



Return to In-Person Learning Working Group Update

School Committee | March 23, 2021



Agenda

- Updated CDC Guidance
- Update on work to implement K-4 recommendations
- Grade 5 and Grade 6-8 recommendations
- Next steps for the Working Group



Updated CDC Guidance

- Decreased physical distancing recommendations for *students* in classrooms to 3'+
- Adults should still remain 6'+ distanced from each other and from students
- Students should still remain 6'+ distanced from each other while eating (unmasked), during activities with increased exhalation (e.g., singing), and in common areas (e.g., lobby)
- Removed recommendation for physical barriers

Source: Center for Disease Control. (2021). [CDC's Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Mitigation.](#)



Update on Implementation of Elementary Plans

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Elementary Updates

- K-4 Progress and Implementation Updates
- Results of Family Surveys

K-4 Progress & Implementation Updates

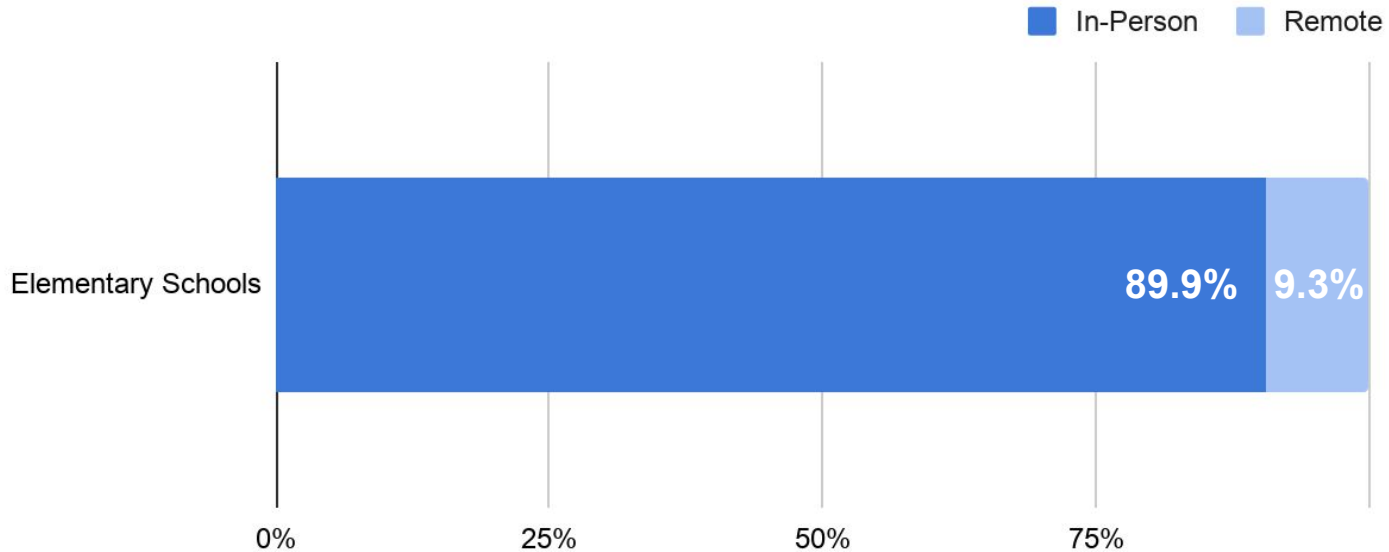


- Addressing concerns
 - Supporting quarantined in-person students
 - Special populations
 - Needs of remote learners
 - Prioritize existing BPS staff to serve remote learners
 - Provide support for remote teachers
- Implementation & next steps
 - Tents, tables, chairs ordered
 - Lunch spaces being setup
 - Schedules
 - Class assignments in progress
 - Continuous cycles of planning & implementing
 - Teacher assignments decided and communicated (3/23)
 - Student class roster to be determined and communicated by 3/29



K-4: Enrollment Data by Instructional Model

Spring 2021 Full Return Instructional Mode Selections (K-4)





