Below are some of the most frequently asked questions and answers related to our plans:

1. How will the 2020-21 school year begin?
The Edgewood High School schedule is on a six-day cycle. We will begin with online orientation and connection days on Monday, August 24 and Tuesday, August 25. Our virtual learning instruction will begin on Wednesday, August 26.

2. What are the school health metrics used to determine when to pivot learning models?
Public Health Madison Dane County has defined school metrics to guide decisions for in-person instruction. In order to consider re-opening grades 6-12 for in-person instruction, Dane County must sustain at or below a 14-day average of 19 cases per day for four consecutive weeks.

3. If you choose the Optional Virtual Learning Model when the school year begins, can you switch to the In-Person Learning Model at any time?
No, due to social distancing requirements and building capacity of students per classroom, you may not transition back to the In-Person Learning Model until second semester begins. We ask that you make a commitment for the entire first semester.

4. If we need it, can we use an all virtual learning option?
Yes, if PHMDC allows us to open in-person, we will still provide a virtual option for those whose family situations require it.

5. What does the all-school virtual plan look like?
Our staff and faculty have been working all summer to revise our virtual instruction model, based on feedback from parents and students in the spring. We will follow the six-day student class cycle. Please visit our website to watch our video with a detailed description of our plan, from one of the summer planners, Natalie Koblenski, English Department Chair.

6. Can you explain the learning models?
Our 3 Learning Models are: All School Virtual Learning, In-Person (every-other-day) Learning, & Optional Virtual Learning. Please visit our website for detailed information on our learning models at: https://www.edgewoodhs.org/covid-19_update

7. To clarify the Virtual / In-Person Learning video details, when are teachers meeting with their students?
If a class meets 6 days/cycle
- 4-5 days synchronous learning (teachers’ choice)
- 1-2 asynchronous days during scheduled class time (teachers’ choice)
- No off mods
If a class meets 5 days/cycle
- 3 days synchronous learning
- 2 asynchronous days during scheduled class time
- 1 off mod
If a class meets 3 days/cycle
- 2-3 days synchronous learning (teachers’ choice)
- 0-1 days asynchronous days during scheduled class time (teachers’ choice)
- 3 off mods

8. What does “close contact of someone with Covid-19” mean?
Dane County states that if you have had physical contact or have been within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more with someone.

9. Will visitors be allowed inside Edgewood High School?
Non-essential visitors will not be allowed inside the school building. Parents picking up children will remain outside.
10. Will there be a tuition adjustment for less than full time in-person school?
Tuition funds our faculty and staff salaries. If anything, our faculty and staff are working even more hours to prepare to teach in two different models of instruction. A tuition reduction is not viable as we are not reducing staffing.

11. What resources does the school nurse utilize to have the most current health and safety information?
We appreciate offers of support from the vast array of medical professionals in the EHS community. Our school nurse, Sue Richards, meets regularly with physicians, the school nursing association, and the state nursing association. School health and safety templates have been developed and underlie Sue’s work.

12. What is the protocol for students who are sent to the nurse with a fever or other COVID-19 symptoms?
A safe room and separate exit space will be identified for anyone who comes down with symptoms during the day.

13. How will food services be provided for students and staff?
Lunch will be offered as pre-packaged meals and must be paid for using an EHS swipe-card. No cash will be accepted. The lunchroom will be marked to meet requirements with seating limited to 4 per table with plexiglass dividers being used.

14. What is being done to ensure a safe and disinfected facility?
Members of the Board of Trustees’ Facilities Committee are continuing to work with our EHS staff on health and safety precautions throughout our building, including air filtration, hand sanitizing stations, facility disinfecting with EPA registered products, signage and arrows for traffic patterns and directional flow and space arrangements for proper social distancing.

15. What will the athletic program look like in the fall?
Our plan is to begin low risk contact athletics on August 24th, with higher contact athletic programs being delayed until September 7th. EHS will continue to follow the guidance of the WIAA, the individual conferences, and the local health department for all matters related to Crusader Athletics. EHS plans to stream all on-campus varsity sports events.

16. Will my child be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities if s/he is attending school exclusively online?
For students who are attending exclusively remotely, participation in extracurricular activities will be allowed along with athletics as well as skill development/strength training may also be exclusively remote. Opportunities will vary based on the sport, club, or activity.

17. What is EHS providing for mental health support to both students and families?
Student Services is more committed than ever to reaching out and providing individual support to each one of our students and their families, offering a wide range of opportunities for wellness and counseling to meet specific and personalized needs.

18. Will students have additional time outdoors during the school day?
Students will be assigned to supervised locations at all times -- no indoor off mods -- with social distancing in place. Outside options will be provided for students during off mods -- with opportunities for mindfulness while socially distancing.

19. What technology upgrades have been made over the summer to enhance the virtual learning model?
New web cameras and microphones have been installed in every classroom to provide synchronous and recorded instruction. Internet and software upgrades have been purchased to ensure strong connections and successful streamline instruction.

20. Will Edgewood continue to give letter grades or switch to pass/fail?
Edgewood High School will continue to give traditional letter grades, not switch to pass/fail grading.