School Reopening
Health & Safety Plan

Recommendation
to the
Receiver

Tuesday, July 28, 2020

Carol D. Birks, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Ronald A. Simonson, M.Ed.
Pandemic and School Safety and Security Coordinator
• Welcome/Greetings
• Purpose of the Presentation
• Charge from the State
• Educational Options
• Decision-Making Guidance
• Highlights of Survey Results
• Preferred Reopening Model
• Recommendation for Educational Option
• Communications Plan
Purpose of the Presentation

• Present Charge from the State
• Share educational options presented by Pennsylvania Department of Education
• Provide overview of Decision-Making Guidance
• Share survey highlights from stakeholders
• Discuss preferred reopening model
• Provide recommendation for Educational Option
• Communications Plan/Next Steps
• On June 3, 2020, the Pennsylvania Department of Education requested that all school districts create a Health and Safety Plan.

• Each district in the state of Pennsylvania, including Chester Upland School District, is expected to develop this plan in collaboration with community stakeholders to reopen schools in the Fall.
Educational Options

- Total Reopen for all Students and Staff
- Scaffolded Reopening: Some Students Engaged in In-Person Learning while Others are Distance Learning
- Blended Reopening: Balances In-Person Learning and Remote Learning for all Students
- Total Remote Learning for all Students
Decision-Making Guidance

Chester Upland School District’s Commitment to Public Health and Well-Being

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)/World Health Organization

Pennsylvania Department of Health/Chester County Health Department

Pennsylvania Department of Education/Superintendent’s Pandemic School Reopening Task Force (PSRT)

Surveys: Families and Faculty & Staff

Community Forums and Town Hall Meetings for Families / Faculty and Staff
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Type</th>
<th>Family Participants</th>
<th>Faculty/Staff Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>172</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>93</td>
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## Stakeholder Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder Engagement</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pandemic School Reopening Task Force</td>
<td>Weekly-Commencing June 26, 2020</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workgroups</td>
<td>Weekly-Commencing July 7, 2020</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Forum I</td>
<td>July 22, 2020</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Forum II</td>
<td>July 23, 2020</td>
<td>162</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Hall Meeting I</td>
<td>July 24, 2020</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Hall Meeting II</td>
<td>July 24, 2020</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preferred Reopening Model

- **Families Survey**
  - Total reopen for all students and staff: 46.3%
  - Scaffolded reopening: 15.3%
  - Blended reopening: 30.9%
  - Total remote learning for all students: 7.5%

- **Faculty/Staff Survey**
  - Total reopen for all students and staff: 34.2%
  - Scaffolded reopening: 10.3%
  - Blended reopening: 48.6%
  - Total remote learning for all students: 7%
During the fall of the 2020-2021 academic year, it is my recommendation that the District initiates a robust remote learning/virtual learning program until further notice.

- The remote learning/virtual learning program will contain both synchronous and asynchronous learning at all levels in the District.
- Face-to-face instruction and regularly scheduled meetings of classes
- Attendance and accountability
In order to address the equity-related issue and the unavailability of equipment, the District will implement the following measures to ensure remote learning/virtual learning for all our students in the District.

- **1:1 Student Chromebook Distribution**

- Exploring internet connectivity throughout the community.

- The remote/virtual educational programming will be designed to meet the needs of all populations.
Recommendation for Educational Option

• Revisit the educational options during the months of October and November 2020, taking into account the status of the number of COVID-19 infections in the area and the District’s ability to engage in either a hybrid or an in-person learning model, in whole or in part.

• Provide updates to the Receiver, the Board, and the community during the month of November 2020.

• Present educational options for the remainder of the school year no later than early January 2021.
• The growing number of infection rates in the region/state and the particular susceptibility of the COVID-19 infection to the population served by the District.

• We have a legitimate concern about getting sufficient staffing during the midst of the pandemic due to the availability of Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) leave and the need to engage in reasonable accommodations for staff who may be immunologically susceptible to contracting COVID-19. To put another way, we do not expect to have enough staffing to cover all of our needs if we were to engage in either a hybrid or a regular in-person delivery of education.

• Given the limitations in facilities, the District will not be able to meet the recommended best social distancing requirements of up to six feet without substantive facility modifications for which the District does not have sufficient dollars.
• Facility upgrades would be required in order to meet best practices suggested by the CDC and local Departments of Health.

• School buses and our bus transportation companies cannot easily accommodate social distancing requirements and adjust the staggered school schedules without additional bus vehicles and bus drivers that are not available and also costly for implementation.

• The results of the Family Engagement Survey reflect the community’s concerns about returning to school. Because of the difficulty in running a dual hybrid/virtual program and an in-person program simultaneously, staffing can be better deployed by focusing in on the virtual option.

• The Pandemic School Reopening Task Force have made recommendations and support going to a virtual option.
Communications Plan

- Provide information and updates on District’s website, Facebook, and Twitter on a bi-weekly basis
- Posted Health and Safety Plan on District website, Wednesday, July 15, 2020
- Presented Draft School Reopening Plan Presentation, Receiver’s Meeting, Thursday, July 16, 2020
- Conducted Community Forums via Zoom for families and community members, Wednesday, July 22, 2020, and Thursday, July 23, 2020, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Conducted Virtual Town Hall Meetings via Zoom for faculty/staff, Friday, July 24, 2020, 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
- Presented recommendation to Receiver/Board for School Reopening during a Special Meeting of the Public, Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.
• Conduct Families/Community Town Hall Meetings – August 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. and August 12, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
• Conduct Faculty/Staff Town Hall Meetings – August 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. and August 12, 2020 at 12:30 p.m.
• Distribute Technology – Week of August 24, 2020
• Professional Learning for Families – Weeks of August 24, 2020 and August 31, 2020
Special Thanks To:

Pandemic School Reopening Task Force Members:

Dr. Carol D. Birks
Ronald Simonson
Dr. Joanne Barnett
Ikeya Campbell
Darrah Jackson
Anthony Johnson
Thomas Johnson
Mark McIntyre
Karen Miah
Nikki Monroe-Hines
Marvin Newton
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Carlena Parker
Dr. Eric Pugh
John Shelton
Robert Whitaker