K-4: Enrollment Data by Instructional Model by School

| Elementary School | In-Person Students | Remote Students |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Burbank | 89% | 11% |
| Butler | 92% | 8% |
| Wellington | 91% | 8% |
| Winn Brook | 89% | 11% |



K-4: Enrollment Data by Instructional Model for Subgroups

| District-Wide | In-Person Students | Remote Students |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| All Students | 90% | 9% |
| Students with an IEP | 91% | 9% |
| Students who are English Learners | 87% | 13% |
| Students in the METCO program | 91% | 9% |



K-4: Enrollment Data by Instructional Model by Race/Ethnicity

(for race/ethnicity data where $n > 20$)

| District-Wide | In-Person Students | Remote Students |
|---------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| All Students | 90% | 9% |
| Asian | 83% | 17% |
| Black or African American | 90% | 10% |
| Hispanic or Latino: White | 84% | 16% |
| White | 94% | 6% |
| White and Asian | 91% | 9% |
| White and Black | 90% | 10% |



K-4 Progress & Implementation Updates

Possibilities for remote-only classes (based on number of remote students per grade level and school):

School-specific
remote classes

Partnering 2 schools to
form remote classes

District-wide
remote classes

K-4 In-Person/Remote Selections (as of 3/19):

| | Burbank | | | Butler | | | Wellington | | | WinnBrook | | | All Schools | | |
|----|-----------|--------|-------------|-----------|--------|-------------|------------|--------|-------------|-----------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------|-------------|
| | In Person | Remote | No response | In Person | Remote | No response | In Person | Remote | No response | In person | Remote | No response | In person | Remote | No response |
| KF | 50 | 6 | 0 | 51 | 4 | 0 | 68 | 8 | 0 | 67 | 1 | 0 | 236 | 19 | 0 |
| 1 | 68 | 8 | 0 | 62 | 3 | 0 | 96 | 11 | 0 | 76 | 14 | 0 | 302 | 36 | 0 |
| 2 | 79 | 7 | 0 | 56 | 7 | 0 | 90 | 9 | 0 | 76 | 10 | 0 | 301 | 33 | 0 |
| 3 | 65 | 9 | 0 | 55 | 9 | 1 | 102 | 10 | 1 | 89 | 2 | 1 | 311 | 30 | 3 |
| 4 | 72 | 10 | 1 | 77 | 3 | 0 | 111 | 5 | 1 | 71 | 18 | 0 | 331 | 36 | 2 |



Recommendations for CMS

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Middle School Progress & Implementation Updates

- Two WG meetings focused on needs of CMS
- Hours spent by school leadership to operationalize recommendations
- Faculty meeting to discuss emerging WG recommendations
- Survey released this past week (due Tues., Mar. 23rd at noon)
- MS Family Forum held: Mon., Mar. 22nd from 6:30-8:00pm
- Presentation to School Committee: Tues., Mar. 23rd



Why We Need the Data First?

Significant challenges that require firm enrollments in order to finalize and operationalize:

- **Lunch:** 5-7 lunch periods (that could run from 9:30am - 1:30pm?) and would occur in 4-6 large spaces (cafe, gyms, 4 tents)
- **Schedule:** Design schedule with needed number of lunch periods.
- **Spaces for large classes:** Determine specific locations for large ENCORE classes when can't go outside (e.g., PE, music, etc.) without conflicting with lunch locations
- **Class-by-class capacity analysis:** Some online-only classes in hybrid model are too large for in-person return
- **Remote learning:** Can better plan for the needs of remote-only learners with firm data.

To operationalize these recommendations at the Chenery is not an easy task. 5% fluctuations in in-person enrollment changes *many* variables.



