

Our Covid-19 Pandemic Response Timeline

Jan 20, 2020

CDC confirms the first case of COVID-19 in the U.S.



PHOTO: PROVIDENCE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER



March 11, 2020

WHO declared the novel coronavirus outbreak to be a pandemic. In an Oval Office address, President Trump announced restricted travel from Europe to the United States for 30 days in an attempt to slow the spread of coronavirus.

March 12, 2020

President Trump declared a nationwide emergency. Gov. Whitmer announced the closure of all schools in Michigan until April 5, 2020.



March 21, 2020

The FDA approved the first rapid point-of-care COVID-19 test, that can deliver results in less than an hour.

March 23, 2020

MI School closures extended to April 13.

April 2, 2020

MI School closures extended thru end of school year.

April 3, 2020

At a White House press briefing, CDC announced new mask wearing guidelines and recommended that all people wear a mask when outside of the home.



May 21, 2020

CDC announced that touching contaminated objects or surfaces doesn't seem to be a significant mode of transmission. Notes that as many as 35% of people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic but 100% as infectious as those with symptoms.

July 23, 2020

CDC releases new science-based resources and tools for school administrators, teachers, parents, guardians, and caregivers for safe school reopening.

November 17, 2020

The FDA issued an emergency use authorization (EUA) for the first COVID-19 diagnostic test for self-testing at home and that provides rapid results.

December 14, 2020

US officials announced the first doses of the FDA emergency use authorized Pfizer vaccine have been delivered to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

December 15, 2020

The FDA authorizes a second coronavirus vaccine made by Moderna for emergency use.



December 21, 2020:

Governor Whitmer allowed public and private high schools to reopen starting December 21.

February 27, 2021

The FDA grants emergency use authorization to Johnson & Johnson's Covid-19 vaccine, the first single dose Covid-19 vaccine available in the US.

March 8, 2021

CDC announces that fully vaccinated people can gather indoors without masks.

March 19, 2021

CDC announces kids in school can socially distance from 3 feet instead of 6 feet. This seems to happen in coordination with the availability to vaccinate teachers with the newly available Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine.



August 23, 2021

The FDA grants full approval to the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine for people age 16 and older.

November 2, 2021

CDC endorses ACIP recommendation that children ages 5 to 11 years be vaccinated against COVID-19 with the Pfizer-BioNTech pediatric vaccine.

November 29, 2021

CDC recommends that everyone over 18 years old who received a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine receive a COVID-19 booster shot 6 months after they are fully vaccinated.



December 27, 2021

The CDC shortens the recommended times that people should isolate when they've tested positive for COVID-19 from 10 days to five days if they don't have symptoms — and if they wear a mask around others for at least five more days.

January 31, 2022

The FDA grants full approval to Moderna's Covid-19 vaccine for those ages 18 and older.

February 25, 2022

CDC changes guidelines for masking in schools

May 17, 2022

The FDA authorizes a booster dose of Pfizer/BioNTech's Covid-19 vaccine for children ages 5 to 11 at least five months after completion of the primary vaccine series. On May 19, the CDC also endorsed a booster dose for the same age group.

June 20, 2022

CDC approval of COVID-19 vaccines for children as young as 6 months.

August 3, 2022

Time Magazine published: *This is the Phase of the Pandemic Where Life Returns To Normal*

February 28, 2020

RSSAA emailed the school community alerting them that the school was monitoring the Covid-19 situation and continuing as normal for the time being. In preparation for possible school closings, discussions with faculty and staff began

March 4, 2020

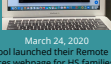
RSSAA started looking at Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA) discussion group for COVID-19 emergency plans and continued to look at key questions for consideration for the school including leadership and action steps, health and safety, financial and legal, program and pedagogical, events and trips, and decision making delineation. COVID-19 Task Force schedules weekly, ongoing meetings and a Covid-19 webpage was created to post general information and updates.

March 12, 2020

The school set up middle and high school students on the StudentSquare app platform to allow for teacher/student communications. The school set up a Zoom account and started training faculty and staff on the program. Teachers started considering remote lesson plans and strategies including pre-recorded science experiments hosted on YouTube.

