

Frequently Asked Questions

What do I do if my child is sick or tests positive for COVID-19?

- If your student is sick and is supposed to be in the building that day, please contact the attendance office at (708) 456-4242 x1258 or email Christine Olivo (colivo@ridgenet.org).
- If your student tests positive for COVID-19 or exhibits COVID related symptoms, please contact Candace Reid, the school nurse, immediately at 708-456-4242 ext. 1268

What is a hybrid schedule?

- A hybrid schedule is one that combines both remote and in-person instruction. In our schedule, students will be participating in remote learning in the mornings with their classes and optional in-person learning in the afternoons during office hours for the courses where they need additional support.

Does my student come to school twice a week for his classes?

- **All classes will be remote in the morning 8-12:15.** Students have the options to come in twice a week for advisory or office hours in the afternoon based on last names.
- Students can choose to do office hours and advisory remotely all the time.

How will remote learning be delivered?

- Students will be meeting with each of their classes twice a week for an hour using Zoom for synchronous learning. This will allow teachers to deliver instruction to all of their students simultaneously, break students into small groups for discussion and work, answer questions students have, and facilitate other activities beneficial to whole group instruction.

What does synchronous and asynchronous learning mean?

- **Synchronous** = Students will be simultaneously learning and completing coursework in a live Zoom session with their peers and instructor.
- **Asynchronous** = Students will be learning and completing their coursework on their own time.

How is this different from the remote learning that happened in the spring?

- Remote learning in the spring was considered in “crisis mode” and was an emergency response to our global pandemic. As we head into the year, we have been able to plan and develop support and resources for your students to be successful in this remote learning. The key differences are:
 - All classes will have a set schedule to meet online via Zoom.
 - Grading practices will remain the same as a normal school year.
 - Students will have access to scheduled office hour sessions to receive support from their teachers.
 - Teachers will have weekly professional development to address student needs.
 - Students will be meeting every day with their advisory to help support their needs.

How will my student know which days to come to school?

- On Monday during Advisory, students will schedule their in-building office hour sessions for the week with their advisor.

Who should I contact if I do not want my student coming into the building?

- All students have the option to request full remote learning.
- If you are electing to have your student participate in full remote learning, please contact David Hawk at dhawk@ridgenet.org or 708-456-4242 ext. 1242
- If your student is scheduled to come into the building on a specific day for Office Hours and you do not want them in the building that day, please contact the attendance office at (708) 456-4242 x1258 or email Christine Olivo (colivo@ridgenet.org).

What if we do not have internet access at home or my student is having technology issues?

- Please contact technology@ridgenet.org or call 708-456-4242 ext. 1357

Where can my student find the link to attend remote classes and Advisory?

- Teachers will post weekly announcements in Canvas with links to Zoom remote classes.
- Advisors will be sending their students with links to Zoom Advisory sessions via email.
- It is recommended that students check in 2 minutes early so classes can start on time.

How will grades and attendance be handled?

- Attendance will be taken daily by teachers during their scheduled Zoom classes in Skyward.
- Attendance will be taken daily by advisors during the Advisory period (1:15PM - 1:40PM daily) in Skyward, whether students attend remotely or are in the school building.
- All absences, unless excused by a parent or guardian, will be considered unexcused.
- Ridgewood High School will be returning to its regular policies and practices for grading from prior to COVID. For more information, please see the Parent-Student Handbook.

How can I better support my student during remote synchronous learning?

- Ridgewood High School will be hosting weekly Parent University learning sessions to provide additional information, resources, and support for parents. Please see our website for additional information.

What if my student doesn't want to attend their Zoom synchronous learning sessions?

- Students are expected to attend all synchronous learning sessions.
- Their absence will be considered unexcused unless they are excused by a parent or guardian who calls the attendance office at (708) 456-4242 x1258 or email Christine Olivo (colivo@ridgenet.org).
- The Dean of Students may recommend interventions for attendance issues as appropriate.
- If you feel your child is not attending classes due to a social or emotional need, contact Student Services:

<p><u>Freshman</u> Social Worker- Justyna Kapustka * Freshman are assigned individual advisors; any concerns about Freshman Programming can be directed to the Division Head of Student Services</p>	<p><u>Sophomore</u> Social Worker- Jennifer Snyder * Sophomores are assigned individual advisors; any concerns about Sophomore Programming can be directed to the Division Head of Student Services</p>
<p><u>Junior</u> Counselor Last Names A-L: James Gyori Counselor Last Names M-Z: Cari Franz Social Worker: Jennifer Snyder</p>	<p><u>Senior</u> Counselor Last Names A-L: James Gyori Counselor Last Names M-Z: Cari Franz Social Worker: Katheen Leynes</p>

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Do students, parents, teachers, and visitors coming into the building have to wear a mask?

Yes. Per the Illinois State Board of Education and the Illinois Department of Public Health, we are REQUIRED to follow ALL of these guidelines:

- Require use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), including face coverings;
- Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space;
- Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible;
- Require that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks or require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings; and
- Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.

These are NOT optional. We know it is not ideal and we look forward to the day when we can have all of our students return, safely, to the building.

Will the school provide masks to wear?

- In the event a student forgets their mask at home or arrives at school without one, the school will provide a mask (pending they are allowed to enter the building per the student screening process).
- ** The school is not equipped to provide a mask to each student daily. Students are expected to arrive at school with a personal mask. School-provided masks should only be used if the student forgets theirs. **

What if a student takes off their mask when in the school building?

- If a student takes their mask off while in the school building, they will be asked to put it back on by a staff member. Staff members will do their best to ask in a way that respects the student and does not draw attention to the matter.
- If a student does not comply with a staff member's request to put their mask back on, the Dean of Students will be notified and will meet with the student in an attempt to reconcile the matter.
- If the student is still unwilling to put their mask back on after speaking with the Dean of Students, the student's parent or guardian will be contacted and told that the student must leave the building for not complying with health and safety protocols in place.
- ** If the student has a medical exemption from wearing a mask, written by a licensed health professional, it must be provided to the School Nurse. Any students without medical exemption removing their mask while in the building will be subject to the process described above. **

Does the school provide meals for students during the hybrid schedule?

- Meals will be provided to Ridgewood free and reduced lunch students. More information on meal pick up to follow.

When will students be able to go back to the regular school day?

- When the State of Illinois moves into Phase 5, Ridgewood High School plans on returning to our normal schedule.

What will athletics and activities look like this school year?

- All of the activity advisors have been preparing to meet either in person, remotely, or a combination of the two. The times and locations of future meetings will be distributed electronically by the Ridgewood Athletic & Activity Department. Individual advisors will also share information about their club meetings as well.
- Athletic decisions are determined by regulations from the IHSA and IDPH. Communication will come from the Athletic Director, Rob St. John, as new information is available. Please contact Rob St. John with any questions at rstjohn@ridgenet.org or at 708-456-4242 ext. 1240