



**DISTANCE LEARNING  
PLAN 2.0**



**DISTANCE  
LEARNING PLAN SS  
(SUMMER SCHOOL)**

**WHAT NEXT?  
SEPTEMBER AND  
BEYOND**

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## What does September Look Like?

### Now...

As we settle in to this new normal and work to round out the year, many of us mourn the lost opportunities students would have benefited from had we not been impacted by the Coronavirus COVID-19 crisis. The City School District of New Rochelle grapples with the impact and how it effects students academically, socially and emotionally daily. We are committed to an exciting Senior Graduation planed by NRHS Committee composed of many including members of the senior class and executed by building leaders and central administration. We should be ready to share details with you next week. The lawn signs are in and seniors will be contacted to receive theirs. We hope to ensure that the 8<sup>th</sup> graders have a warm and meaningful transition and are working with building level principals to identify creative solutions. Our wonderful elementary school principals are thinking through fun and innovative ways to celebrate the transitioning 5<sup>th</sup> grade class too. Through it all, our students have been supported by their teachers through the Distance Learning Plan- **But what happens next?**

# Summer School...

As was shared in previous communications, the CSDNR is prepared for the extended time physically apart from each other and were ahead of many districts in launching our revised educational plan, Distance Learning 2.0. The plan incorporates significant synchronous learning to provide interaction among students, teachers, and classmates that is missing while they are not in class together.



We continue to assess the plan and explore ways to continue providing a high-quality, engaging education during the prolonged COVID-19 crisis. This includes the development of our Distance Learning Plan - Summer School (DLP-SS). We are working to ensure that students who receive an "I" (Incomplete status) in subjects in secondary school will have the opportunity to work toward a grade change of "P" (Pass) in those subjects through the additional work and support provided in summer school.

Students in elementary school who are not at grade level will be provided the required support over the summer to try to ensure that they are prepared for the next grade level which they will be entering into in September.

The CSDNR is eager to ensure that students have access to the resources they need or want this summer to be best equipped for next year. Students will be granted an extension of the loaned Chromebooks so that they may continue to use them over the summer months.

Currently, CSDNR has no intention of mandating summer school for all children. This will have to be revisited if the Governor mandates it.

# September and Beyond...

The CSDNR recognizes that absent any clear direction from The New York State Education Department and the Governor's office we will have to take the lead and think through scenarios that are likely to present themselves. We have started this process and will continue to refine the work by committees. We understand that even if schools are open many parents may opt to keep their children home fearful of a second outbreak. We also understand that social distancing is a real concern for those who take the bus to school.

## What has our thought process been?

### Scenario 1: Governor opens schools and states it is *business as usual*

- Schools open with social distancing measures in place. This could include grades starting at staggered times to ensure there is not a huge influx of students arriving to school at once. It could include staggered

days for grades to reduce the overall building student density. This would mean that students spend a part of their week in a building and the rest online.

- We would need to consider alternative plans for medically fragile children and for those whose parents keep students home. What does that look like? It could mean that classrooms are synchronous where in class students and teachers allow online students to join them in real time.
- Schools open in September but closes again sometime through the academic year- What does that look like? What have we learned from 2.0 that we need to leverage next year? Could we offer a P/I grading again? What would that mean for students with two years of P on their transcript? What are colleges saying?

## **Scenario 2: Schools do not open, and we continue with our Distance Learning Plan**

- The Distance Learning Plan will have to be modified to incorporate all of the lessons learned this year. Increased synchronous, revisiting grading and looking into what supports the teachers need professionally and socially/emotionally.

In all scenarios, we are committed to educating the whole child and are prepared for flexible learning environments:

- Perhaps teachers would report first, for planning and preparation with gradual student reengagement procedure
- In-person (traditional) classes until campuses close when they become all virtual
- Continuation of our Distance Learning Environment
- A Hybrid model of in-person (traditional) classes and virtual classes
- Staggered schedules
  - In-person (traditional) classes and virtual classes at different times during the week
  - Classes on a split face-to-face schedule (morning in-person & afternoon virtual)

As superintendent, we are looking to start engaging teachers and administrators to think through a complete Re-Entry Plan. Together, we will formulate the “New Roc & Rolling Plan.” I will leverage Cabinet to begin to address the major areas to be considered, planned, and executed for re-entry. Each member of the team will develop a sub-committee that will support the creation of the entire “New Roc & Rolling Plan.” Each sub-committee should dedicate time to research how other countries have dealt with re-entry. They should also consider speaking to experts in the field and including members of the community.

## Below the Chairs of the subcommittees and some of areas for consideration

### **Social-Emotional - Chair, Dr. Anthony Bongo:**

Guiding Questions for consideration:

- What structures must we put in place to address the social-emotional needs of our children when they return?
- What training will staff need? Ex: Trauma-informed
- Are there any tools that we can use to identify student needs?

### **Academics - Chair, Dr. Alex Marrero:**

- When students return, how will we determine where students are academically?
- How will we review old content, while still teaching new?
- What types of interventions will students need? How might we be able to provide support within the existing budget?
- What adaptive programs might we want to consider using?

### **Staff Culture and Well Being - Chair, Mr. Ryan Reed:**

- What resources do we need to consider for staff that may be struggling - depression, or from the loss of a loved one?

### **Finances and Operations - Chair, Mr. Greg Kern:**

- What percentage of technology will need to be replaced?
- What changes will we make to our cleaning and disinfecting protocols?
- What changes do we need to make to our long-term financial models to account for probable budget cuts?
- Will we need to purchase new materials to help address health and safety needs?
- Will we need to purchase masks?

### **Health - Chair, Dr. Brooke Balchan:**

- How might we consider the need for social distancing within our schools? Scheduling? Lunch? Athletics?
- What new medical protocols do we need to consider? What school procedures might we need to consider changing? Ex: family-style snack, assemblies vs. push-in enrichment

As we set up these committees, we will provide links for members of the community to ask to join a committee. Each committee will have 2 members of the community. Members of the community will have to answer a few basic questions in an online survey to establish experience levels as it relates to the subject area being studied by the committee. Preference will be given to those with professional relevant experience in school settings. We anticipate inviting members of the community to apply/indicate interest in serving on one of these committees by the end of next week.

Together we will pave the path guided by our mission statement and the CSDNR core values.