

School Reopening Task Force

July 15, 2020



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Agenda

6:00 - 6:05 Review Agenda and Meeting Objectives

6:05 - 6:15 Task Force Approach

6:15 - 6:40 Consider Proposed Recommendation #1 - Approach to Opening School

6:40 - 7:05 Consider Proposed Recommendation #2 - Student/Staff Safety Protocols

7:05 - 7:30 Consider Proposed Recommendation #3 - Prioritizing Mental Health

7:30 - 7:45 How data will inform our District's response

7:45 - 8:00 Review objectives and wrap-up



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Meeting Objectives

1. I am able to provide feedback to develop or strengthen task force recommendations and the supporting detail that will be used to inform families and staff.
2. I know how the District will use available data to assess its ability to deliver in-person learning and the strategies that will be used to respond to changing conditions.



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Critical Success Factors

1. Develop a master facility reopening plan that responds to the requirements and best practices of school reopening during a pandemic.
2. Adopt appropriate metrics to guide reopening/closure.
3. Operate as a fiscal steward to the community.



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Group Norms and Commitments

- Be present, prepared and be engaged
- Mute your microphone when you are not speaking
- Speak from experience whenever possible
- Speak to one another as peers, not subordinates
- Resist the urge to interrupt
- Resist the urge to monopolize the discussion
- Encourage input from everyone



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Task Force Key Data and Primary Resources

- Key Data

- [Waukesha County COVID-19 Dashboard](#)

- Primary Resources

- [*American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction - Education Forward](#)
- [Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association \(WIAA\) Guidance for Summer Activities](#)
- [Waukesha County Large Group Gatherings](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools](#)
- [Wisconsin DHS Schools and Childcare](#)



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*New since last meeting

Task Force Recommendation for Consideration

Safely reopen all schools on September 1 for face-to-face instruction five days a week, while providing a virtual learning option for students who, for health or other reasons (including quarantine), are unable to participate in an in-person format.



What this means at Elementary for in-person learning:

- Students remain with same cohort of 20-25 classmates all day and remain in in the same classroom for all subjects and specials (e.g. art)
- Hot lunch is retrieved/delivered from cafeteria - students eat in classroom
- No use of common spaces
- Restrict sharing of supplies unless they can be thoroughly cleaned between use
- Coordinated student mobility for restroom breaks, recess, etc., to limit interaction with students in other cohorts during the school day
- Support services push in to classroom, when possible



What this means at Middle School for in-person learning:

- Students remain with same cohort of classmates for most/all classes
- 7th and 8th grade electives restructured to mirror 6th grade wheel
- Lunch capacity is reduced to spread students out, cafeteria cleaned in between seatings
- No use, or strategic use (e.g. 1 class all week) of common spaces
- Restrict sharing of supplies or equipment unless the item(s) can be thoroughly cleaned between use
- Coordinated student mobility, limited/no use of lockers



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What this means at High School for in-person learning:

- Students participate in a typical class schedule with an emphasis on physical distancing and cleaning procedures before/after class
- Lunch capacity is reduced to spread students out or cafeteria extended to allow for more space, cafeteria cleaned in between seatings
- No use of common spaces or strategic use (e.g. 1 class all week)
- Restrict sharing of supplies or equipment unless the item(s) can be thoroughly cleaned between use
- Elimination of Spartan/Lancer resource period, coordinated student mobility, limited/no use of lockers
- Leverage technology to connect students across schools (e.g. LAUNCH)



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What this means for the Opt-In Virtual Student

Elementary

- Designated teacher/class at each grade level
- Depending on enrollments, teacher and other students may be from across the District
- Balance between synchronous and asynchronous instruction
- Small group and 1:1 teacher-student contact expectations
- Consistent learning platform for the grade level across all schools (K-2: Seesaw, 3-5 Google Classroom)
- Specials courses (art, music, phy ed, library) extended to virtual, when practical

Ability to transition to/from in-person/virtual learning with advance notice.



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What this means for the Opt-In Virtual Student

Middle and High School Students

- Core classes extended to the home with consistent schedule
- Elective courses offered, when practical (e.g. not woodworking, but phy ed or world language ok)
- Teacher and other students may be from across the District
- Balance between synchronous and asynchronous instruction
- Small group and 1:1 teacher-student contact expectations
- Consistent learning platform (Canvas) for all grade levels, across all schools

Ability to transition to/from in-person/virtual learning with advance notice.



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District Teams preparing for this work

- Elementary Schedule & Staffing
- Elementary Specials
- High School Schedule & Staffing
- Middle School Schedule & Staffing
- Internships and Mentorships
- LAUNCH Experience
- Music Instruction - K-12
- Library Services



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Task Force Recommendation for Consideration

Establish safety protocols and best practices for students and staff members that align to guidelines published by the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics.



