

# Update on School Opening 2020-21

School Committee Presentation  
July 16, 2020

# Agenda

- Reminder of the process, May-June
- Feedback from families in June survey
- Work completed in mid-June → mid-July
- Current work
- Questions from the public for this meeting
- Timelines + next steps

# Process so far, May-June

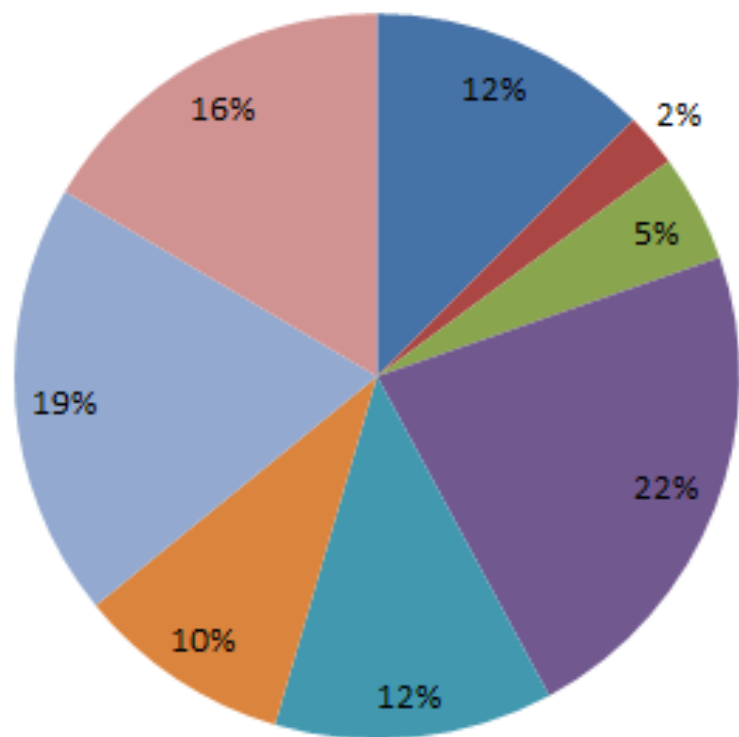
- Meetings with a group of 43 educators to brainstorm preliminary ideas
  - See [May 26 Presentation to School Committee](#)
- Created draft plans for full, hybrid, and remote opening
  - See [June 9 Presentation to School Committee](#)
- Surveyed families on draft plans and shared multiple choice responses at [June 29 School Committee meeting](#)

# Feedback from families, June survey

- We received more than 2,000 comments in the open response portions of the survey
- 1,377 of the 2,119 comments fell into these eight categories

Health and safety protocols	Facilities and cleaning	Social & emotional well-being	Synchronous and non-screen learning
Academics and feedback on learning	Technology	Schedule	Communication

- The following slides include analysis of the data



- health and safety protocols
- facilities and cleaning
- social and emotional well-being
- synchronous and non-screen instruction
- academics and feedback on learning
- technology
- schedule
- communication

# What do the comments express?

**Instruction** → strong support for synchronous, live, scheduled instruction with teachers in remote learning as well as opportunities for non-screen learning

**Schedule** → concerns for how to manage parent's work schedule with child's school if remote or hybrid; questions about out of school time care; feedback on the versions of a hybrid schedule (AM/PM, alternating days, alternating weeks)-- see next slide for data; requests for siblings to attend together; and wondering if school year or school day schedule will be changed

**Communication** → desire to know when reopening plans will be finalized; questions about how plans will be rolled out; praise and support for the work to plan for September; as well as criticism for remote learning from March to June

# What do the comments express?

**Health and safety protocols** → comments and questions about masks, distancing, handwashing, hand sanitizer, protocols when someone gets sick

**Academics and feedback on learning** → requests for addressing missed curriculum from previous year for all students; for extra support for students who struggled to learn (students on IEPs, English learners); and regular feedback for students and families on work that is submitted and overall progress on learning goals

