



INTERBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 WASHINGTON AVENUE

PROSPECT PARK, PA

MAINTAINED BY THE BOROUGHES OF GLENOLDEN, NORWOOD, PROSPECT PARK AND TINICUM

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PHONE: 610-461-6700|FAX: 610-957-6500

Reopening School Presentation – July 29, 2020

FAQ

Q 1. When will the school year officially start?

The first student day for grades PreK - 12 will be September 14, 2020.

Q 2. Please explain the technology fee - is it only if your technology needs to be repaired?

The proposed base technology fee will be applied yearly and it covers one repair (part replacement) per year.

Q 3. How much will the fee be?

We will be proposing our fee structure to the School Board for approval at August's meeting.

Q 4. What if you can't afford the repair?

This is something that we've considered, and we will make a concerted effort to work with families so that they have a device.

Q 5. Since we bought Chromebooks in the spring for Our kids can we decline? Or will there be programs loaded on the district Chromebooks?

Yes, there is an opt-out. Our devices will have apps installed, and controlled by the district, but if your student logs to your home Chromebook as their Interboro account they will get all the assigned apps.

Q 6. Is the technology fee refundable if not used?

No, the fee is not refundable.

Q 7. Will Schoology replace HAC or used in conjunction with HAC?

Schoology will not be replacing HAC, they will work in tandem. HAC will still be used for report cards and attendance.

Q 8. Why is it that K-6 would have to leave their Chromebooks in school? The students going brick and mortar should be able to complete homework assignments on the Chromebooks just as the cyber students would.

K-6 students who are attending the brick & mortar model will not be assigned homework. Since they are not being assigned homework, the device does not need to go home.



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Q 9. What measures, if any, will be taken to sanitize the classrooms between cohorts?

Classrooms will be sanitized every hour during occupancy unless special circumstances warrant additional cleaning.

Q 10. What will be the restroom policy for students in school? How will classrooms /restrooms keep clean during the school day?

Restrooms will be cleaned every hour during occupancy. Classrooms are cleaned and sanitized each night. Teachers will have disinfectant for use during the day as needed.

Q 11. Are you sanitizing classrooms including desks and chairs?

Classroom desks and chairs will be sanitized nightly. Direct application and/or Electrostatic spray method.

Q 12. Has there been any discussion about emergency evacuations? (fire drill, lockdown).

Emergency drills will still continue. Students will need to wear masks at all times during drills. Detailed plans with adherence to COVID-19 safety practices will be incorporated for drills.

Q 13. How would students who receive special education instruction but also spend time in the mainstream classroom receive their special education support within this model?

According to the proposed plan, your child will still be able to receive their instruction through their regular education teacher for the mainstream subject and receive instruction from the special education teacher for the subject in which they need additional help.

Q 14. How would the schedules work for Special Ed students?

Schedules would look similar as they had been previously. Students will receive the supports they need from their special education teacher.

Q 15. What about the kids with IEP's? Will they still meet will they still meet with the special ed teachers?

Yes, they will still meet with their special education teacher

Q 16. What about special ed/life skills classes. will they be along the A/B model since they normally have one teacher for all core subjects?

No, life skills students will be able to attend every day and will still receive instruction through their life skills teachers. They will receive support as well for their asynchronous classes if they are scheduled for them.



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Q 17. How is gifted education being delivered?

Gifted instruction will be virtual to start. They will also receive consultation 1:1 with the gifted teacher at their school.

Q 18. How would IEP students do iSync?

They would be scheduled the same way as if they were in school. They would be assigned a case manager and scheduled with a teacher to provide the supports they need. In addition, related services would also be delivered.

Q 19. Will students need their own fidgets/stress toys for special ed classrooms?

Yes. Students will be able to bring their own fidgets, but we will be supplying some as well that only that student could use.

Q 20. What school will Early Intervention students attend?

All Early Intervention and identified special education students will attend the KA Academy.

Q 21. What about the Vo-tech kids?

The DCIU and technical school are creating their unique re-opening plans. Currently, they are planning to have students on-site. Parents will continue to receive communication from the technical program regarding their plans. On Interboro's end, students will attend technical school program and iCyber or iSync for core content courses (depending on am/pm technical school programming). The High School administration will follow up with a separate email for families of students who are enrolled in technical school for Fall 2020.

Q 22. Will the library be closed to K students since you will be hosting PreK class in that space?

