



# The 2020-21 School Year

## Scenario Plans & Precautions For COVID-19

August 7, 2020



## Dear Denver JDS Families,

Our administrative team has been hard at work planning for this very unique school year. Our goals are clear:

- Create a plan to keep your children safe,
- Make it work for parents
- Provide our students with an outstanding secular and Judaic education, rooted in Jewish values and supported by a strong community.

Ironically, the small size of our school and classrooms has become a unique advantage during this pandemic. In these circumstances, our small size helps make our school safer, and enables us to pivot and adapt quickly.

The slides that follow detail our plan for the 2020-21 school year. Please note that the information included here is current as of August 7, 2020, but is subject to change as needed based on the most current health information. Stay well and healthy,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Avi Halzel".

Avi Halzel, Head of School/CEO



# COVID-19 Covenant



Denver Jewish Day School is a sacred community dedicated to living Jewish values every day. In addition to our *Divrei Chaim* (Words to Live By) and Mliddot (Jewish Value), our COVID-19 practices are driven by our interpretation of the Jewish concept of *Pikuach Nefesh* (saving a life) and the biblical commandment to “build a parapet around your roof” (Deuteronomy 22:8). The health and safety of our community members will rely on an abundance of caution practiced by all of us. To that end, members of the Denver JDS community, please read our COVID-19 Covenant and abide by the behaviors outlined there.

- I pledge to do my part to keep our community in good health.
- I understand I have a role in the fight against COVID-19 and pledge to take responsible actions when among my fellow citizens.
- I will demonstrate personal integrity, respect for others, and support the health and safety of the greater Denver JDS community by:
  - Following public health guidelines in place to better protect myself and others.
  - Adhering to physical distancing guidelines.
  - Adhering to mask wearing guidelines.
  - Keeping my hands clean and sanitized when out in the community.
  - Adhering to number limits in social situations to prevent high-spread scenarios.
  - Modifying my actions to protect myself and others and, when appropriate, respectfully encouraging others to do the same as guidelines and recommendations adapt over time.

By taking the pledge, I accept responsibility for myself and my actions and will do my best to prevent the pread of COVID-19 to help keep our community safer for all.



# Four Learning Scenarios for the 2020-21 School Year



## 1 All Students Every Day

In school learning with significant precautions

- We will also offer a streaming option that will be available when in school learning is taking place.
- We will stream classes for students who are at home by family choice or because they are quarantined. This option does have limitations.

## 2 Hybrid Model

Monday/Wednesday and Tuesday/Thursday.

- This scenario would be implemented if we need to limit the number of students allowed in a class or in school at one time.

## 3 Enhanced Remote Learning Model

Remote learning 2.0. All students learning remotely as in spring 2020, but better.

## 4 Traditional School

School like it was “Pre-COVID-19” — Because we are optimists!

Having the two divisions in two different scenarios is a possibility.



At this time we intend to start the school year with in school learning that includes a remote option.

We are also prepared to switch between the following four scenarios during the school year as the health situation dictates.

