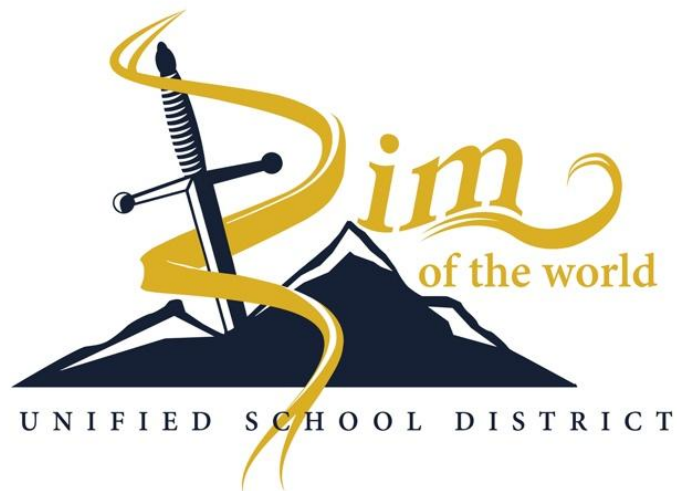


Rim of the World Unified School District

2020-2021 School Year Strategic Plan

In response to reopening guidelines and post COVID-19 Spring 2020 closure



Prepared in collaboration with all ROWUSD Administration, the Board of Education, and Union Leaders.

Strategic Plan Introduction:

In March of 2020, schools transitioned to distance learning for the remainder of the year due to COVID-19. In response to stay-at-home orders districts across the nation had to provide supplemental work via distance learning. There were many decisions faced by districts: bandwidth, device deployment, curriculum, platforms, grading, graduation, food distribution, essential employees, professional development, and safety guidelines. Rim of the World Unified School District staff responded with flexibility, collaboration, and determination to provide our families and students with support, optional learning activities, and caring.

On July 17, 2020, Governor Newsom required all schools located in a county deemed “at-risk” must start the 2020-2021 school through a district learning model. San Bernardino County has been identified as one of the “at-risk” counties. Based on the Governor’s executive orders, Rim of the World Unified School District must begin the school year through distance learning. The ideas presented in this document were initiated in collaboration with district office personnel, site leadership, and union leaders.

Based on survey feedback from ALL stakeholders, it is the desire of the district to open with the 100% plan for our students and the option from K-6 Home Choice or 7-12 Independent Study for those families that do not want to be on campus without physical distancing possible. (data shows 55% or greater voted for this option) July 13 – 17 a new parent survey was completed. The results are now in the Appendix.

These plans are subject to revisions as federal and state guidelines and executive orders are changing weekly, if not daily. Should current orders change to mandates this will not be possible. ROWUSD is taking a pro-active approach to plan for all future scenarios. We are also assuming that the California Department of Education (CDE) will follow through with our request for 3,000 Chromebooks and 300 hotspots, so far, we have received 10 Chromebooks. The state and federal governments have provided school districts with additional funding to assist with plans for education during the pandemic.

Anything in blue font is part of the updates to this plan that were completed in July after the first draft was released in June. As mentioned above the district will begin the school year in the Distance Learning model (outline begins on page 8).

Anything in orange font is part of the updates to this plan that were created after draft 1 and 2 were released earlier this year.

100% of Students and Staff returning when possible:

Rim of the World Unified School District has a mission to provide quality and impactful instruction regardless of the mode of delivery. We have developed an instructional framework to focus our work and instructional priorities which includes the following components:

- Rigorous and relevant standards aligned curriculum
- Data informed responses
- High impact instructional practices
- Common formative assessments
- Learning environments (physical and social emotional)

At Rim of the World Unified School District, we are committed to providing rigorous instruction in a safe and an engaging environment to all students to make them successful in college, career and beyond.