# What do the comments express?

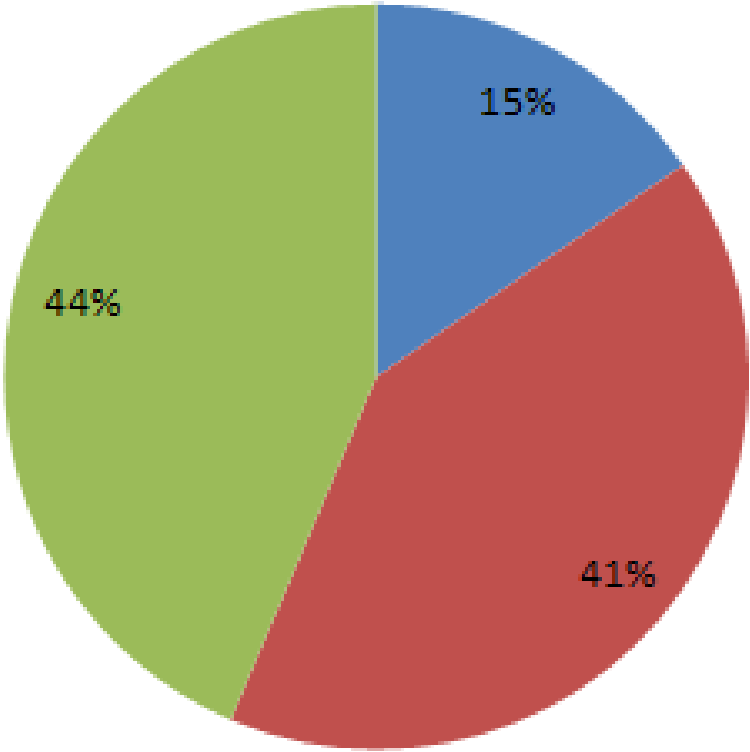
**Technology** → issues with technology; thanks for the support with devices; suggestions on platforms, apps, software; concerns about online learning for youngest students; and requests for central hub for online learning

**Social and emotional well-being** → support for helping students transition back to school and focus on building relationships, class community and culture

**Facilities and cleaning** → comments and questions about ventilation, windows, bathrooms, extra cleaning with fogging machines