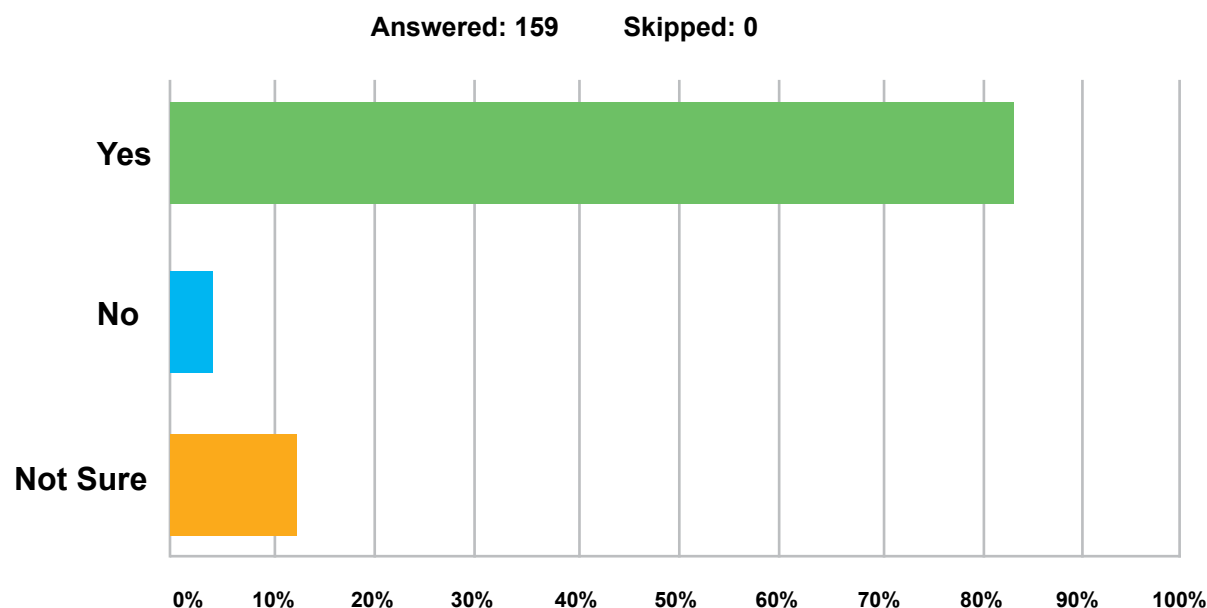
We've decided to begin the 2020-21 school year in person because:

- CO state guidance currently indicates that it is safe to proceed with in-school learning with precautions in place.
- Denver JDS parents, according to the late July survey, overwhelmingly prefer in-school learning. (See next slide for survey results)

# July 2020 Parent Survey Data



Q4 As of this time Denver JDS plans to open the school year with in-person learning for all students K-12 every day with appropriate health and safety precautions in place according to guidance from the State of CO, Tri-County Health and our own re-opening team. **Do you plan to send your children to school for in-person learning based on what you know now?**



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	83.02% 132
No	4.40% 7

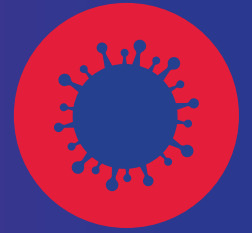
# Denver JDS relies on these important sources in making COVID-19 related decisions:



- The state of CO
- CDE - Colorado Department of Education
- Tri-county Health Department
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Association of CO Independent Schools (ACIS)
- Input from faculty and parents
- Our own COVID-19 Task Force
- School Leadership Team
- Board of Trustees



# COVID-19 Case Management



If an employee, student, or close contact of an employee or student has COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms, Tri-County Health experts will guide us through the steps to take according to the latest guidance and protocols. We will be also using [these detailed guidelines](#) in addition to working directly with the Tri-County Health Department.



# COVID 19 Precautions

Denver JDS will be instituting many precautions to protect our students, faculty, and staff. While there are no guarantees, the following precautions will help make our school as safe as possible.

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 1. Masks

- Everyone on campus will be required to wear a mask at all times while inside the school. Masks should be reasonably tight fitting but still comfortable. Thicker (3 layers or fabric) masks are recommended. Masks with plastic vents are not permitted.
- Mask breaks will be permitted with permission from teachers.
- Teachers will allow students to remove their masks when outside, under certain controlled circumstances, when students are separated by 6 feet or more distance.
- We will help students get used to the masks but ultimately a student will have to wear a mask or he/she cannot remain in school.
- Each student should bring three masks to school every day. Help your child find a mask that he/she is comfortable with.
- We will have basic masks available in the school office as needed but everyone should have their own masks.
- We have ordered clear face masks for faculty (see appendix) so that students can see their teacher's facial expressions. Each teacher will decide when and if to use this type of mask.
- The student council will be selling DJDS masks soon (see appendix).

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 2. Physical Distancing

- Physical distancing will be required for all adults and all Upper Division students.
- Physical distancing will be used with students in the Lower Division but not as strictly. According to the latest research and guidance, physical distancing does not need to be as strict with younger children.
- Hallways and many common areas will have directional markings to delineate where to walk.
- Physical distancing will be taught but ultimately a student will have to adhere to the physical distancing policies or he/she cannot remain in school.