This commitment is best achieved in an environment where students can attend school, in person, on a regular basis, each week. Our teachers work collaboratively to teach the standards, assess learning, utilize effective instructional practices, reteach as needed and create positive learning environments for all students. English learners are provided both designated and integrated English Language Development (ELD) to scaffold their learning and support success. Instruction is differentiated to provide an appropriate level of support based on students most recent ELPAC score. Teachers and instructional aides [will be required \(based on current state and local mandates\)](#) to be in PPE's to better serve our special education students and their daily needs while at school. Mainstreaming may look different for students identified as "medically fragile," which would require higher levels of protection. Transportation may also reflect different times of arrival or departure to help ensure less contact with other students.

Sports: In each scenario, practices could be implemented if they follow the guidelines of the National Federation of High School Sports (NFHSS). The NFHSS has detailed a three-tier plan for practices depending on the type of sport and level of COVID-19 infection rates. The California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) has not determined if athletic competitions will be allowed this year. It will depend on the

number of schools opening and the type of sport (close contact sports such as football, compared to non-contact sport such as golf). [Current Southern Section CIF guidelines postponed sports until December of 2020. We will continue to monitor their updates and follow their guidelines.](#)

Safety measures in place for 100% of students returning to campus in Rim of the World Unified School District are not limited to, but include:

- Hand sanitizing stations in all multi-purpose rooms/cafeterias, classrooms, and libraries for students.
- Student belongings should be labeled with first and last name and not be shared with other students. Classroom supplies will be labeled with either names or using a numbering system to reduce the sharing of supplies when possible.
- Plexiglass barriers are being installed during the summer of 2020 for all front office staff and security desks.
- Visitors and volunteers will need to follow all site protocols and check in procedures. The number of visitors on campus and those procedures will be dictated by state executive orders at that time. Volunteers must attend site volunteer training to learn about any new routines prior to serving on campus.
- Teachers are encouraged to move outside daily for teaching and activities, & open windows/doors when weather allows. [Fans have been purchased for every classroom to circulate the air which is a recommended CDC protocol.](#)
- Hallway traffic patterns have been established at each school by site staff, which will be highlighted on the ground with stickers, and student training will take place on the first day of school. Physical distancing is not possible in many of our hallways. [Masks are currently required for all students in grades 2 – 12. We will follow state and local mandates when we can open. Guidelines currently state that students can be excluded from campus for not wearing a face covering/mask. \(This policy remains in place\)](#)
- Digital, no contact thermometers have been purchased for each school site for when temperature checks are needed.
- Passive wellness self-checks will be in place for both students and staff. [Banners at each school site will display passive wellness check guidelines.](#) See definitions on last page.
- 2 washable masks will be given to all students and staff if still required by San Bernardino County Department of Public Health. Teachers will be given the

option to have both face shields and masks. [As of July 17, 2020, masks are required for all staff and students in grades 2-12.](#) Staff or students choosing to bring their own masks must follow dress code that cover nose and mouth only (costume type masks will not be permitted). [Guidelines currently state that students can be excluded from campus for not wearing a face covering/mask.](#)

- [Desk shields have been ordered for every student and teacher.](#)
- All buses have added daily wipe-down procedures for seats with disinfectant. Students will be asked to practice social distancing at bus stops, wear face masks, both at the stops and on the bus, and follow bus spacing guidelines. If we need to reduce bus capacity to 1 per seat, the district will have to reduce the amount of bus stops and move to a satellite stop routine where there is one stop per geographic region. Bus passes will be purchased online to reduce contact between parents and employees when possible.
- Custodians have added to their daily, cleaning procedures of bathrooms, classrooms, and common areas the cleaning of all door handles on each campus nightly. Custodians have had training and are disinfecting all campuses during the summer of 2020. Cleaning solutions, new sprayer backpacks, [and bathroom sanitizing equipment](#) will disinfect for COVID-19 daily. Priority will be placed on disinfecting common areas once school resumes. Playground equipment will be wiped down on a scheduled routine if allowed to open per guidelines and orders.
- A Chromebook [will be handed out to each student who submitted the technology request form prior to July 30](#) for at home learning, supplemental work, and homework in the event of future school closures (per assumptions above). District Chromebooks [have been](#) barcoded this summer [in preparation for distribution to students.](#) Wipes and/or gloves will be available as an option for student using technology in secondary classrooms. Grades TK-5 will have an assigned Chromebooks if available in each classroom using a number/labeling system. Parents and students will need to sign both a responsible use and acceptable use agreement to take technology home. Device internet activity will be filtered by our firewall even if at home. [Every request for a Chromebook has been honored at this time. 750 more have been ordered.](#)
- [Once they arrive, a limited number of hotspots may be provided to families if they completed the technology request form in July. Arriving at the end of September, priority will be given to families coming to the school site's WiFi](#)

