

Hope Hall: Frequently Asked Questions for 5 Days a Week Reopening: April 19, 2021

1. Why is Hope Hall moving to reopen for the last quarter?

Since August 2020, Hope Hall's goal has been to increase in-person learning. With a significant number of our staff fully vaccinated, community transmission rates steadily declining, and updates to social distancing guidelines, the fourth quarter is an ideal time to have Hope Hall offer more in-person learning. By having students come to school five days a week we hope to provide more hands-on instruction to our students, create a stronger sense of being part of a Community, and aid in the transition to returning to school in the fall.

2. Will safety and cleaning protocols change?

No. Hope Hall has continued to maintain strict safety and cleaning protocols which have proven successful as demonstrated by our ability to remain open since the beginning of the school year. We will continue to follow all health and safety guidelines in our cleaning and sanitation protocols.

3. Will masks still be needed?

Everyone will be required to wear a face covering that covers both the nose and mouth. Teachers and students will be reminded of proper mask wearing. At least one scheduled mask break of up to five minutes, will be made each period per the teacher's direction. Mask breaks are not permitted in the hallways as those are shared spaces for everybody. A student may advocate for a mask break by talking to their teacher directly.

4. Will you still ensure social distancing?

As of March 19, 2021, the CDC has updated policies related to social distancing for Elementary students to at least 3 feet, when wearing masks, and 6 feet, when wearing masks for Middle and High School students. With this update, Hope Hall will be able to successfully maintain social distancing for all students within their classrooms. The cafeteria will maintain 6 feet distancing due to students being unmasked to eat. Students participating in music class which may involve singing, and PE, will follow 6-foot social distancing guidelines as well.

5. Will Hope Hall still accommodate a fully remote schedule?

Yes, Hope Hall will continue to offer and accommodate a 100% remote learning model. If you plan to take advantage of this offering, your child's schedule will change to ensure that they participate in all learning, and may include an increase in online learning. Student's may not switch between 100% remote and in- person once the 4th quarter begins. Unless it is due to COVID, if a student is 100% in person, they will not be able to access online learning on an occasional basis. Selections made for April 19th, may not be changed for the remainder of the school year.

6. Will middle and high school students be rotating classes?

In order to return to a 5 day a week learning model, Hope Hall will continue to have students remain in their homerooms. This will ensure that our custodial staff is able to properly sanitize shared spaces and maintain our safety protocols.

7. Does a 2:30 dismissal time mean an earlier start time?

No, an earlier dismissal time would not mean an earlier start time. Hope Hall will adjust the internal bell schedule, by making each period 40 minutes rather than 45 minutes, to make an earlier dismissal time possible.

Coming back five days a week would be a large transition for our teachers and adjusting the bell schedule will allow teachers to continue to plan instruction for two different groups of students, those who are learning in-person and those who are fully remote.

8. How will transportation work?

If a bus company is unable to accommodate the 2:30pm dismissal time, Hope Hall will alert the families individually that their child's dismissal time will remain 3:15pm. Hope Hall will be supporting the bus companies, and administrators will be overseeing an Academic Development period from 2:30 - 3:15 for those students whose buses will be coming later.

9. I cannot accommodate an earlier dismissal. What does this mean for me?

If you currently pick your child up after school, and are unable to accommodate the 2:30pm dismissal time due to your job, please reach out to the main office with your child's name and the reason. Your request will be sent to administration, and we will accommodate the original 3:15pm time for you child, as long as spacing allows.

10. If I am picking up my child(ren) at the end of the day what will that look like?

Dismissal will start promptly at 2:30pm. We will not be dismissing students earlier as they will all be in their 9th period class. Please remain in your vehicle and line up in the loop in front of the main door. Hope Hall staff will come out at 2:30pm and bring your child out to you. This is the same procedure that we currently use for parents who pick their child up from school at the end of the day.

11. How do I stay up to date on pertinent information?

Parent/Guardian updates will continue to be sent via email on a regular basis. In addition, families are encouraged to check the Community Connection page on Hope Hall's website for key information. Specific questions related to safety and school re-opening that are not addressed in these communications can be sent to safety@hopehall.org

12. What will the extended Academic Development (AD) time look for students?

Extended Academic Development is the time between the first dismissal (2:30pm) and the second dismissal (3:15pm). This time will be supervised by an administrator in the cafeteria. Students who are waiting for second dismissal will be using this time for homework completion and/or to make up missing work.

13. Will students get playground time?

Dependent on the weather, students will continue to have the opportunity to utilize the playground. The last 10 minutes of each lunch period will be devoted to recess and if the weather is good, teachers or staff will take the students outside. Students will remain masked while they are outside and teachers or staff will monitor students to ensure that social distancing is being practiced. If the weather is not cooperative, students will have recess time in their homeroom classroom to ensure that proper sanitation of the cafeteria is possible.

At times, students may also be brought out to use the playground during an academic development. The teacher will ensure that no other class is using the space at the time.

14. What time will basketball start?

Basketball will begin at 3:15. Students that are staying for basketball will be moved to the cafeteria for extended AD at the time of dismissal and can utilize that time to work on any homework they have. At 3:15 Coach Zehr or Coach Droegmoeller will pick up the players and bring them to basketball practice in the gymnasium. Dismissal from basketball will remain the same.