## COVID 19 Precautions

### 3. Hand Washing/Hand Sanitizing

- Students and teachers will wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds throughout the day.
- Students and faculty/staff will have their own sanitizer to use frequently.
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after eating and before going outside and returning inside.

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 4. New Campus Cleaning Procedures

- We have hired a new professional cleaning company (Service Solutions) to clean and disinfect the school daily.
- The cleaning company will provide a full-time day porter to clean and sanitize high traffic areas during the day.
- Teachers/students will disinfect desks and classroom items during the day.
- Cleaning company will conduct frequent deep cleans and is prepared to properly disinfect the buildings in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak.

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 5. Temperature Checks

- Students and employees will be required to pass a daily symptom screening, including a temperature check, at home before coming to school.
  - A list of symptoms and a self checker can be found [here](#) on the main Coronavirus page of the CDC website.
- Touchless free standing thermometer stations will be installed in both buildings for regular usage by classes and individuals (see appendix for picture).

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 6. HEPA Air Purifier

- HEPA air purifier units have been purchased for every classroom and other areas of the buildings.
- These systems filter and circulate air five times an hour. (See appendix for picture).



# COVID 19 Precautions

## 7. Shared Supplies

Shared supplies will be greatly limited and supplies that are shared will be sanitized regularly.

## 8. Desks

Every student will have his/her own desk. Desks will be distanced from each other.

## 9. Desk Shields

Desk shields will be in place on every student desk (K-12).  
(See appendix for picture).

## 10. Cohorts

Cohorts will be instituted to limit the number of students and faculty who have contact with each other. Ultimately each division is a unit.

## COVID 19 Precautions

**11. Outside Learning** - Teachers will take students outside frequently to conduct class. We have lots of beautiful areas for outdoor learning. Specific areas will be identified so that teachers can sign up for individual spaces.



## COVID 19 Precautions

### **12. Limited entry to school buildings**

Parents and visitors will only be permitted in the buildings with permission. Meetings will be conducted by Zoom & phone.

### **13. Entry and exit**

Students will enter in the morning and depart in the afternoon through multiple doors. Specific grades will be assigned to certain doors. This will prevent too many people from congregating in one area at these times. Lower Division entry/exit doors (See appendix for picture).

## COVID 19 Precautions

### **14. Some programs are on hold as safety concerns are addressed**

- All trips and field trips are currently on hold
- After school Blast Program is currently on hold
- We are examining how we can safely offer After Care and Before Care. These programs will not be offered at the start of the school year.
- Middle School and High School sports have been delayed for now by CHSAA.

# COVID 19 Precautions

## 15. Travel guidelines

Employees and students are asked to limit travel as much as possible prior to their return to school. Additionally, we ask that individuals notify a division principal or the head of school if they plan to travel by air, or travel to a COVID-19 hotspot (a state experiencing increasing cases, and increasing positivity rates over the most recent 14-day period or a positivity rate of 10% or greater). In those cases, we may require that they take a COVID-19 test three or more days after they return from their travel, receive a negative COVID-19 test result, and/or self-isolate for a period of time before they may return to campus.

Thank you to our wonderful community of families, faculty, administrators and friends. All of you have shown understanding, support and patience as we navigate this new educational environment, and we are deeply grateful.

As always, please feel free to reach out to our team with any questions. We will be in touch regularly with updated information.



[denverjds.org](https://denverjds.org)

If you have questions, please contact a member of the leadership team:

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# Appendix

## Clear Masks For Teachers





## Student Council DJDS Masks



## Mounted Touchless Thermometers



## POWERFUL HEPA FILTRATION SYSTEM



Proven to help  
reduce up to

99.9%

**Certified HEPA Filter captures up to 99.97% of Microscopic Allergens<sup>2</sup>**



## Pollen

Also helps reduce certain airborne germs<sup>1,2</sup>



**Mold Spores**

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## Desk Shields For Every Student K-12



## Use Of Multiple Entry/Exit Doors for Lower Division