rooms, Homeless and Foster youth, and other unduplicated populations. Parents will have to pay a \$60 fee if lost, sign an acceptable use policy, return the hotspot when school resumes or prior to the end of the year. Hotspots will only work with the district issued Chromebook and will not replace internet service in your home.

- Professional development has been provided for classroom teachers on the use of Google Classroom in May 2020. Starting the first week of school, students will be trained to use Google Classroom in preparation of future closures.
- Our district was already planning to open a K-6 Home Choice Program for the 2020-2021 school year with oversight provided by our Coordinator of Alternative Programs. Applications were due by June 12 and application submission were reopened for the first 2 weeks of July. Applications submitted after July 9 will be put on a waiting list. Spots for students will be filled in the order applications were received as applications were time and date stamped. As of July 30, we have 3 teachers assigned to Home Choice for TK-6. At this time we have established a waiting list for this program.
- Students at school that have signs of a fever or COVID-19 symptoms will be isolated with supervision/care and required to wear a mask until a parent or guardian can pick them up at the school site. This isolation room will be cleaned by custodial staff after each student use.
- Cash/checks will not be an option for our lunch program, parents will be asked to pay for meals using the Titan online system. Student lunch numbers will now be scanned at lunch time so students must carry their ID to avoid using a keypad. Elementary students will sit by class in the multipurpose rooms. Outside eating options will be given to students, weather permitting. Students will not be eating in classrooms. Please make sure that you have logged into the system to add money for your student to get their lunch or you have submitted an application to the Free and Reduced Lunch Program.
- Classroom configuration: all “extra” furniture was removed from each classroom All desks/tables/2 person desks will face forward and be spaced apart as square footage will allow. A few tables were replaced in classrooms over the summer as extra desks and chairs were available from our previously closed campus locations. Desk shields were ordered for each student and teacher.
- Parents will sign an acknowledgement letter at the beginning of the school year or prior to the return to in-person school outlining new procedures.

Employees will receive COVID-19 guidelines for ROWUSD that will need to be signed by each employee.

Fine Arts, Music, Drama and CTE courses often require proximity and the sharing of equipment. All supplies will be assigned to individual students when possible and classroom social distancing and cleaning routines will be established by the teacher. It is not our desire to cancel said classes unless directed by the state of California.

Field trips, large events, and assemblies will follow state executive orders for locations and crowd sizes.

50% of Students on Campus on a Daily Basis: [\(This section will be updated by certificated staff if we must move to this model of instruction\)](#) [Updates made due to release of new guidelines and visit to Lucerne Valley Unified already open on an elementary waiver.](#)

In a 50% delivery mode, the foundation of the elements described in the 100% in class model will still be expected. The need for creative engagement strategies and technology is increased. Teachers will still provide quality standards aligned instruction relying more heavily on blended resources based in technology and in person tools. The content will remain the same, but the teaching tools and resources will vary. All teachers in Rim of the World Unified School District will utilize Google Classroom as their instructional platform. Teachers have received training in the use of Google Classroom and will continue to be supported throughout the year in the use of this tool. Students will be expected to check in with their teacher either in person or virtually each day. Assignments will be completed both in person and online. English Learners will be provided daily English Language Development (ELD) aligned to their English proficiency level as determined by their most recent ELPAC score. For special education students in elementary moderate/severe or mild/moderate classrooms may have an opportunity to return to the classroom daily based on state and local guidelines.

