



## C.A. Roberts Elementary School 2020-2021 School Year Frequently Asked Questions



Roberts Elementary (and Paulding County) families had the option to choose virtual school through the Paulding Virtual Academy or Face to Face school @ Roberts to begin this school year. Below we hope to answer some of the frequently asked questions about both options.

Please remember that while the answers below are current as of today – they are subject to change based on guidance from the CDC and the Department of Public Health (DPH) and PCSD leadership. We will communicate changes as they occur and the impact they may have on your students. We appreciate your patience and flexibility as we are all working to provide effective instruction in a fluid situation.

### Traditional Face to Face School @ Roberts Elementary School

- **When does school start?**
  - School begins Monday, August 3, 2020, at 8:00 am. Students will report to their homeroom first thing in the morning, upon arrival at school.
- **What about Open House?**
  - Open House is VERY different this year. PLEASE read below to make sure you are clear on how it is going work.
    - **Wednesday, July 29, 2020, Open House for face to face Kindergarteners ONLY from 3-6 pm.** Since we were not able to do a traditional Open House, parents of kindergartners who have other students new to the building may also visit their classrooms during this time.
      - Kindergartners with last name A-M report 3-4 pm
      - Kindergartners with last name N-Z report 4-5 pm
      - Kindergartners with unable to report during the above times report 5-6.
    - **Thursday, July 30, 2020, Open House for 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Graders NEW to Roberts Elementary School ONLY from 3-6 pm.** This open house will be only for 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade students who are NEW to Roberts this year, and will be attending school face to face. These students will get the opportunity to come and visit the school, find their classrooms, and meet their teachers.
    - **ONLINE/VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE – July 29-July 30, 2020- FOR ALL ROBERTS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Students** –Students/families will have the opportunity to participate in an online/virtual open house to meet their student's teacher. More communication related to specific links and information will be provided to parents by specific teachers.
- **Are masks required on the bus or in the school?**
  - The school district is **highly encouraging** masks but is not requiring them. At Roberts Elementary, we do have multiple staff and students who are high risk or have family members who are high risk. We would like to strongly encourage our students, staff and anyone entering the building to please wear a mask for everyone's safety. We want to keep our school building open and operating to the fullest extent possible and we believe wearing masks will help with this goal.
- **How will classrooms be set up?**
  - Classrooms will be set up based on the most up to date information from the DPH and CDC. This includes desks all facing forwards (no grouping and face to face arrangements). Desks will be spaced as much as possible within the confines of the classroom space given.
- **How many students will be in each class?**
  - We cannot determine the number of students in each class at this time. As we make the shift with the students who have chosen virtual as well as the staff changes for those who will be teaching the virtual classes, class numbers may vary throughout the first ten days of school.

- **When students arrive at school, what is the procedure?**
  - *Students should NOT arrive at school prior to 7:25 am. The doors will not be open for student entrance until 7:25 am. At 7:25 am, students will be able to enter the building, check into their homeroom, and get their breakfast from the cafeteria if they are eating at school. Students not eating breakfast from the cafeteria will remain in their homeroom. **There will be NO congregating in the hallways.***
  - *Parents will NOT be permitted to walk their student(s) into the building until further notice.*
- **Will my student be changing classes during the day?**
  - *Students will only be changing classes to attend their specials time each day. Students will attend specials with their homerooms. Increased safety and cleaning measures will take place between each class.*
  - *Students who receive educational supports/enrichment through Venture, ESEP, and/or ESOL will receive their supports with additional safety and cleaning measures between groups of students.*
  - *Students will also transition to recess with their homerooms. We are going to work hard to ensure that students remain in pre-identified locations outside (track, playground, blacktop) with their homerooms.*
- **What will lunch look like?**
  - *At this time, students will be brought to the café by their classroom teacher. The cafeteria is being set up to allow for social distancing to the greatest extent possible. The majority of classes will eat their lunch in the classroom.*
  - *We will not be able to allow outside food items brought to school for individual students or distributed to all students in a class. Some examples include fast food dropped off for an individual student or cupcakes distributed to the entire class for birthdays. Students are, of course, allowed to bring a packed lunch from home.*
- **How will dismissal take place?**
  - *Dismissal will take place in stages. We will begin the dismissal process earlier than usual by dismissing all Learning Bridge Students and Kindergarten bus riders first. We will then dismiss bus riders by grade level. Last, we will dismiss car riders to the hallway where they will be socially distanced using visual cues on the floor and directed to wait for their name to be called.*
- **How will parent participation be impacted?**
  - *Currently there are specific restrictions listed in the district reopening plan regarding visitors as well as other adjustments which include:*
    - *Lunch with students – temporarily suspended this practice*
    - *Visiting classrooms – temporarily suspended this practice*
    - *All non-essential visitors/volunteers are restricted from coming inside the school*
    - *Parent conferences/meetings – will be held via phone or virtually only*
    - *The number of individuals allowed in the front office lobby at one time will be limited to 2 adults. If there are already two adults in the front office, please wait in the lobby.*
    - *We request that all visitors to the front office/lobby wear a mask.*
    - *Parent requests for school services should be completed via phone or email.*
- **What kinds of training will the custodians, bus drivers, faculty, and staff go through pertaining to cleaning, social distancing, and other COVID protocols?**
  - *Appropriate and thorough training is essential for stopping the spread of COVID. Custodians will attend a specific training on how to keep schools clean through our contracted cleaning company, HES. Our cleaning staff is also frequently trained to recognize the symptoms of COVID, along with other potential contaminants.*
  - *Bus drivers will be creating seating charts for A.M. and P.M. routes that aim to reduce contacts and promote social distancing to the greatest extent possible. Hand sanitizer will be available for use as students enter and exit the bus. Bus drivers will be wearing masks and sanitizing the bus between each A.M. and P.M route. Additionally, a thorough cleaning of each bus will take place each evening.*

