

# FCPS Return to School Fall 2020



## TJHSST Frequently Asked Questions



This document has been created in response to FAQs from the TJ community. It will be updated regularly and is aligned with concepts first presented in the [video message](#) from Dr. Bonitatibus presented June 30, 2020. The intent of these FAQs is to be responsive to the TJ community and we will not duplicate questions and answers provided already by FCPS. Please continue to reference the [FCPS Return to School FAQs](#) which will be updated regularly.

Thank you for understanding that until data is collected following the family and teacher surveys due July 10, most responses to questions are conditional and subject to approval from FCPS, not to mention subject to health guidelines issued by the CDC and local health department.

We appreciate your support and understanding that we will do our very best to keep our TJ family safe and intact, while delivering a continued program of excellence whether face-to-face or online. The instructional model will be less than perfect and not all requests will be met. There will be compromises, we will have to pair pains with gains, and we will be realistic without over promising.

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## What is the Bell Schedule Proposed by FCPS?

# Adjusted Bell Schedules

- Eliminates the need for additional buses and drivers
- Ensures time for social distancing measures, loading/unloading on school campus, appropriate PPE for student riders and required bus cleaning protocols
- Availability of academy and mid-day shuttles will likely be impacted due to adjusted bell times and driver availability

<u>Current Schedules</u>	<u>Proposed Schedules</u>
MS 7:30-2:15	MS 7:15-2:00
SS 8:00-2:45	SS 8:10-2:55
HS 8:10-2:55	HS 8:10-2:55
TJ 8:40-4:00	TJ 8:10-3:30
ES 8:30-3:15	ES 9:10-3:55
ES 9:20-4:05	ES 10:05-4:50



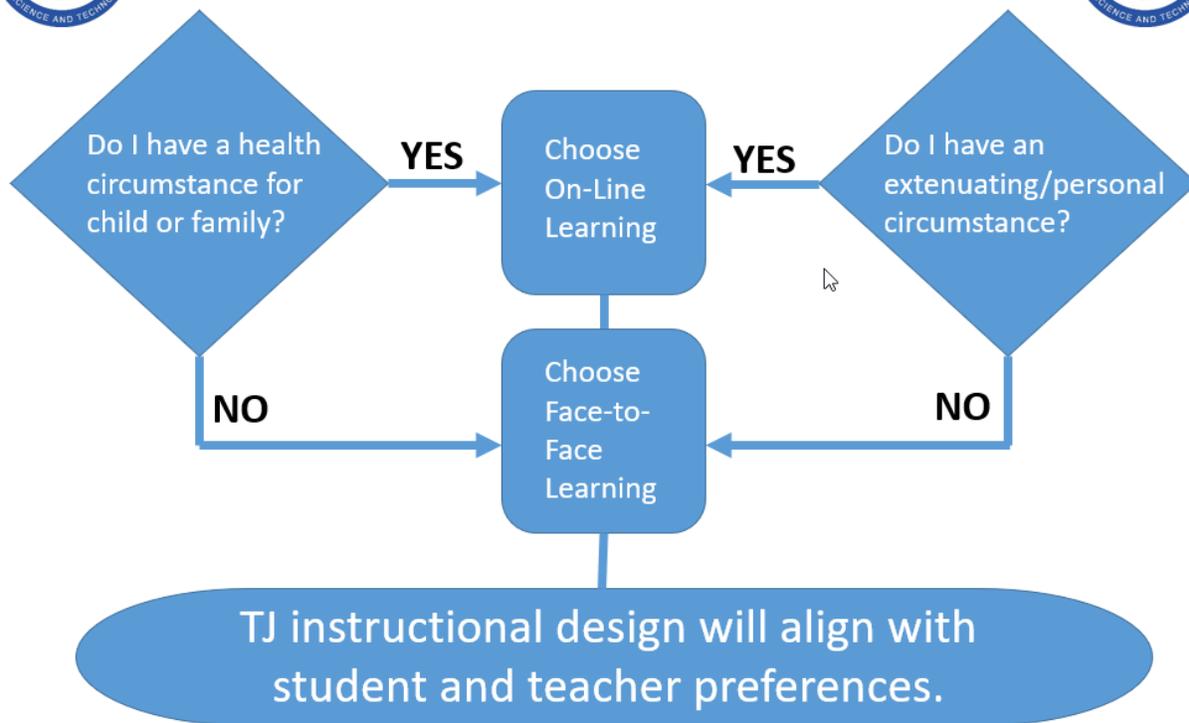
- Note: families will be encouraged, whenever possible, to utilize non-school bus transportation methods

Per School Board Meeting 6/23/20

How should I make my decision about choosing online or in person?



