Contact tracing is conducted. Most likely the following would occur:

Due to social distancing ability, no more than 6-8 students would likely need to be quarantined, and the teacher most likely would not need to quarantine either. (Exposed means within 6 feet of the positive person for longer than 15 minutes.)

Total of 6-8 students and no adults quarantined

(84-112 total days of absences, 20,160 - 26,980 lost instructional minutes)

Remember that depending upon the activities of the class and contact tracing, all students and teacher **could** need to be quarantined.

Our Hybrid model is working very well.

If “Johnny” tests positive for COVID in Hybrid vs. **Full time School**

Full time School:

Johnny is in 5th grade, all day

28 students, 1 teacher

Lunch grade level group is 84 students

If Johnny tests positive for COVID in Full time school:

Contact tracing is conducted. Most likely, the following would occur:

Due to limited social distancing, at least 12-16 students could be quarantined due to class interaction, and the rest of the class could be quarantined due to lunch where there are no masks and close contact. The teacher would be quarantined, plus at least an additional 5 -15 students from lunch.

**Total of minimum of 17-31 students and one adult quarantined.
(238-434 days of absences, 71,400-130,200 lost instructional minutes,
and 14 days of subs for the teacher)**

- In both scenarios all students and adults in a class could be quarantined depending on contact tracing factors such as wearing masks, activities in the classroom, distancing, etc.
- Precautions the district will take to minimize exposure during lunch at the elementary sites: ***assigned seating in cafeteria, air scrubbers, no cohort mixing, continued disinfecting, and the assumption that cohorts will not interact with other classes during lunch and recess.***
- When the spike subsides from winter break, fewer cases will cause absences.

If “Sally” Tested Positive for COVID as a Middle School Student in **Hybrid** vs. Full Time School

Hybrid:

Sally has three classes per day for 50 minutes each.
She has three teachers per day.
In hybrid there is no lunch period.

If Sally were to test positive for COVID, contact tracing would occur.
Most likely, based upon current experience the following would occur:

Due to social distancing ability, it is less likely that all students in each class will have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes. 6-8 students in each class could need to be quarantined, and maybe one of the teachers, depending upon activities in the classroom.

There could be a total of 18-24 students quarantined. (This equates to 252-336 total absences, 60,480-80,640 lost minutes of instruction, and 14 days of a substitute if a teacher were quarantined.)

- In **Hybrid**, students attend three periods per day, and there is no lunch period.
- Remember that in either program all students and adults could need quarantining, depending upon contact tracing factors such as masks, class activities, etc.

If “Sally” Tested Positive for COVID as a Middle School Student in Hybrid vs. **Full Time School**

Full Time School

Sally has 6 classes per day for 50 minutes each.

She has 6 teachers per day.

There are 30 students per class.

In Full time school there is a 45 minute lunch period.

If Sally were to test positive for COVID, contact tracing would occur. Most likely, the following could occur:

Due to limited social distancing ability, it is more likely that additional students in each class may have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes. 12-16 students in each class could need to be quarantined, and most of the teachers, depending upon activities and space in the classroom.

Additionally, depending upon how much interaction the student has during lunch, could add 10-30 more students to quarantine.

There could be a total of 82-174 students quarantined and up to 6 teachers.

(This equates to 1,148-2,436 total absences, 344,400-730,800 lost minutes of instruction, and up to 84 days of substitutes if 6 teachers were quarantined.)

- With **Full time school**, students attend all 6 classes each day and they also have a 45 minute lunch period.
- Remember that in both scenarios all students and adults in a class could be quarantined depending on contact tracing factors such as mask wearing, activities in classrooms, distancing, lunch socialization and close contacts.
- **Nurse Janie Carlson will share her perspective.**

Recap:

- **Current Environment in EDC:**

We are in the purple tier

Our region has fallen below the 15% ICU capacity

Cases have increased during the Thanksgiving break

- **Current RUSD Environment**

August - October only had 3 positive cases

November had 27 positive cases in one month

By December 11 we have 11 positive cases

- **Trend After Holidays**

There has been a trend of cases increasing significantly after holidays.

We are concerned about the increase in cases after winter break.

If there are additional cases and additional individuals exposed in the community, there will be many more students quarantined, equating to loss in instructional minutes and additional learning loss.

If social distancing is minimal, and larger groups are at lunch together, there could be even more students needing to be quarantined during the time that there is a surge in cases due to the holidays.

Additionally, operationally, it will be extremely difficult to fill open positions should more staff need to be quarantined during the time period of the surge in positive cases.

Cabinet Recommendation

- District Cabinet recommends that RUSD remain in Hybrid on January 4, in order to analyze how the winter break affects the number of positive cases in our community and district.
- We recommend that the Board analyze the data at the January 12 study session to determine whether or not the number of positive cases are adequately subsiding. If they are, the Board would approve reverting to the previously approved instructional calendar (approved 10/13) beginning at the earliest, January 25, 2021.
 - In the meantime, we recommend that the Board approve the hybrid calendar that was originally approved in October for Frontier.
- If the data indicates that we should not move from Hybrid at the January 12 study session, we will continue bringing the data to the Board at each consecutive Board meeting until we are able to make the decision to reopen more fully.
- This decision would also allow for us to continue feeding every student daily, and continue having daily in person contact with each students far more regularly and allow us to possibly be able to continue filling all positions on a daily basis.