- *Our faculty and staff will also undergo training on the CDC guidelines for stopping the spread of COVID. This training will include what social distancing looks like in our classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, and restrooms. We will also train our faculty and staff on what to do if symptoms are present in themselves or with a student.*
- **What if the school buildings must close again? What happens to my student's education?**
  - *If the Paulding County School District makes the decision to close the school district buildings, all students will move to a virtual model with their current in-building teacher. It will be similar to last spring; however, it will be more in-depth and streamlined as we have had time to prepare over the summer. Grades WILL count and students will be expected to log in and participate throughout the length of the virtual learning process.*
- **How can families help?**
  - *Please check your child in the mornings before they come to school for temperature and symptoms per CDC COVID-19 guidance. **If your child shows any symptoms, please keep them home.** Attendance will be lenient to begin this school year. There will be no attendance incentives such as perfect attendance offered. If your child is sick, please email the teacher or send in a note with them when they return.*
  - *We ask that parents remain flexible with us. Information is ever-changing and we are working as fast as we can to ensure we continue to offer our students the best education while making sure our students are safe. We also ask that parents make sure they are following social distancing and recommended CDC guidelines with their families while students are not at school.*
  - *In addition, we ask that parents be prepared to send students to school with their own school supplies (i.e. pencils, paper, binders, etc.), facial coverings, and hand sanitizer. The school has added additional hand sanitizer stations on each hallway and will ensure we always have soap in our bathrooms, but the more the merrier 😊*
- **Will clubs and after school activities still meet?**
  - *At this time, we will not have any clubs before or after school. We will revisit this decision after Labor Day to see if it is a possibility. This includes Chorus, Art Club, Science Club, Science Olympiad, etc.*
  - *Learning Bridge will be available as an after-school care option for students. If you are interested in enrolling your student in Learning Bridge, please contact Mrs. Woodworth at [SWoodworth@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:SWoodworth@paulding.k12.ga.us)*

- **Who will be teaching my students through PVA?**
  - Students served through PVA will have access to certified Paulding County teachers. Students will be assigned to a Paulding County School District teacher who will be facilitating the class. Visit <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/site/Default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&PageID=1&ViewID=6446ee88-d30c-497e-9316-3f8874b3e108&FlexDataID=48428> for more information on the Paulding Virtual Academy. Due to the increase in the number of students, some changes may be put into place in order to meet the demands for virtual classes this semester.
- **If I want my student to be in the virtual school, can I still register them?**
  - The registration for PVA closed on July 13, 2020. However, the district has created a waiting list that is date and time stamped. You can add your student's name to the waitlist at the link below. Please note adding your student to the waitlist DOES NOT guarantee a seat in PVA. <https://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/PCSDVirtualWaitList>
- **What resources will I need for my student to participate in PVA?**
  - Your student will need a device that can access the online courses and reliable internet service. While the schools loaned laptops out during the spring closures, because schools will be in session, the laptops will be in use in the school buildings. This means that there will be a very limited quantity that can be loaned out to students for PVA.
- **If I am in PVA 1<sup>st</sup> semester, do I have to stay in PVA second semester?**
  - All students will have the option to choose their method of education for second semester sometime in late October/early November. Students will be able to choose to stay at PVA or return to Roberts.
- **What do I need I need to do next?**
  - Parents who have already enrolled their student(s) for the Paulding Virtual School should have received an email from the Blackboard communication tool. Please check your email for your confirmation for 1<sup>st</sup> semester PVA. Our administration team has been hard at work this past week (and continuing this week) transferring students to PVA classes.
  - If you change your mind and want to attend Roberts in person, please contact Mr. Wilder ASAP @ [pwilder@paulding.k12.ga.us](mailto:pwilder@paulding.k12.ga.us)
  - Students enrolled in the Paulding Virtual Academy will only have the option to return to in person instruction within the first 10 days of school. Administration MUST be made aware of your decision to change your student to in person before August 14, 2020.