March 16, 2020

Just four days after Michigan school closures were announced, RSSAA transitioned to online classes for Grades 1-12.



March 24, 2020

The school launched their Remote Learning Resources webpage for HS families. It was maintained daily with updated info about assignments to help keep students on track and parents informed

April 29, 2020

RSSAA launched its Community Connector program to help our community support small businesses owned by school families.

May 4, 2020

RSSAA joined the AWSNA *Run! Skip! Dance! Across the Continents* initiative to encourage movement and community.

May 30, 2020

Virtual Graduation Ceremony for Class of 2020

June 4, 2020

Virtual Grade 8 Honors Evening

June 15-17, 2020

The school held multiple virtual Town Hall events to involve the entire community in planning health & safety and curriculum & instruction protocols for the 2020-21 school year.

Summer 2020

With both employee and family input, our staff worked non-stop to develop a Covid-19 Plan to manage processes around remote learning, returning to school, testing and quarantining. The Flexible Classroom Link Program was developed to allow families to choose in-person, remote or homeschooling depending on grade level and school-opening status. The Learning Management System (LMS) training was set up and implemented to assist teachers with organizing remote classes.

Our Community Compact to reinforce the idea of continued community, support and understanding was written and shared with community. July and August Town Hall events kept the community in-the know.

August 24, 2020

The school announced a mandatory morning health screening for employees and all students attending school in person.

August 26, 2020

High School resumed in-person teaching with masking, distancing, grade-level pods, and support for our optional Flexible Link remote learning.

August 31, 2020

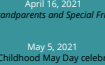
Early Childhood and Grades 1-8 resumed in-person teaching with masking, distancing, grade-level pods, and support for our optional Flexible Link remote learning. Grades 7 and 8 relocated to the high school campus to allow for the space needed for pod separations of Grades 1-6.

September 1, 2020

Athletics department announced that outdoor, low-risk sports like cross country would resume.

October 30, 2020

RSSAA shared its "Continuing at School" plan with updates to masking, distancing, pods and remote learning based on the most recent State of Michigan guidelines and our experiences to date.

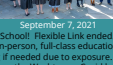


December 4, 2020

Monthly virtual Coffee Hours and Craft Mornings introduced to encourage continued community engagement and socializing.

December 12, 2020

Our beloved annual Winter Festival happens virtually with a collection of puppet plays, stories, gnome calisthenics, a raffle, and a magic show!

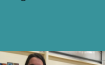


February 26, 2021

The Annual Fund drive closed with close to \$175,000 as families dig deep to support the pandemic and each other through the pandemic.

March 5, 2021

RSSAA announced "Moving Towards More Normal School" plan to school community.



April 16, 2021

Virtual Grandparents and Special Friends Day!

May 5, 2021

Early Childhood May Day celebration.

May 14, 2021

Grade 5 Pentathlon for RSSAA students only.

June 1, 2021

Grade 8 Honors Evening held as a live, outdoor event.

June 2, 2021

Grade 8 departed for the annual Northwaters Trip.

June 4, 2021

Grade 9 departed for annual Farm Trip.

June 5, 2021

Graduation was held as a live event with streaming option.

June 7, 2021

Grade 10 departed for annual Survey Trip.



September 7, 2021

First Day of School! Flexible Link ended. All students returned to in-person, full-class education with classes quarantining if needed due to exposure. Masking was optional when the Washtenaw Covid level (updated weekly) was low or medium and required when the Washtenaw Covid level was high.

December 11, 2021

We brought our community together for our second virtual Winter Festival, again offering a program of entertainment, an online craft and a raffle.

January - May, 2022

RSSAA maintained high levels of in-person experiences including daily classes, trips, community activities like Coffee Hour, some sports, and festivals through diligent testing and the support of school families with masking and social distancing.

April-June, 2022

The successful return to in-person, community-wide events including, Pentathlon, May Day, Honors Evening, Graduation, plays and musical performances. Many were held outside but were open to the school community and extended family and friends.

2022-23 School Year

RSSAA returned to all regular classes and events with an optional masking policy across the school and ongoing support for individual and family choices. This was the beginning of treating COVID-19 as a conventional contagious illness.