

*Helen Squillace*

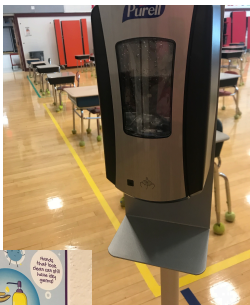
Red Mill School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our Red Mill Team is excited to welcome students back to school! It is hard to believe that it has been about six months since we were last together. We have missed our students and have spent the summer months preparing for their safe return. Our full Re-Opening Plan is posted on our district website, but I have highlighted some of the most important aspects here. The video links below show procedures for riding the bus, temperature checks before entering the building, classroom setup and how to navigate the hallways. The district videos feature some of **our very own Red Mill students!**
<https://egcsd.org/2020/09/12/videos-health-and-safety-procedures-for-reopening/>.



During our first weeks of school, staff will be working with students to teach all of the new procedures and safety protocols. Our school hallways and bathrooms have signage and markers for social distancing and safe hand washing and sanitizing. We have placed hand sanitizing stations in our cafeteria and at entry points leading in and out of recess. Group seating tables have been removed from our classrooms and cafeteria and have been replaced with individual desks spaced six feet apart. The district has hired additional staff to intensify our daily cleaning and disinfecting efforts. The delay in the school start date to September 14 afforded our staff and maintenance team the time needed to practice and fine tune all of our procedures and prepare our building for our students safe return. **We are ready!**



The COVID Screening tool was emailed to all district families last week. This must be filled out online **everyday, for each student**. Our staff members have also been submitting the screening each day before entering the building. It quickly becomes routine, and takes less than a minute to complete. I have found it easiest to copy and paste the link as a new contact in your phone and complete it first thing each morning. For K-5 students, there is no need for you to print anything, or screenshot the approval message, as our office staff will be pulling a listing to see that all families are completing this form each day, for each one of their students. As we get started, you will receive a friendly reminder phone call if the form to enter the building has not been completed. The expectation is that all staff and students complete the form every day. The COVID-19 Screening Tool link is:
<https://entry.neric.org/egcsd>

Our District Calendar is at the printers and you will soon receive your hard copy. For now, any events are posted on our district website. At this time, all meetings listed will be virtual (not in-person) and visitors and volunteers will not be entering the building. Open House Nights have not yet been scheduled, but will be virtual as well.

Inquiring minds would like to know..... and the answer is yes, Birthday treats will still be allowed to be sent into school, however they must be prepackaged or store bought treats. (No homemade cupcakes, etc.) There will be an area in our front entry vestibule designated for any items being dropped off to school and our staff will retrieve them for delivery to the appropriate classroom.

A technology update was provided last week via district email from the Assistant Superintendent. If you missed it, the summary is the district has ordered an individual chrome tablet for each K, 1 and 2nd grade student, however the shipment of that order has been delayed and is not expected to arrive until the end of September or early October. This is an issue all across the country as vendors have been inundated with orders. In the meantime, students at the K,1,2 level should use any home device available for their virtual Wednesday learning.

Arrival and Dismissal Procedures for Parents Driving Students was recently emailed to all Red Mill parents. The link is below:
<https://egcsd.org/red-mill-elementary/arrival-and-dismissal-procedures/>

We are looking forward to our first week! If you have any questions, please reach out to me or your child's classroom teacher via email or at (518)207-2660.