Summary: Recommendations for 5-8 Full Return

- Bring all grades 5-8 students back to full-in person school by April 28, 2021 in accordance with DESE requirements in a model that will:
 - Have students in school 5 days/week with the same timing as our pre-Covid school schedule;
 - Offer academics, ENCORE, and lunch as part of the school day;
 - Include specialized instruction for students with disabilities and students who are English learners;
 - Provide bus transportation in accordance with DESE guidance;
 - Implement classroom capacity, individual distancing, and quarantining requirements from CDC and DESE guidance; and
- Offer a remote learning option for grades 5-8 students that includes academics, specials, and specialized instruction; and
- Eliminate the hybrid school option for grades 5-8 students.



Recommendations for 5-8 Full In-Person Model

- Hours and structure of school day
- Transportation to school
- Classroom distancing and capacity
- ENCORE classes
- Specialized Instruction
- Lunch
- Transportation home



Hours & Structure

- Middle School Hours:
 - M/Tu/Th/F — 7:45 a.m. - 2:25 p.m. | W — 7:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
- Start dates:
 - Grade 5 - Hopeful start: April 14, 2021
 - Grades 6-8 - No later than April 28, 2021
- In-person instruction: All content areas will be taught
- ENCORE classes: Will be offered
- Lunch: Will occur on-site

More information on each of these items provided later in this presentation.



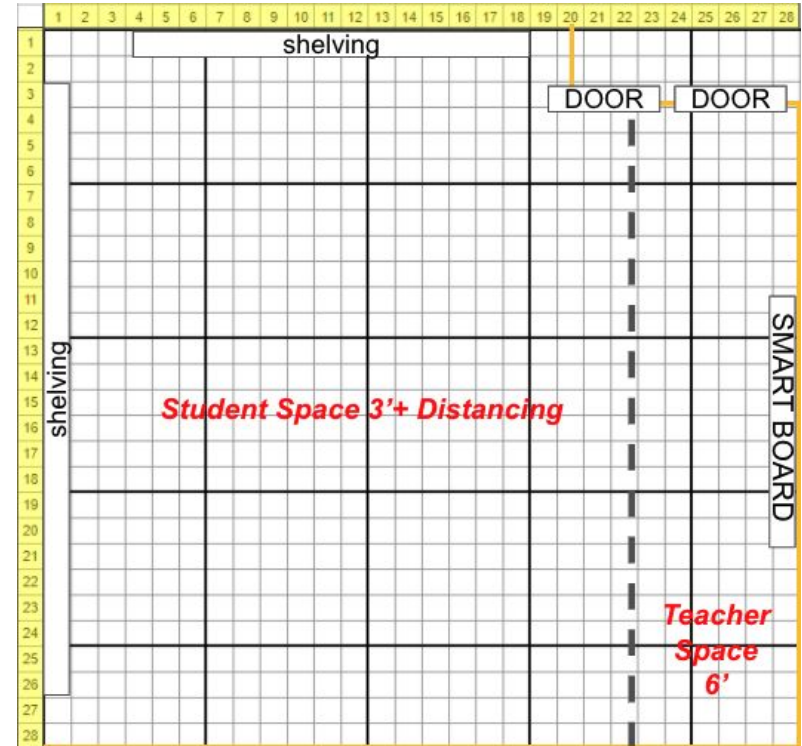
Transportation to School

- Bus capacity: Up to full capacity (consistent with DESE Transportation Guidance)
 - Aspirational: 2 students per bench
- All windows open at all times (at least 2 inches)
- All students must wear masks at all times.
- All students will be assigned to a specific seat.
- Goal: Hire bus monitors for all middle school buses.
 - **Note:** Often difficult to fill these positions.
- Parents are encouraged to provide alternative transportation options for students (family-provided transportation, walking, biking, “walking buses,” etc.).