Instructional aides would be used to assist in online classes to help in breakout rooms and mainstreamed classes for special education students.

The structures above will be in place plus the following:

- Students with their last names beginning with the letters A-M will attend school on Mondays and Tuesdays and Wednesday will be via Distance Learning. Students with their last names beginning with N-Z will attend school on Thursdays and Fridays and Wednesday will be via Distance Learning. The reason for this delineation is to keep families together. Single student families and multiple student families may be moved to opposite days as we attempt to balance numbers district wide for over 3,000 students, at the district's discretion. This will allow cohorts of students to remain together in the event of a positive COVID case and allow site custodians to deep clean thoroughly between cohorts.
- Distance learning will take place on days students are not physically on campus. Attendance will be taken daily, and assignments will be graded. Google Classroom will be required for all students in ALL grades. Virtual Instruction will be required (homeroom idea next bullet). The Zoom platform or Google Meets will be utilized by all teachers and students, and attendance will be recorded in Aeries.
- All students will be "present" the first part of each day for attendance whether the student is at home or on campus for announcements and whole group instruction, like a homeroom. What this looks like will vary between elementary and secondary. Teachers can choose to stream their live class to the students that are at home for distance learning.
- Child Nutritional Services will provide to-go meals for the following day to students that participate in the National School Lunch Program or opportunities will be given to pick up meals. Guidelines have been changing so we continue to follow them and change procedures.

0% of the Students on Campus (Distance Learning) For Opening or Future Closures:

In a 0% in person, 100% distance learning delivery mode, the foundation of the elements described in the 50% and 100% in class model will still be expected. All instruction will be provided through Google Classroom. Students will be expected

to learn with their teacher virtually **daily** and small group instruction may be provided through Zoom or Google Meets breakout sessions. English Learners will be provided daily English Language Development (ELD) aligned to their English Proficiency Level as determined by their most recent ELPAC score. The special education teacher and instructional aides (IAs) will do instruction together as well as breakout sessions to assist students. Resource Specialist Program (RSP) teachers and IAs will be in the general education Zoom and assist in breakout sessions.

Individual school sites will be emailing their site distance learning schedules home to families on Wednesday, August 5 in the afternoon.

The structures above will be in place plus the following:

Learning will be facilitated using a variety of modalities and strategies.

Synchronous, asynchronous, and unplugged learning opportunities will be provided daily. Here is a nice graphic that depicts the learning environment

Navigating Remote Learning Environments

Providing realistic and meaningful remote learning experiences requires planning for the digital and non-digital pathways applicable to your students' unique remote environments. Use the categories below to spark ideas for tasks you can use with your students!

Synchronous	Asynchronous	Unplugged
<p>This type of learning is done with the teacher online (live) at a designated time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live content mini-lessons • Lesson follow-up (debrief a lesson or expert video) • Assignment check-in (Q&A, clarity, technical issues) • Online discussions, debates, brainstorming, etc. • Teacher read-alouds • Live reflections • Digital games 	<p>This type of learning can be done by students digitally without the teacher present at any time during the day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher-recorded content mini-lessons • Tasks assigned on an internal or external website or platform • Online practice (math facts, sight words, vocabulary, etc.) • Expert videos or tutorials (view and respond) • Recorded reflections 	<p>This is time spent on tasks that require little to no technology.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choice boards/Menu tasks • Assignments that can be done offline and submitted via a text, free app, or hard copy • Open-ended prompts such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Read a book and . . . – Partner with a family member to . . . – Make your own . . . – Practice _____ by _____ – Use materials you have to . . .
<h3 style="margin: 0;">Building Connections</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%; margin-right: 50%;">• Communicate assignments with students and parents via consistent communication channels. <li style="width: 50%;">• Offer office hours at the same time each week so students and parents can reach out with questions. <li style="width: 50%; margin-right: 50%;">• Find time to meet with your students, on- or offline, via virtual meetings, recorded messages, or class chats. <li style="width: 50%;">• Stay connected and celebrate success via emails, texts, and phone calls. 		