What this means for all students and staff:

- Daily screening protocols at home, staff report their results using app/website
- Education on the importance of staying home when feeling ill
- Teach and reinforce good hygiene practices
- Classroom spaces designed for physical distancing
- Increased access to classroom cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, PPE
- Reduce/eliminate the use of lockers
- Mandatory face coverings for all adults and face coverings for students per AAP guidelines (when not able to maintain physical distancing (middle/high), when harms do not outweigh benefits (elementary))
- No volunteers and essential visitors only
- Increased airflow at all locations, best practice cleaning protocols each day
- Large group gatherings follow Waukesha County restrictions (currently at 100)



What this means for student transportation

- School bus operations
 - Face coverings required of all drivers/riders
 - Hand sanitizer as riders load
 - Windows should be open when possible and conditions allow
 - Seats and handrails should be sanitized between routes
 - Assigned seating to limit interaction and support contact tracing
 - Family members grouped together, when possible
 - All students routed each day, but active campaign to reduce ridership for walking or carpooling
 - Families able to opt-in/out of bus transportation with advance notice
- Parent pick-up/drop-off or student drivers
 - Parent pick-up/drop-off times expanded to reduce congestion
 - All students report directly to classroom, no congregating/waiting for bell/hanging out in halls



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District Teams preparing for this work

- Facilities - Classroom Cleaning Supplies and Protocols
- Facility - School Cleaning Protocols
- Office Design & Visitor Management
- Elementary - Student/Staff Protocols
- Daily Screening Protocol
- High School - Student/Staff Protocols
- Middle - Student/Staff Protocols
- School Safety
- Back to School Events
- Facility Design



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Task Force Recommendation for Consideration

Prioritize the mental health of staff and students.



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What this means for all students and staff:

- Emphasis on community and relationship building the first two weeks of school, recognizing students and staff have been out of the classroom for nearly 6 months
- Providing professional development opportunities for staff on how to talk to students about grief, stress and perceived loss
- Referral process for staff to request help for students who need small group or 1:1 support
- Providing opportunities for students to safely engage in activities outside the classroom
- Staff with documented health conditions provided options to perform work expectations flexibly
- Ongoing connection protocol established virtually &/or in-person for students and families at greater risk for disengagement or non-participation
- Regular pulse surveys conducted to evaluate student/staff wellness



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District Teams preparing for this work

- Student Services Counseling & Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Support 6-12
- First Two Weeks of School
- Student Services SEL Supports EC-5
- Co-Curriculars - Activities
- Co-Curriculars - Athletics
- Co-Curriculars - Fine Arts
- K-8 Athletic/Activity Offerings
- Onboarding Staff
- Human Resources processes and procedures



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Regional and Local Data Informs

- County Dashboard informs regional approach
 - Districts could be required to close by County based on regional data. Monitoring this data will inform Waukesha County school district administrator conversations and decisions.
- School and District Dashboards would include:
 - # of active staff, student confirmed cases
 - # of staff/student absences due to close contact (if reported)
 - Student/Staff Rate of Infection
 - *Overall Teacher absence rate
 - *Substitute Fill Rate - ability to replace staff absences with a substitute teacher

*Availability of staff may be primary driver in determining class, school or district response.



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Strategies to Respond to COVID Cases and Exposure

- Students who are confirmed cases and contacts exposed per [DHS Guidelines](#) (and endorsed by Waukesha County) transition to virtual learning
- Increased classroom mitigation measures such as plexiglass dividers or moving class to larger learning space (e.g. library)
- Reduce # of students attending in-person (most likely a strategy for grades 6-12, not K-5)
- Transition class/grade level to virtual for a designated period of time
- Transition school to virtual for a designated period of time
- Transition district to virtual for a designated period of time



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Review Objectives

- ★ I am able to provide feedback to develop or strengthen task force recommendations and the supporting detail that will be used to inform families and staff.
- ★ I know how the District will use available data to assess its ability to deliver in-person learning and the strategies that will be used to respond to changing conditions.



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2020 School Reopening Task Force Timeline

- June 16, 2020 - Initial Convening of Task Force at 6pm-8pm
- June 30, 2020 - School Reopening Task Force Meeting #2
- July 14, 2020 - Task Force Chair - Progress Report to Board of Education (Optional attendance)
- July 15, 2020 - School Reopening Task Force Meeting #3
- July 28, 2020 - School Reopening Task Force Meeting #4
- August 4, 2020 - School Reopening Task Force Meeting #5 (if necessary)
- August 11, 2020 - School Reopening Report Presented to Board of Education



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Next Meeting - July 28, 2020

Agenda Topics

- Key Data Review, Resource Updates
- Consider proposed recommendations regarding:
 - Keep learning coherent between in-person and virtual education delivery models.
 - Dynamically allocate resources and services to meet the needs of every student.
 - Create clear roles and expectations for students, staff and families as we respond to changing conditions, together.



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