

Family Update 8-10-21

Dear Park Rapids Area families!

Park Rapids Area Schools will be returning to school In Person on September 7<sup>th</sup>!

As a district, we will continue to maintain the health and safety of our students, families, staff, and visitors. The CDC has provided [Resources and Information](#) to help families understand the recommendations in reducing the spread of COVID.

For the 2021-2022 school opening, the determination of implementing recommendations for opening is under local, school board control.

The procedures for Park Rapids Area schools opening include:

1. Masking: The Park Rapids Area Schools will not require face masks in the school setting. The district will support students, families and staff in their choice to wear a mask. Masks, however, will be required on all buses, including activity buses per the [Federal Order](#) currently in place.
2. Physical Distancing and Cohorts: The Park Rapids Area Schools will not exclude students from In Person learning. When physical distancing is not possible, the district will utilize the multi layered safety protocol approach of proper handwashing, respirator etiquette, by covering your cough and staying home when symptomatic. The school facilities will follow a routine cleaning and disinfecting schedule to further reduce the risk of spreading COVID.
3. Positive Cases: The Park Rapids Area Schools health staff will continue to report confirmed cases of COVID to MDE as required.
4. Vaccinations: The Park Rapids Area Schools will support families in their choice to participate in a vaccination program. Vaccinations are available through our local clinics.
5. Health Screening: The Park Rapids Area Schools will follow the [MDH Decision Tree](#) when a student or staff member presents signs or symptoms of COVID. The best practice is to stay home when not feeling well.

The Park Rapids Area Schools will support our students, families and staff and encourages everyone to do their part to help reduce the spread of COVID. The district is not planning to implement procedures which are not mandated by the federal or state government.

If you have any questions, please contact me or one of the offices.

Respectfully,

Lance Bagstad, Supt.

Park Rapids Area Schools #309