- TK - 5 students will be assigned a teacher from their “home” school site or will already have an assigned teacher should school be started, will virtually meet daily with their teacher who will provide a minimum of 1 hour of synchronous(live) instruction. The rest of the day for students will be asynchronous learning. Teachers will hold daily office hours on all days during their normal workday hours to assist students, answer questions and respond to emails. Differentiated instruction will be facilitated virtually and daily and should include groups such as EL learners, special education, GATE, and students at promise. Sites will publish a daily schedule for synchronous learning, so grade levels do not overlap to develop a routine for students.
- 6 – 12 will be assigned classes by subject, grade level, and program needs. Some coursework will be completed through Odysseyware when applicable. All other classes will be taught through synchronous (live instruction) learning during the normal school day **with a minimum of 10 hours a week**. The rest of the day for students will be asynchronous learning. Differentiated instruction will be facilitated virtually, daily and should include EL learners, special education, and students at promise. Teachers will hold daily office hours on all days during their normal workday hours to assist students, answer questions and respond to emails. Teacher video conferencing will be assigned by subject and day of the week on a block schedule developed by the secondary sites.

Individual school sites will email their site distance learning schedules on Wednesday, August 5th in the afternoon. Schedules will also be posted on school websites.

- Attendance will be taken daily on Aeries for students, assignments will be graded, and teachers will work from their classrooms or from home. Google Classroom will be the district adopted platform for distance learning and professional development was provided for all teachers in May 2020.
- Administrators will have access to each Google Classroom and teacher attendance will be monitored daily. Gmail migration for all staff will take place **on August 4, 2020**. Teachers will be encouraged to make a subject or grade level colleague as a co-teacher for guest teacher purposes when the teacher is ill.
- Meal distribution will take place on Wednesdays **at elementary sites for students enrolled in our district. Money will not be exchanged on site but must be prepaid online for students wanting to buy meals. Free and Reduced**

students can still qualify for their meals during this time and applications are online. Students from MPH, MHS, or RHS will go to the elementary school closest to their home.

- Chromebooks did not arrive from the CDE. Our carts will be disassembled, and we will provide one per student for families that completed the request online, in person or by phone prior to July 31. Families could have also opted out of taking technology home if they already have access to a device. All district devices will be barcoded in the summer of 2020 for this purpose. Any student wishing to take a device home must have a signed Responsible Use Policy (RUP) and Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) on file. Parents/guardians will be responsible and must pay for lost or damaged Chromebooks. **All requests for a Chromebook have been filled.**
- Hotspots are currently on backorder nationwide but have been ordered for the families that have submitted the form mentioned above. In the meantime, each school site will host a room where students may come with a parent to get connected during synchronous learning times. Students must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. Anyone coming to campus must bring their device, wear a mask, sign in, follow the passive wellness check policy, use assigned restrooms, and remain 6 feet apart. Students may not be dropped off at a school site for child supervision to get connected. High School students that are waiting for a hotspot and that have obtained a driver's license and a parking pass from Frannie Tennant may come to campus during synchronous learning times only, following the above procedures. Please note, hotspots will not replace your internet at home and will only work on a district issued device so that internet use remains filtered by district. **Arriving at the end of September, priority will be given to families coming to the school site's WiFi rooms, Homeless and Foster youth, and other unduplicated populations. Parents will have to pay a \$60 fee if lost, sign an acceptable use policy, return the hotspot when school resumes or prior to the end of the year. Hotspots will only work with the district issued Chromebook and will not replace internet service in your home.**
- Elementary Waiver Process
- Small group cohorts for acute learners

Definitions:

Synchronous learning refers to a learning event in which a group of students are engaging in learning at the same time.

Asynchronous learning is a general term used to describe forms of education, instruction, and learning that do not occur in the same place or at the same time.

Passive Wellness Checks are ones in which the parent/guardian or employee follows symptom check protocols before arriving at school or getting on the bus. Staying home if student or employee display any symptoms. Families will sign acknowledgement letter and employees the COVID-19 Guidelines handbook.

Appendix

July 13 – 17 Parent Survey Results