

Potential School Restart Options

A Preliminary Report From
the Return to School Team



SCHOOLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC



The purpose of this tool is to assist administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

Should you consider opening?

- ✓ Will reopening be consistent with applicable state and local orders?
- ✓ Is the school ready to protect children and employees at higher risk for severe illness?
- ✓ Are you able to screen students and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

ANY
NO



Are recommended health and safety actions in place?

- ✓ Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing and employees wearing a cloth face covering, as feasible
- ✓ Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation
- ✓ Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups and limited mixing between groups, if feasible
- ✓ Train all employees on health and safety protocols

ALL
YES

ANY
NO



ALL
YES

Is ongoing monitoring in place?

- ✓ Develop and implement procedures to check for signs and symptoms of students and employees daily upon arrival, as feasible
- ✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home
- ✓ Plan for if students or employees get sick
- ✓ Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
- ✓ Monitor student and employee absences and have flexible leave policies and practices
- ✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

ALL
YES

ANY
NO



OPEN AND
MONITOR



Three-Step Process

- Step 1: Schools remain closed
- Step 2: Schools open with enhanced social distancing measures.
- Step 3: Remain open for all children with social distancing measures.



CDC

Step 2

Social Distancing (*Interim* Guidance)

Recommendations	Major Impacts
Static Student Groupings	Recess, Lunch, Secondary Classes
Restrict Gatherings That Cannot Socially Distance	Athletics, Field Trips, Clubs
Restrict Visitors	Parent/Community Involvement, VINS
Spaced Seating	Reduced Bus, Class, and School Capacity
Close Communal Spaces	Lunch, Art, Music, gym
Stagger Arrival/Drop off	Schedules
Limit Sharing	Lunch, Art, Music, PE, Technology, Library, All Classes
Restrict Attendance of those from high-transmission areas	



Step 3

Social Distancing

(Interim Guidance)

Recommendations	Major Impacts
Spaced Seating	Reduced Bus, Class, and School Capacity
Restrict Gatherings That Cannot Socially Distance	Athletics, Field Trips, Clubs
Limit Sharing	Lunch, Art, Music, Technology, Library, All Classes
Restrict Attendance of those from high-transmission areas	
Things to Consider	Major Impacts
Static Student Groupings	Recess, Lunch, Secondary Classes
Restrict Gatherings That Cannot Socially Distance	Athletics, Field Trips, Clubs
Restrict Visitors	Parent/Community Involvement, VINS
Close Communal Spaces	Lunch, Art, Music
Stagger Arrival/Drop off	Schedules



Assumptions

- No substantive changes to CDC guidance
- All CDC safeguards set
- Have set threshold for step 2 or Step 3
- Return to normal operations once public health officials relax social distancing



Caveats

- No official DESE guidance at this time
- No official DPH guidance at this time
- No final guidance from CDC at this time
- Options presented may not be legal



Scenario 1

Substantially Remote

- Enhanced Stage 3 Remote Learning Plan for Most Students
- In person option for students with disabilities, English Learners, and other at-risk students



Positives

- Addresses staff/family concerns about potential infection
- Allows for implementation of virtual late-start for high school
- Minimizes transportation cost/capacity issues

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- May be perceived as placing students at highest risk of learning problems in greatest danger of infection

Scenario 2

Elementary Face-to Face Secondary Remote

- Enhanced Stage 3 Remote Learning Plan for Grades 6-12 with in person option for SWD's, EL's other at-risk students
- Grades PreK-5 distributed across 6 schools



Positives

- Maximally supports skill development in young learners
- Allows for implementation of virtual late-start for high school
- Consistent with research on age-based effects of remote learning
- Less impact on family work schedules
- Opportunity for mixed-age grouping
- No significant impact on transportation cost

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for secondary students
- May reduce graduation/post-secondary education enrollment rates
- May be perceived as placing youngest students at greatest danger of infection

Scenario 3

One-Day Rotation

- Students attend face-to-face classes 1 day per week, participate in remote learning other 4 days.
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may have more frequent face-to-face sessions
- Average class size approx 5



Positives

- Provides all students some face-to-face contact with peers and teacher
- Possible to maintain current schedule
- No significant impact on transportation costs

