We are in a health pandemic and education emergency

Health and safety, as well as access and equity must inform our efforts

Developing a plan required input

• Over 23,000 citizens
• Over 16,000 students
• ReOpen Task Force
• Regional Advisory Teams

What we consistently heard:

• Emotional well-being must be considered
• Schools are a structured, safe place in many cases
• Students missed school
Guiding Principles

- Safeguarding the health and safety of students and staff;
- Allowing *all students* the opportunity to return into school *full time* starting in the fall;
- *Monitoring the school, students, and staff* and, when necessary, potentially canceling classes in the future to appropriately contain COVID-19 spread;
- *Emphasizing equity, access*, to support the students and communities who are emerging from this historic disruption;
- Fostering *strong two-way communication* with partners; and
- Factoring the *physical safety, social-emotional well-being, and the mental health needs* of our students when they are not in school.
Operational Considerations

• Districts should plan for fall reopening with in-school return for all students, every day.

• Health and safety guidance protocols and infection mitigation strategies will be emphasized:

  - Maximize Social Distancing
  - Frequent hand washing/use of hand sanitizer
  - Face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth
  - Enhanced cleaning/disinfection of spaces/surfaces

• Plan subject to change based on developing health conditions
Classrooms and Buses

CLASSROOMS

• Cohorting
  - Strongly encouraged, Grades K–8
  - Encouraged where feasible, Grades 9–12
• Maximize social distancing
• Facial coverings – mandatory for staff and students during school day when inside the school building
• Frequent handwashing
• Enhanced cleaning

BUSES

• Facial coverings – mandatory for drivers and students
• Monitors encouraged for fall, particularly for younger grades
• Social distancing activated based on COVID community spread
  - No Spread
    Full Capacity
  - Minimal Spread
    Full Capacity, Heightened Health & Safety Protocols
  - Moderate Spread
    Reduced Capacity and Social distancing
Ramping Up, Ramping Down

- **CT data trends positively**: we can plan optimistically for fall reopening
- Districts should prepare plans for **full reopening**
- **Alternative plans should be prepared** (hybrid model with fewer students and enhanced remote learning) in the event of future increases in community spread
- COVID-19 **Community Spread** will determine Ramp Down to promote health and safety regionally and throughout CT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High COVID Spread</th>
<th>Moderate Spread</th>
<th>Minimal Spread</th>
<th>Contained/Vaccine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Remote Learning</td>
<td>Hybrid Model</td>
<td>Full In-Person with heightened Health &amp; Safety Protocols</td>
<td>Full In-Person</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
• This is the first step to reopening
• Plans will change based on COVID spread (or developing health conditions)
• Flexibility will be the only constant
• Comprehensive Plan details will be publicly released Monday
• Updates & supplements will be informed with input from partners

CT students deserve the best opportunity for success!