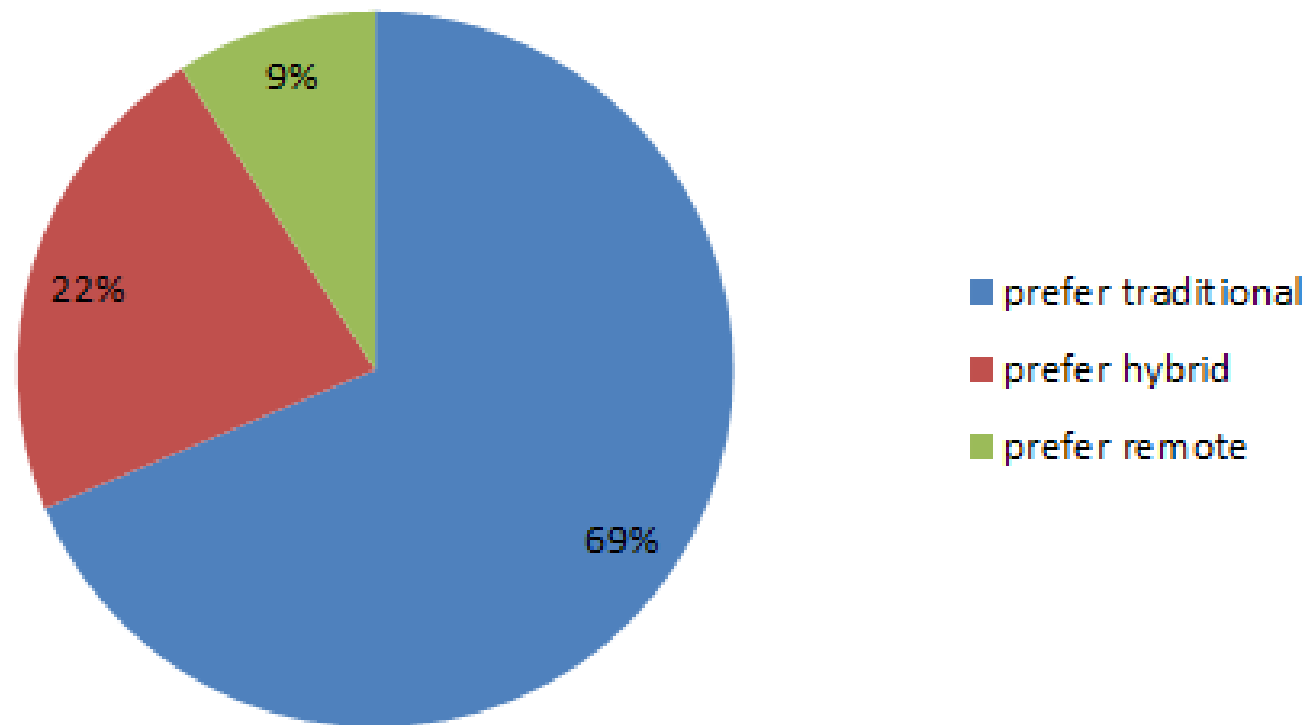


# Comments on Hybrid Options



- Prefer Half Day Schedule [AM/PM]
- Prefer Alternating Day Schedule
- Prefer Alternating Week Schedule

# Comments on Traditional, Hybrid, or Remote



# Work completed mid-June to mid-July

- DESE released [state guidance](#) on June 25 that included a new option: 3-ft. physically distanced full opening
- Feasibility study/pressure test completed by principals and Leadership Council
  - Results due to DESE by July 31
- Now creating plans for hybrid and remote options
  - Submission due to DESE by August 10
- We created a schedule and template to organize the work with district leaders, educators, and the BEA

# Current Work

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	13 BHS_Faculty meeting @ 11:00am	14 CMS Faculty meeting @ 9:00am  Principals' Meeting @ 11:30am  Elementary faculty meetings (building-based) @ 2:00pm	15 Elementary Planning meeting @ 9:00am (for LC members)  BHS & CMS ILT meeting  JP-IS meeting @ 2:00pm (any JLM members welcome to attend)  <i>Steps 1 &amp; 2 due</i>	16	17
Week 2	20 BHS Faculty meeting @ 11:00am	21 CMS Faculty meeting @ 9:00am  Principals' Meeting @ 11:30am	22 Elementary Planning meeting @ 9:00am (includes teachers & LC members)  BHS & CMS ILT meeting  D-JLM meeting @ 2:00pm	23	24 <i>Step 3 due</i>
Week 3	27 BHS Faculty meeting @ 11:00am	28 Principals' Meeting @ 11:30am	29 Elementary Planning meeting @ 9:00am (for LC members)  BHS & CMS ILT meeting  JP-IS meeting @ 2:00pm (any JLM members welcome to attend)	30	31 <i>Step 4 due</i>

**KEY:**

BEA input opportunities

Educator input opportunities

LC input opportunities

Principals' input opportunities

# Current Work

## 4-Step Planning for 2020-2021: Overview

### Step 1: Articulate *full* opening

- Master schedule
- Class/team placement
- Individual sections/classes

### Step 2: Articulate *full* opening (within Commissioner's 'initial return-to-school guidance')

- Analyze problems, solutions, admitted limitations, and needs

### Step 3: Articulate *hybrid* opening (within Commissioner's 'initial return-to-school guidance')

- Analyze problems, solutions, admitted limitations, and needs

### Step 4: Articulate *remote* opening (within Commissioner's 'initial return-to-school guidance')

- Analyze problems, solutions, admitted limitations, and needs

# Current Work

- Finalize details of hybrid and remote learning plans
- Survey families on their students' return to school
- Develop health protocols
- Prepare facilities for opening
- Distribute devices to all students
- Continue technology professional development and support for families (tutorials, central hub)
- Receive and prepare PPE for teachers and staff
- Determine opening day for students

# Questions from the public

- Will siblings be in the same grouping in the hybrid model?
  - What about other groups, like friends or neighbors?
- What happens to students of families who have health issues that keep them from returning to school in-person?
- How will you manage with teachers who have health concerns that put them at high risk?
- How will remote learning be improved in the fall and what are you doing to prepare for that?
- How will you support students' social and emotional well-being, especially those transitioning to a new school (grade 5, grade 9) or those new to the district?

# Questions from the public

- How will you support students with high needs?
  - Students with IEPs?
  - Students who are English learners?
- Will you have classes outdoors when weather permits?
- Will you have tents or rent spaces in other buildings?
- How will you manage physical distancing and mask wearing, especially for younger learners?
- What will trigger a need to switch to remote learning?
- How can community volunteers help with the implementation process?



# Next steps

- Awaiting further guidance from DESE on
  - Transportation
  - Additional funding
  - Athletics and extra-curriculars
- August School Committee meeting and community forum with finalized plans for reopening
- Survey families on their students' plans to return