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules

Scenario 4

Two-Day Rotation

- Students attend face-to-face classes 2 day per week, participate in remote learning other 3 days.
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may have more frequent face-to-face sessions
- Average class size 6-10



Positives

- Provides all students some face-to-face contact with peers and teacher

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- Will require school schedule adjustment
- Increased transportation costs

Scenario 5

4-day rotation elementary
1-day rotation secondary

- Elementary students attend 4 days face-to-face, 1 day remote
- Secondary students attend 1 day face-to-face, 4 days remote



Positives

- Provides all students some face-to-face contact with peers and teacher

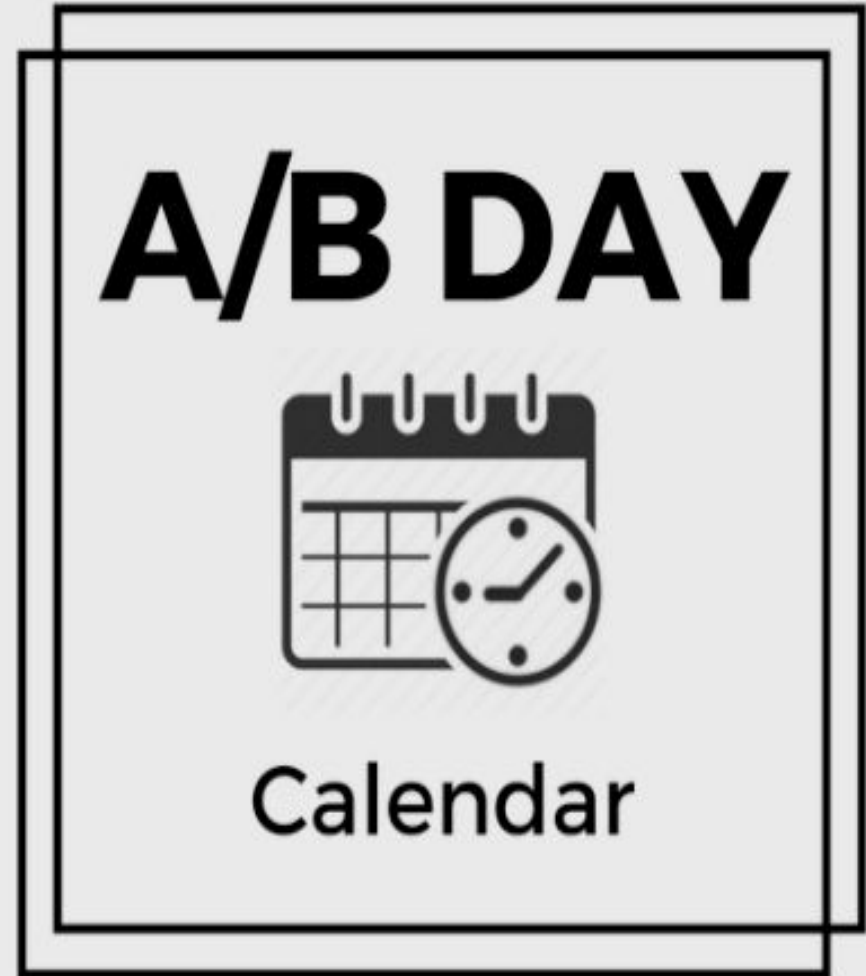
Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Some impact on family work schedules
- Will require school schedule adjustment
- Increased transportation costs

Scenario 6

A/B Day

- Students attend face-to-face classes every other day and participate in remote learning on alternate days
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may have more frequent face-to-face sessions
- Average class size approx 12



Positives

- Provides all students some face-to-face contact with peers and teacher

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- Will require school schedule adjustment
- Increased transportation costs

Scenario 7

In Person Week/Remote Week

- Students attend face-to-face classes every other week and participate in remote learning on alternate weeks
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may have more frequent face-to-face sessions
- Average class size approx 12



EVERY OTHER WEEK

Positives

- Provides all students some face-to-face contact with peers and teacher

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- Will require school schedule adjustment
- Increased transportation costs

