



# 2020-2021 Re-opening Plan for St. Helena Parish School District

Planning for the 2020-2021 school year in light of the COVID-19 pandemic has been challenging. Weekly planning meetings have been held since April, parent and teacher surveys were completed, data from the Jumpstart 2020 program was collected, and a simulation of a school day was conducted. All of the collected information was used to decide what path the school district will take for its school re-opening.

## Parent Survey

Parents were asked to select the Blended Model they would like for the school district to implement if Phase II was enacted. Of the 143 survey participants, the data revealed that 65 parents (45%) preferred Option 1, while 78 (55%) preferred Option 2. *Only 13 more parents selected Option 2.*

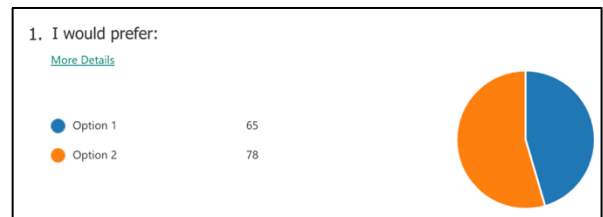
### Option 1:

Black and Gold Week - students will attend school by rotating each week. Example – students in the Black Group will attend school during week 1, while students in the Gold Group will attend school during week 2. This schedule will rotate during the school year. *Siblings will attend school together during the same week.*

### Option 2:

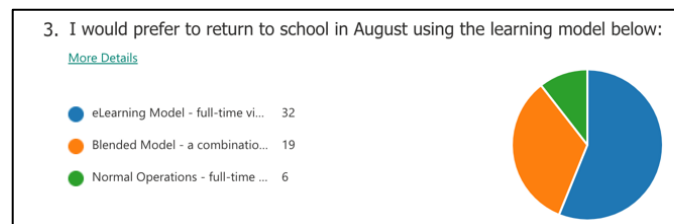
PreK, KN, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students report three days per week (Monday - Wednesday).

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students report two days per week (Thursday - Friday).



## Teacher Survey

Teachers also voiced their concerns regarding the re-opening of schools. Of the 57 participants, 32 (56%) would prefer the eLearning Model, 19 (33%) selected the Blended Model, and 6 (11%) would like to implement Normal Operations. *Only 7 more employees preferred the full-time eLearning Model, and 25 (44%) prefer some form of face-to-face instruction.*



eLearning Model – full time eLearning

Blended Model – a combination of the eLearning Model and Normal Operations

Normal Operations – full time face-to-face instruction

## Jumpstart 2020

Data collected from the first week of Jumpstart 2020 showed that while the participation rate increased each day, only 49% of our total student population participated in the program. Lack of participation may be due to connectivity issues, inability to retrieve a laptop or WIFI hotspot device, or no motivation to participate.

Jumpstart 2020 Week One Participation Tracking Report									
	Participation				Non-Participation				
Grade Level	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	POP	Grade Level	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
	13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul			13-Jul	14-Jul	15-Jul	
PreK	0	0	11		PreK				
Kindergarten	23	31	27	76	Kindergarten	53	45	49	
First Grade	30	39	43	89	First Grade	59	50	46	
Second Grade	39	49	48	103	Second Grade	64	54	55	
Third Grade	26	38	35	88	Third Grade	62	50	53	
Fourth Grade	27	43	38	88	Fourth Grade	61	45	50	
Fifth Grade	22	37	47	82	Fifth Grade	60	45	35	
Sixth Grade	26	43	33	108	Sixth Grade	82	65	75	
Seventh Grade	12	45	51	96	Seventh Grade	84	51	45	
Eighth Grade	6	36	31	69	Eighth Grade	63	33	38	
Ninth Grade	34	48	53	96	Ninth Grade	62	48	43	
Tenth Grade	8	46	53	79	Tenth Grade	71	33	26	
Eleventh Grade	37	57	62	95	Eleventh Grade	58	38	33	
Twelfth Grade	50	61	64	78	Twelfth Grade	28	17	14	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>1147</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>562</b>	

## Simulation of a School Day

Approximately 30 individuals participated in a simulation that reflects the operational changes of a school day due to COVID-19 health and safety precautions. Participants gained a lot of valuable insight during the exercise. A debriefing meeting was held to review the experience. Some concerns that were shared included teacher apprehension about handling school supplies brought from home, reducing the number of high-contact points, and the appropriate measures to handle non-related COVID-19 illnesses. This exercise proved to be the most valuable data collected during our decision-making process.