## Decision-Making Model



## Enrollment

1. **What should I base my decision on?**  
*See decision-making model.*
2. **Will TJ let us come back halfway through the year if we choose the home option in the fall?**  
*No, per FCPS.*
3. **Can I temporarily withdraw from TJ for a year and come back?**  
*No, per FCPS [Regulation 3355](#).*
4. **Will a non-FCPS jurisdiction support the FCPS plan and new TJ schedule?**  
*Unknown. We are working with all the other school districts that support TJ.*

## Curriculum Standards

**1. What is the difference between online courses versus online learning?**

*Think of take-out meals. Some meals can be packages and consumed as fast food with little difference between the restaurant and home experience. This is an online course. It is designed and packaged to be consumed as an online course. Some restaurant meals are specially plated, have ambience and need to be enjoyed at the restaurant- you can't replicate the same experience at home. This is online learning. The substance is the same but it will have a different experience because the course was designed to be delivered in person and we are trying to take it home in an online environment.*

**2. Will TJ have the same courses available in online and face-to-face?**

*Unknown- dependent on student and staff preferences.*

**3. Will there be a difference in standards between online learning and face-to-face delivery?**

*No. The standards- the learner objectives, skills and outcomes, remain the same. The WHAT is the same. The HOW will differ. We don't cover content; we uncover learning.*

**4. Will there be the same breadth and depth?**

*No. We are not merely covering content. We are uncovering learning. Therefore, we will have to narrow the breadth and go more in depth with fewer topics. Same standards and skills will be learned.*

**5. Will AP classes be online?**

*Unknown at this time and dependent on choices students and teachers make for online and in-person options. Because many TJ classes are AP, we anticipate some may be accessed online. Some might have to be accessed via FCPS Online Campus and some might be with other schools/teachers. To the greatest degree possible we will try to accommodate.*

**6. Will labs be the same in person or online?**

*Unknown at this time dependent on choices students and teachers make for online and in-person options. Many virtual labs have been researched by teachers and provide reasonable alternatives. Traditional in-person labs may need to be modified to be mindful of high-touch and cleanliness. We do not yet know which labs will run or in which environment.*

## Curriculum Implementation

- 1. Will face-to-face occur at the same time as online learning?**  
*Yes, but we do not know if the exact same course will run at the same time face-to-face and online. Dependent on student and faculty decisions for in-person or online learning.*
- 2. Can online learning take place on campus at TJ?**  
*Yes, but this would be the exception, not the norm, to accommodate a group of students with the assumption the bulk of classes are face-to-face and there might need to be a class accessed online because the teacher is at home, so in essence, it is “face-to-face” virtually through a creatively arranged use of time and space.*
- 3. Can a student choose to take some classes in person and some online?**  
*No. Per FCPS, a family must choose in person or online and this is a binding decision.*
- 4. What happens if school can return to normal operations and allows everyone come back and I want my child to stay home. Will the curriculum be the same?**  
*Yes- standards remain the same. Scope and sequence may differ.*
- 5. What about 8<sup>th</sup> period and after school clubs and activities?**  
*Dependent on student and faculty decisions for in-person or online learning. Yes, we plan to run 8<sup>th</sup> period clubs to the degree possible- their activities may feel different. No decisions yet on athletics, marching band, drama, and other activities that traditionally take place after school.*
- 6. Will in-person learning include band and other electives?**  
*Yes, but health and social distancing prevail. Instrumentalists may need to be separated due to air-borne droplets and saliva. No clear word yet on maintaining cleanliness. Other electives like art may also see adjustments due to high contact with materials.*
- 7. Will all electives and specialty courses be available in both options?**  
*Dependent on student and faculty decisions for in-person or online learning. Some compromises might be necessary.*
- 8. Will all the teachers be TJ teachers?**  
*Most likely but not guaranteed.*
- 9. Will TJ students be grouped with students from other schools?**  
*Dependent on student and faculty decisions for in-person or online learning. More likely than not, TJ students will be with TJ students but not guaranteed.*

## Operations

- 1. Will more TJ parking passes be given so students can drive?**  
*Yes, but conditional, based on number of available spaces and prioritized by seniors, juniors, then sophomores.*
- 2. Will TJ enforce health protocols like masks and social distancing?**  
*Yes! Whichever protocols are in place, all teachers and students must follow them. Choosing to return to school in person automatically means you are agreeing to follow all protocols. There will not be a choice.*
- 3. Will TJ students still be able to eat where they want?**  
*No. We will designate eating areas and protocols for safety and cleanliness.*
- 4. Can you give a report before July 10 about the number of teachers, who they are, and who will be in person or online?**  
*No. Base your decision on health and personal circumstance, not on speculation about teachers, courses and program design.*
- 5. Can you give a report before July 10 about numbers of students, which grades and courses, etc. who will be in person or online?**  
*No. Base your decision on health and personal circumstance, not on speculation about teachers, courses and program design.*