Scenario 8

Rotating Day/Rotating Week

- Elementary Students Follow 2 Day Rotation
- Secondary Students Rotate Weeks
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may have more frequent face-to-face sessions
- Average class size approx 12



EVERY OTHER WEEK

Positives

- Provides elementary students weekly contact with teachers

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- Will require school schedule adjustment
- Increased transportation costs

Scenario 9

A.M./P.M. Sessions

- Students attend face-to-face classes every other week and participate in remote learning on alternate weeks
- Average class size approx 12



Positives

- Provides all student face-to-face contact with peers and teacher
- Simplifies meal service

Negatives

- Likely to exacerbate learning loss for most students
- Significant impact on family work schedules
- Will require substantial school schedule adjustment
- Substantial increased transportation costs

Scenario 10

Delay Open

- Cancel all vacations
- Move last day of school to June 22
- SWDs, EL's other at-risk students may start earlier
- First day of school could be as late as Sept 27

NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR 2019-2020

August 2019	September 2019	October 2019	November 2019
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
Days: 31 Aug 19-20: New Teacher Orientation Aug 20: Convocation/Prof. Development Day Aug 27: Teacher Work Day Aug 28: First day of School Aug 28-30: Kindergarten Orientation	Days: 30 Sept 2: No School - Labor Day Sept 3: Kindergarten Begins Sept 28: No School - Prof. Development	Days: 31 Oct 4: 1/2 day - Teacher Work Day Oct 14: No School - Indigenous Peoples' Day State Holiday Oct 16: NHS PSAT Oct 21-25: Elementary School 1/2 Days for Conferences Oct 23-24: Evening Conferences 6-8 pm	Days: 30 Nov 5: No School - Election Day/Teacher Work Day Nov 11: No School - Veterans Day Observed Nov 27: 1/2 Day - Thanksgiving Break Nov 28-29: No School - Thanksgiving Break
December 2019	January 2020	February 2020	March 2020
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
Days: 31 Dec 4: 1/2 day - Teacher Work Day Dec 23-Jan 1: No School - Holiday Recess	Days: 31 Jan 1: No School - New Years Day Jan 17: No School - Teacher Work Day Jan 20: No School - MLK Jr. Day	Days: 28 Feb 17-21: No School - Winter Recess Feb 24-28: Registration for Kindergarten and Incoming Students	Days: 31 Mar 2: Kindergarten Registration/Incoming Students Mar 11: 1/2 Day - Teacher Work Day
April 2020	May 2020	June 2020	
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	
Days: 30 Apr 20-24: No School - Spring Recess	Days: 31 May 15: 1/2 Day - Teacher Work Day May 25: No School - Memorial Day	Days: 30 Jun 7: High School Graduation (Senior last day, May 30) Jun 12: Last day (180th Day - Half Day) Potential Make-Up Days: June 15-19	
School Hours	Open House Schedule	Northampton High School	Important Teacher Dates
Full Day NHS 7:30 - 2:00 JFK 7:50 - 2:30 ELEM 8:50 - 3:00	Half Day 7:30 - 11:20 7:55 - 11:50 8:50 - 12:20	Sept 5 8:30 PM NHS Sept 19 8:30 PM JFK Sept 24 6:00 PM Leads Elementary Sept 25 6:00 PM Ryan Rd. Elementary Oct 2 6:00 PM Bridge St. Elementary Oct 3 5:30 PM Jackson St. Elementary Jan 30 8:30 PM NHS	Aug 19-20 New Teacher Orientation Aug 26 Convocation/Prof. Development Day Aug 27 Teacher Work Day Nov 5 Teacher Work Day Jan 17 Teacher Work Day Oct 4 & Dec 4 1/2 Day Teacher Work Days Mar 13 & May 15 1/2 Day Teacher Work Days

* Information cannot verify. Plan 71, March 20 and last day of school. * Information cannot verify. Jan 17, and last day of school. * NHS & EL's cannot verify confirmation will be sent via email.

Positives

- Can be used in combination with any other plan
- Minimizes length of implementation for any other plan
- Enables us to learn from other school openings

Negatives

- Increased summer learning loss
- Reduced flexibility for unanticipated problems
- No time to “air out” buildings
- 180 more-or-less consecutive days