For mitigation purposes, students will not be rotating into the library in the KA or the community school buildings. Book exchange will happen in the students' classrooms. Additionally, the District is developing "book quarantining" procedures comparable to that of the local public libraries before borrowed books are put back into the check out rotation.

Q 23. Has it been decided whether A/B means ABAB or AABB?

The rotation will be ABAB. Fridays will alternate with "A" students in the building on the first Friday and "B" students in the building on the second Friday.



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- Q 24. For 8th graders who would have gone to the high school for math this year, how will that work for those students?**

Students will receive 8th grade Algebra instruction in their community schools.

- Q 25. Are children grades 1-6 for example - a grade 3 child that has parents that do not want the child around others for many reason choose to go asynchronous (on own terms assignments)?**

Two virtual options exist for families who do not currently want their children to receive in-person "brick and mortar" education. The options are: iSync (live instruction) or iCyber (self-paced coursework). For more information, please visit:

<https://www.interborosd.org/cms/lib/PA01915963/Centricity/Domain/27/20-21%20cyber%20brochure.pdf>

- Q 26. What support is the district going to provide for the 7th and 8th grade students on the days they don't have in-person learning and parents work full time outside of the home? There is no such option as daycare for a 12 or 13-year-old and children of that age can't be left home alone.**

Based on the capacity of our buildings, the current plan was developed to maximize the amount of in-person time for all PreK-12 students who are interested in a "brick and mortar" experience. Unfortunately, at this time, there is not room on site to accommodate childcare needs for 7th and 8th grades students on the day when they are not receiving in-person instruction. We are hopeful that giving parents notice beginning in mid-July will enable them to plan accordingly.

- Q 27. How early can a student get into the building in the morning? Will they still use lockers?**

Secondary students will not use lockers. Specific information about student entrance and dismissal will follow from building administrators.

- Q 28. Will there be recess for students out on the playground?**

At this time, students will not utilize playground equipment; however, outside time (weather permitting) will be built into the student day as well as frequent brain breaks. Masks will be required.

- Q 29. What is the plan for kids that accelerate grades for certain subjects? My daughter is in second grade and will be in third grade math. Will she still be able to move to that classroom?**

Yes, students will accelerate into the grade level classroom for the subject identified by their GIEP team. Building principals are coordinating teacher and student schedules.



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Q 30. Will lessons that are being taught synchronously be recorded for students working Asynchronously?

Recorded lessons will be available for iCyber students.

Q 31. Would there be an option to do both synchronized learning and asynchronous learning? Or would we have to pick one?

There could be an option to blend iSync and iCyber courses, especially at the secondary level. Please email Valerie.Eckman@interborosd.org and Rachel.Lambert@interborosd.org so that we can assist further.

Q 32. How will students that are accelerated in certain subjects be able to do a virtual class?

Accelerated students participating in iCyber or iSync will be enrolled into appropriate course for which acceleration is planned. Building principals and the virtual administrators will ensure appropriate course placement. Students will continue to have a GIEP case manager.

Q 33. If you choose asynchronous, and decided it is not working, would you be able to switch to synchronous model?

The dates to indicate the preference to transfer into iSync or brick and mortar are October 23, January 8, and March 26th. If a student has an IEP and needs to switch prior to the transfer dates, an IEP team meeting will be convened.

Q 34. Are parents going to have to report attendance for "off-site" class days? Similar to last year?

We are planning to utilize our new Learning Management System (Schoology) and eSchool for attendance reporting so that self-reporting is not necessary.

Q 35. For students who play and instrument, specifically an 8th and 12th grader, will instruction be available and if yes, how will it be implemented?

Yes, instrumental instruction will continue. We are working with our music department to determine the best plan for such instruction.

Q 36. Elementary operates under trimesters...are we changing to marking periods? Since there were 3 date options to change their minds on virtual vs. brick and mortar?

We will continue the trimester grading periods in grades K-5. The transfer dates were built on the quarter system to offer families three points during the year that they could switch learning environments.



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Q 37. Do the transition dates apply to Kindergarten as well?

For grades K-12, the dates to indicate the preference to transfer into iSync or brick and mortar are October 23, January 8, and March 26th. If a student has an IEP and needs to switch prior to the transfer dates, an IEP team meeting will be convened.

Q 38. Will the kids go out for core up still?

Gifted services will be delivered virtually this year. They will have CORE UP, just virtual. They will also have 1:1 consultation with their gifted teacher.

