

Cape Schools Open Minds and Open Doors

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Update from District Planning Team Meeting #4
July 10, 2020

The District Planning Team held their fourth **meeting** on July 10, 2020. Information from MDOE regarding the reopening of schools is expected within the week. We are hearing that the reopening will possibly be based on a matrix by region, county, town, or zip code that considers COVID-19 data as we move forward through the summer.

Staff have begun reporting their own high-risk situations to administrators. They will be contacted in an effort to begin to plan for accommodations as we begin our effort to “protect children and employees at higher risk for severe illness.” We will soon begin to work on developing plans that provide for the needs of our high-risk students as we look toward the upcoming school year,

The revised calendar ([link](#)) was discussed and will move forward for Cape Elizabeth School Board approval on July 28, 2020.

School nurses and our district physician shared the parent contract that was developed during a recent meeting, in an effort to promote at-home screening for students prior to their arrival at school each day ([link](#)). Parent signatures on this contract, which might be housed in PowerSchool would be required before students are permitted to attend school in our buildings this fall, should buildings be open, in addition, student ([link](#)) and staff ([link](#)) screening tools were shared with the District Planning Team.

School teams have begun working on plans for the hybrid model, should we open under that plan in the fall. After much discussion and analysis of various combinations, and after discussion with district administrators and experts in transportation, facilities, health care, and food services, it will be recommended that an ABAB (maroon, gold, maroon, gold) model plan be used if needed. The use of Fridays, in this model, was discussed and will continue to be studied as we move forward. At the Administrative Team meeting on Thursday, the needs of students, staff, and families were identified, and decisions will be made in an effort to address many of those needs.

In an effort to provide a more consistent educational experience for our students, K-12 consistencies in student norms for remote learning, delivery of instruction, standards of grading, tools of assessment, expectations around communication with parents and students, supports for students, and standards for attendance are in the initial stages of discussion by school teams. The District Planning Team visited each of these consistencies briefly as they were introduced at the meeting.

As we continue to plan for the many “what ifs” in regards to the opening of school in the fall, teachers, staff, and administrators are working tirelessly to address the many details and concerns connected with a variety of possibilities of what school will look like. I would like to thank those that are working so hard during what is usually a “down time”, a break that is so much needed between school years.

Stay well,

Donna H. Wolfrom