## School Day Flow for Students

On the Bus	Arrival at School	In the Restroom
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students must wear a mask before loading the bus.</li> <li>The bus driver will take temperature readings of all students upon entering the bus.</li> <li>Students will sit in designated seats and remain seated at all times.</li> <li>Family members who live in the same household are allowed to sit in close proximity while on the bus.</li> <li>Buses will be sanitized once all students disembark.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each bus and car will unload one at a time.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bus Riders – will report directly to the restroom before getting breakfast, if necessary.</li> <li>Car Riders – Duty teachers will take temperature readings of all students as they exit their vehicles. They will be allowed to use the restroom, if necessary.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Only two students will be allowed in the restroom at a time.</li> <li>Students will get breakfast on their way to their homeroom class.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of students will be limited based on school site.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two students at a time at SHELCA</li> <li>Three students at a time at SHATA</li> <li>Four students at a time at SHCCA</li> </ul> </li> <li>Students will wash their hands before leaving the restroom.</li> <li>Teachers will provide hand sanitizer to students as they re-enter the classroom.</li> </ul>
In the Classroom	During Lunch	During Dismissal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homeroom teachers will take temperature readings of their students' before entering the classroom.</li> <li>Students will be given hand sanitizer before going to their seat.</li> <li>Students will sit in their designated desks and remain seated at all times.</li> <li>With the exception of eating breakfast, masks/face shields will remain on at all times.</li> <li>Students will take turns throwing their trash away.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer will be given to each student as they return to their seat and given a disinfectant sheet to wipe down their desk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food Service workers will deliver meals to the classrooms.</li> <li>Lunch will be eaten in the classrooms every day.</li> <li>Students will remove their face masks to eat their lunch and use their desk dividers while eating.</li> <li>Students will take turns throwing their plates away.</li> <li>Students will be allowed to use the restroom after eating their lunch.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer will be given to each student as they return to their seat and given a disinfectant sheet to wipe down their desk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Homeroom teachers will take temperature readings of their students at the end of the school day.</li> <li>Students will be dismissed to their buses based on school-level procedures.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer will be given to each student as they exit the classroom.</li> <li>Students must wear their masks during dismissal.</li> <li>No congregating will occur during dismissal.</li> </ul>

## Conclusion

The results from the various surveys and programs were analyzed collectively. 2020 Strong Start Guidelines provided by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and qualitative feedback from employees were also reviewed. We also understand that some parents are not comfortable with sending their student to school while some are in favor of it. As such, in order to provide equitable access to educational opportunities, it has been decided that parents will have a choice between two options: **eLearning Model and Blended Model, Option 1 (Black and Gold Week)**. The primary reasons for the decision are below.

Blended Learning Model (Black Day and Gold Day)			
Grade Level	Total Students	Teachers	Kids per class
Kindergarten	76	3	13
First Grade	89	4	11
Second Grade	103	4	13
Third Grade	88	4	11
Fourth Grade	88	3	15
Fifth Grade	82	3	14
Sixth Grade	108	4	14
Seventh Grade	96	3	16
Eighth Grade	69	3	12
Ninth Grade	96	3	16
Tenth Grade	79	3	13
Eleventh Grade	95	3	16
Twelfth Grade	78	3	13

With more COVID-19 cases on the rise, some parents do not feel comfortable sending their student to school at this time.

Rotating classes week by week allows for more consistent instructional support for students.

The number of students per classroom in Blended Model, Option 1 is far less than the maximum number of students allowed in Phase II.

More staff would be required to implement Blended Model, Option 2.

Teachers will have far less exposure to varying student groups within a one-week period.

## Students with Exceptional Needs

In order to ensure equitable learning for our exceptional students (individuals with an IEP), they will be allowed to report to school every day. This does not include gifted or talented students.

## Opportunities to Change Student Placement

Parents have the flexibility to change the placement of their student at the end of the first nine-week period. If parents do not select an option their student will automatically be placed in the Blended Model, Option 1 (Black and Gold Week). The deadline to register for eLearning is Friday, August 7, 2020. Parents must sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** if they select the eLearning Model.

## First Week of 2020-2021 School Year

We plan to stagger students' return to school during the first week as shown below. We will spend time with each grade level to review the new protocols. Each school will provide information regarding the weekly schedules, class assignments, and other matters.

### August 3 – 7, 2020 Schedule

Day	SHELC	SHATA	SHCCA
Monday, August 3	PreK	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Tuesday, August 4	Kindergarten	4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Wednesday, August 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Thursday, August 6	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> /12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Friday, August 7	eLearning	eLearning	eLearning