Q 39. Regarding teachers who travel between schools, how will that work with the cohort groups and teaching 5 days a week to same groups of students?

Teachers will no longer travel between schools throughout the week. They will be assigned to one school for the entire quarter. The community school administrators have created a schedule/cycle for special area teachers.

Q 40. How will Title 1 work with iSync?

If students qualify to receive Title I services, they will be able to access these services in iSync according to a set schedule.

Q 41. Will the students have to wear masks at all times or are they able to be removed when they are at their desks?

Please see slide 11 on "Facial Coverings" on the Health and Safety re-opening PowerPoint that is posted to the District webpage.

Q 42. Will masks now be required all day in the classroom even in the hybrid 6ft learning model? As compared to the workshop meeting where it was said that they may not have to wear masks in the classroom in this model?

Please see slide 11 on "Facial Coverings" on the Health and Safety re-opening PowerPoint that is posted to the District webpage.

Q 43. With first student day being moved to Sept 14, will those days need to be made up, or are we being given flexibility from PDE?

Days will not be added on to the school year. Instead, for secondary students, where 990 instructional hours are required, students will receive asynchronous course work on scheduled professional development days. This change will help us to meet the 990 required hours and is now possible since students will be 1:1 with devices. ISD easily meets the 180-day requirement, as Act 80 allows Districts to count PD days focused on teaching and learning as student days.



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Q 44. Will the start date being pushed back in September push the end date of school back come June 2021?

No, there will be no additional days added to the end of the year. Rather, originally scheduled professional development days will become asynchronous learning days for students in grades 7-12.

Q 45. Will the iSync students receive workbooks?

Yes - students in iSync and iCyber will receive all necessary course materials for a successful learning experience.

Q 46. Will high school students will change classes? will seats be cleaned and sanitized during each student change?

High School will be changing classes. At the end of the period teachers will spray the desks and students will wipe down the desks before moving onto the next class.

Q 47. What percent of virtual learning is going to be synchronous vs. asynchronous on the student's virtual learning days?

All students in the high school will have some asynchronous work for their in-person classes on the days they are not physically in the building. The amount of synchronous and asynchronous will depend on the individual student schedule.

Q 48. Will we have a choice on start times for our IHS students?

Schedules will be determined by the scheduling committee, however if there is a concern please contact the building administrator.

Q 49. How would you keep cohorts together when some students will be taking AP courses and others will not?

Cohorts will be kept together as close as possible depending on schedules.

Q 50. Is 6th grade following the same time schedule as Elementary? The breakdown of subjects for 6th grade looked different that it did for Elementary.

6th grade will be following a similar time schedule to the K-5 classrooms.

Q 51. A typical honors junior will take APUSH, AP Lang, Pre Calc, and Physics. But what about Seniors who may take AP Calc or AP Stat with AP Physics?

Individual scheduling decisions will be made as the main schedule is being built. We hope that students will get as many of the courses that they requested.

Q 52. What about students who have chosen to double up on a science?

We hope that students will get as many of the courses that they requested.



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Q 53. Why wouldn't high school students get dismissed at lunch seeing that it will be remote learning after lunch?

Students will be dismissed to go home at around 11:45. The students will get their lunch and exit the building.

Q 54. What are the options for singleton courses for the secondary level in the Synchronous virtual option? (like AP courses for example)

We hope that students will get as many of the courses that they requested.

Q 55. How will high school attendance be broken up... i.e. by grade... for example Jr. & Sr will be Group A Days and Fresh/Soph will be on Group B days?

This is still being decided as families are selecting between hybrid and virtual options for the 2020-2021 school year.

Q 56. Is transportation now going to be provided to all students since 7th and 8th grade won't be in-person daily? Younger students walk home with older students but will no longer be able to do that with your proposed model.

Transportation is not being provided to all students.

Q 57. Will students be allowed to have school bags all day to keep water bottles and to eliminate use of lockers?

Yes

Q 58. For the lunch program, will a menu be given in advance of parents completing the google form so we know whether to say yes or no to the lunch for each day?

Yes, the breakfast program will be a grab n go.

Q 59. How early can students be dropped off for the breakfast programs at the schools?

Time frames have not been determined; more information will be provided soon.

Q 60. If the K-5 teachers are departmentalized and touching each brick and mortar classroom during the day who is the designated cyber teacher?

A selection process is currently being planned and discussed with the IEA leadership.