Classroom: Physical Distancing and Capacity

- General classroom setup:
 - 6' reserved space for teachers
 - 3'+ distancing for students

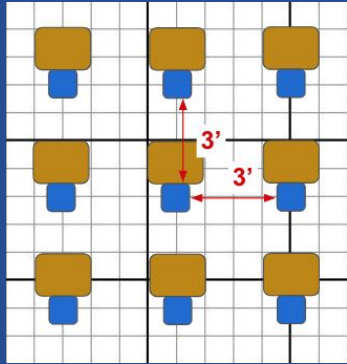




Masked Spectrum of Distancing (per 3/9 DESE Guidance)

MINIMUM DISTANCING

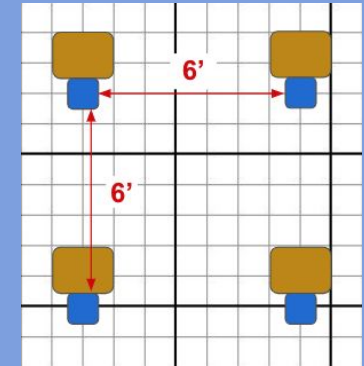
3 feet
edge of chair
to
edge of chair



...Additional expanded distancing options...

Physical distancing in most middle school classrooms will fall somewhere in this range and will depend on number of in-person students.

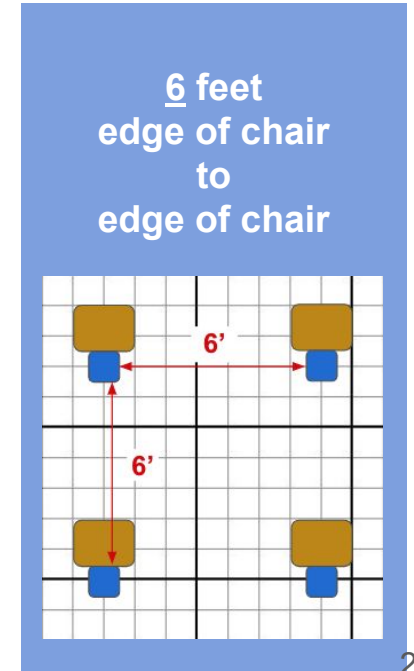
6 feet
edge of chair
to
edge of chair





Unmasked Spectrum of Distancing (per 3/9 DESE Guidance)

- Lunch
- Mask breaks





Unmasking for Lunch and Mask Breaks

6'+ distancing is required for:

- Lunch
 - Cafe, gym, outdoor tents (4)
 - Multiple lunch rotation/schedule
 - 6 ft. distanced seats
 - Hire lunch aides for supervision (volunteers?)
 - Purchase tables, chairs, tents
 - No talking while unmasked
 - Lunch seating has been modeled with both square & hexagonal arrangements
- Mask breaks



ENCORE

- All middle school students will have access to grade-level specials in PE, Art, Music, Health, Engineering, Foreign Language, Non-Fiction Studies, 21st Century Skills, etc.
- In-person students will remain grouped **on teams** for core classes (except gr. 7-8 Math), PE, Art, Health, and Engineering.
- In-person students will remain grouped **off teams** for Music, Foreign Language, Non-Fiction Studies, 21st Century Skills, and grades 7-8 Math.
- When feasible, hold certain ENCORE classes in outdoor spaces especially when singing in music.
 - When outdoors is not feasible, each class must have a specific, assigned location.
 - Consider specific location for music when singing (e.g., outside, gym) to accommodate masked 10'+ distancing when singing (per updated DESE guidance)



Specialized Instruction

- Specialized instruction (e.g., services for students with disabilities, English learners) will occur for in-person and remote students
- New schedule will be developed to provide specialized instruction through pull-out methods (often previously provided on at-home days in hybrid model) and push-in methods



Recommendations for 5-8 Remote Learners

- Middle school hours will be the same as for in-person students
- ENCORE classes offered for all grades
- Specialized instruction: New schedule will be developed
- Recommending live stream as baseline model for all grades. We will consider all remote program for grade 5 if data provides that option



Next Steps: WG to discuss BHS

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High School Progress

- HS team has been reviewing the Working Groups recommendations for grades K-4 and grades 5-8
- HS In-Person Return Date: *Coming soon!*
- Principal Taylor will present outstanding challenges to the Working Group for problem-solving and recommendation beginning March 29.