Plan for Returning to School 2020-2021

Lake Forest Schools August 13, 2020

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Delaware Planning Scenarios

- Scenario 1: Minimal Community Spread
 - ✓ Schools are open for in-person instruction.
- Scenario 2: Minimal to Moderate Community Spread
 - ✓ Schools may use a hybrid model with precautions in place.
- Scenario 3: Significant Community Spread
 - ✓ Schools are closed. Remote learning only.

Schools may introduce increased safety measures but may not decrease.

Planning Emphasis

- Health and safety of students, staff, and community members.
- Providing equitable, rigorous, and relevant instruction.
- Effectively provide student support for all needs.
- Promote collaboration- Administration, Professional Staff, Families, Board of Education.
- Enhance and improve remote learning experience.
- Improve support for technology.
- Adhere to all directives and recommendations from the State's Returning to School plan.

Things we know

- School will begin for students on September 8th.
- Students and staff will be expected to be in attendance (remote or face to face) every school day.
 - Elementary school day 8:40 AM to 3:35 PM
 - Secondary School Day 7:35 AM to 2:30 PM
- Lessons will consist of new learning. There will be assignments and assessments. Students will receive feedback and grades.
- We retain the ability to feed all of our students.
- There is a great potential anything we decide tonight can be effected by everything from infection rates to the availability of logistics (transportation, PPE, etc.)

Learning Models

Characteristics	Hybrid	Remote
Online Instruction	✓	✓
New Learning Material	✓	✓
Graded (Process and Product)	✓	✓
Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning	✓	√
Assessments	✓	✓
Feedback	✓	✓
Ability to contact and communicate with teachers	✓	✓
Face to Face Interaction	✓	

Learning Models (Con)

Hybrid	Full-time Remote
Online Platform	Online Platform
Students in strict cohorts to minimize exposure to staff and peers outside their cohort	100% Remote Learning Monday through Friday
Face to Face support every other week	
Monday through Thursday	
100% Remote Learning Friday	

Advantages

Hybrid	Remote
Face to Face interaction with a teacher	Least risk of exposure
Social Interaction	Continuity of Learning
Schedule/Routines	Technology skills development
Direct source for questions/support	Can be flexible
Reduced risks of exposure	

Parent Surveys (2088 total responses)

	Hybrid	Remote
Overall (n- 2088)	60.2%	39.8%
Delaware Early Childhood (n- 17)	69%	31%
South Elementary (n- 203)	57%	43%
East Elementary (n- 157)	64%	36%
North Elementary (n- 307)	60%	40%
Central Elementary (n- 389)	62%	38%
Chipman Middle (n- 545)	55%	45%
Lake Forest High School (n- 471)	65%	35%

(n- number of respondents)

Additional data

- Approximately 6% of Lake Forest Families have limited internet access.
- 62% will need transportation.
- Delaware ranks 40th of the 50 states in the number of Covid-19 infection cases.
- Last week saw a low percentage of positive tests (4%) which falls well below the 5% threshold for returning to school.
- Kent County has the lowest number of infections in Delaware with less than half the number of confirmed cases as Sussex County and less than a third of the number of cases of New Castle County.

Preparing for the 2020-2021 School Year

- Sizeable investment in PPE (Masks, hand sanitizer, cleaning products and cleaning solutions, gloves, shields, barriers).
- Invested in technology. Every student has been ordered a device. Many are still unavailable. Working on connecting every student we possibly can.
- Improved ventilation by doubling the air intake in the buildings and accelerating the filter changing schedule.
- Will require wearing of masks for all personnel (with limited exceptions).
- Created small classes and cohorts and minimized mixing of the cohorts.
- Schools will implement frequent hand-washing schedules.
- School personnel will clean high touch areas frequently (> every 2 hours).
- Busses will be disinfected after each run.

Preparing for the 2020-2021 School Year (con)

- School District is creating and producing a video which will define expectations and show families what a typical school day will look like from start to finish.
- Schools have been marked to promote social distancing and direct one way flow of traffic (signs, arrows, floor markings).
- Altered plans to spread out the ingress and egress of students at arrival and dismissal.
- Plexiglass barriers have been installed in offices and common areas.
- There will be no sharing of supplies, no locker use, no buffet style meals, and no extra-curricular activities to start the school year. There will be no field trips until conditions change.
- Will implement and recommend the Department of Health daily health assessment is done from home each day.
- Frequent walkthrough of buildings by district leadership to support compliance measures.
- Crisis response plans and teams specifically for Covid-19 are being created at each school and the district.

Still there are Challenges

Child care services are limited in our community.

Creating hybrid and remote learning schedules for all students with limited time and still unknown variables.

Availability and sustainability of PPE supplies.

Availability of lap tops and internet accessibility.

Availability of personnel based on pre-existing conditions and risk factors.

Superintendent's Recommendation

Lake Forest School District begins the school year in the **remote learning** environment (100% online) with select students being provided services face to face in the **hybrid** model.

- -Students whose needs require face to face.
- -Students who cannot engage remotely.

Students are phased in to face to face **hybrid** support as district efficacy improves and health conditions allow.

*Recommended Plan for Phasing in Hybrid Learning

	Cohort of students	Amount of face to face support
Phase 1 (Sep 8- Oct 16)	All Students Students whose needs cannot be met in the remote environment	Remote Learning Only Hybrid- 50% students alternating each week Monday through Thursday
Phase 2 (Oct 19- if conditions allow)	*Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1,4,6,and 9 Students whose needs cannot be met in the remote environment	Hybrid- 50% students alternating each week Monday through Thursday
Phase 3 (As conditions allow)	*Add grades 5, 7, and 11	Hybrid- 50% students alternating each week Monday through Thursday
Phase 4 (As conditions allow)	*All students	Hybrid- 50% students alternating each week Monday through Thursday
Phase 5 (As conditions allow)	Full integration to the face to face environment	100% Face to Face

^{*}All students have the option of 100% Remote Learning

Seeking Board Approval

• Start the year with all students in the 100% remote learning environment and select students in the hybrid environment until October 16. Remaining students phased into the hybrid model as conditions allow.

Questions from the Board?