Board Approved Instructional Calendar



APPROVED

10/13/20

Aug - Dec - Hybrid AM/PM Model

January/February - All Students On Campus (Early Release Days)

March/May - All Students Full Traditional Calendar

RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

UPDATED 2020-2021 School Calendar

Board Approved Revision -

"Educating for the Future, Together"



First Day /Last Day of Classes

Holiday (Non-Student Day)

Teacher Work/Staff Dev (Non-Student Day)

Emergency School Closure Make-Up Days

Elementary Only Distance Learning Days

Districtwide Student Distance Learning Days

Full Minimum Days

Early Release Days (1 hour early)

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

11

7,13 **Staff Development Day**

(Students do not attend)

14 **Teacher Work Day**

(Students do not attend)

17 **FIRST DAY OF CLASSES**

19,26 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

21

7 **Labor Day**

2, 9 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

24-25 **Student Distance Learning Day**
Parent/Teacher Conference
Middle Schools Only

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

22

23,30 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

15

6,13,20 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

6 **END FIRST TRIMESTER**

11 **Veterans Day** (observed)

16-20 **Student Distance Learning Day**
Parent/Teacher Conference
Elementary Schools only

23-27 **Thanksgiving Break**

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

14

4,11,18 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

21 **Winter Break Begins**

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

19

1 **New Year's Day**

4 **First Day - All Students**

Early Release (1 hour early)

18 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

18

12 **Lincoln's Day** (observed)

15 **President's Day**

(Washington's Day observed)

26 **Minimum Day (Report Card Prep)**

26 **END SECOND TRIMESTER**

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

20

1 **First Day Full Traditional**

29 **Spring Break Begins**

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

20

2 **Last Day of Spring Break**

SBAC Testing Window

April 12 - May 14

(school testing schedules will vary)

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31	1	2		

20

21 **Minimum Day (Report Card Prep)**

28 **LAST DAY OF CLASSES (Min Day)**

28 **END THIRD TRIMESTER**

31 **Memorial Day**

June 1-2 Potential Emergency School Closure Make-Up Days

Elementary Student Distance Learning Days

AUG 19, 26 DEC 4, 11, 18

SEP 2, 9

OCT 23, 30

NOV 6, 13 / 16-20 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Student Distance Learning Day

Students work from home the entire day
(no in-person attendance)

Middle School Student Distance Learning Days

AUG 19, 26 DEC 4, 11, 18

SEP 2, 9 / 24-25 Parent-Teacher Conferences

OCT 23, 30

NOV 6, 13, 20

Draft Hybrid Instructional Calendar



**Hybrid /
Frontier ALL
Year
DRAFT**

RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-2021 School Calendar

Board Approved Revision -

"Educating for the Future, Together"



First Day /Last Day of Classes
Holiday
Teacher Work Day
Student Distance Learning Days
Staff Development (students do not attend)
Emergency School Closure Make-Up Days
Additional Distance Learning Days

AUG '20				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

7, 13 **Staff Development Day**
(Students do not attend)

14 **Teacher Work Day**
(Students do not attend)

17 **FIRST DAY OF CLASSES**

19, 26 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

SEP				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

7 **Labor Day**

2, 9 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

24-25 **Student Distance Learning Day**
Parent/Teacher Conference
Middle Schools Only

OCT				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

19,30 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

NOV				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

6,16 **Student Distance Learning Day**
(All Schools, Report Card Prep)

6 **END FIRST TRIMESTER**

11 **Veterans Day** (observed)

16-20 **Student Distance Learning Day**
Parent/Teacher Conference
Elementary Schools only

23-27 **Thanksgiving Break**

DEC				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

7,18 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

21 **Winter Break Begins**

JAN '21				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

1 **New Year's Day**

1 **Last Day of Winter Break**

18 **Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

11,25 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

FEB				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

12 **Lincoln's Day** (observed)

15 **President's Day**
(Washington's Day observed)

8,22,26 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools Staff Professional Development

26 **END SECOND TRIMESTER**

MAR				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

29 **Spring Break Begins**

8,22 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

APR				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

2 **Last Day of Spring Break**

5,12,26 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

SBAC Testing Window
April 12 - May 14
(school testing schedules will vary)

MAY				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31	1	2		

10,21 **Student Distance Learning Day**
All Schools-Staff Professional Development

28 **LAST DAY OF CLASSES**

28 **END THIRD TRIMESTER**

31 **Memorial Day**

June 1-2 Potential Emergency School Closure Make-Up Days

Elementary Student Distance Learning Days

AUG 19, 26	DEC 7, 18	APR 5, 14, 28
SEP 2, 9	JAN 11, 25	MAY 21, 28
OCT 19, 30	FEB 8, 22, 26	
NOV 6, 16-20	MAR 8, 22	

Student Distance Learning Day

Students work from home the entire day
(no in-person attendance)

Middle School Student Distance Learning Days

AUG 19, 26	DEC 7, 18	APR 5, 14, 28
SEP 2, 9, 24-25	JAN 11, 25	MAY 21, 28
OCT 19, 30	FEB 8, 22, 26	
NOV 6, 16	MAR 8, 22	