

# Opening the 2020-2021 School Year with a Hybrid Model

July 16, 2020



The School District of Haverford Township

# Planning Guidance remains the same



Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)

Updated today 7/16

Chester County Health Department - Updated 7/6

American Academy of Pediatrics

Mid-Atlantic Regional Educational Laboratory  
(REL) "Considerations for Reopening  
Pennsylvania Schools"

World Health Organization (WHO)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
(CDC)\*

Environmental Consultants, Inc.

\*Awaiting updated guidance documents

# New information and data to consider

Wolf Administration  
Announces Targeted  
Mitigation Efforts in Response  
to Recent COVID Case  
Increases (July 15, 2020)

- “During the past week, we have seen an unsettling climb in new COVID-19 cases,”
- Beginning with a spike in cases in Allegheny County in late June, Pennsylvania has seen cases continue to rise there and in other southwest counties, along with additional select counties in the state.
- Bars and restaurants: strictly adhere to the requirements of the guidance
  - Occupancy is limited to 25 percent of stated fire-code maximum occupancy for indoor dining, or 25 persons for a discrete indoor event or gathering in a restaurant.

# Data to consider

- “Over the last few weeks, public health reporting and our team’s modeling work have uncovered incontrovertible evidence that the virus is sweeping quickly into the northeast region of the United States from the west and south—where there has been a failure in some states to practice vigilance in masking and social distancing—and that it has already begun its resurgence in Pennsylvania,” said Dr. David Rubin, a general pediatrician and director of PolicyLab at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. “We can halt this momentum in its tracks. Governor Wolf’s measures will help stop the continued spread of the virus into Pennsylvania and its surrounding states, which would threaten the reopening of schools and our economy in the coming months.”

## Updated Guidance to Safely Reopen Pennsylvania's Schools

Pennsylvania Department of Health  
Secretary Dr. Rachel Levine and  
Education Secretary Pedro Rivera  
(07/16/20)

The [best practice recommendations](#) for schools outlined by the departments of Health and Education include:

- Masks must be worn by students and staff at school and on the bus. Masks can be removed to eat or drink.
- Students or caregivers should do a daily symptom screening before leaving for school.
- Students, teachers and other staff are strongly encouraged to follow social distancing throughout the day with **six 6 feet of separation between desks and other seating**.
- If possible, hold classes in gyms, auditoriums, other large spaces or outdoors, where physical distancing can be maintained.
- Student seating should be facing in the same direction.
- Limit student interactions by staggering class times, creating one-way walking patterns in hallways, and, when feasible, keeping students in a classroom and rotating teachers instead.
- For breakfast and lunch, consider serving individually packaged meals in classrooms and avoid across-the-table seating. If meals are served in a cafeteria, sit students at least 6 feet apart.
- Limit the number of students on playgrounds at one time and encourage social distancing.
- Encourage the use of virtual gatherings, events, and extracurricular activities.

[The guidance released today provides a list of best practices](#) for schools to consider before the start of in-person classes.

# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – remain the same

## Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking

### Distancing:

- Classroom configurations will be altered to maintain 6 feet social distancing
- Fewer students will sit two to a seat on a bus. Emphasize families sitting two to a seat.
- Lunch:
  - Elementary Level - might be brown bag
  - Secondary Level: Schedule will be truncated; **for example only** - dismiss at 12:30 students take lunch with them
- The look and feel of school will be very different with a hybrid model

# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – remain the same **Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking**

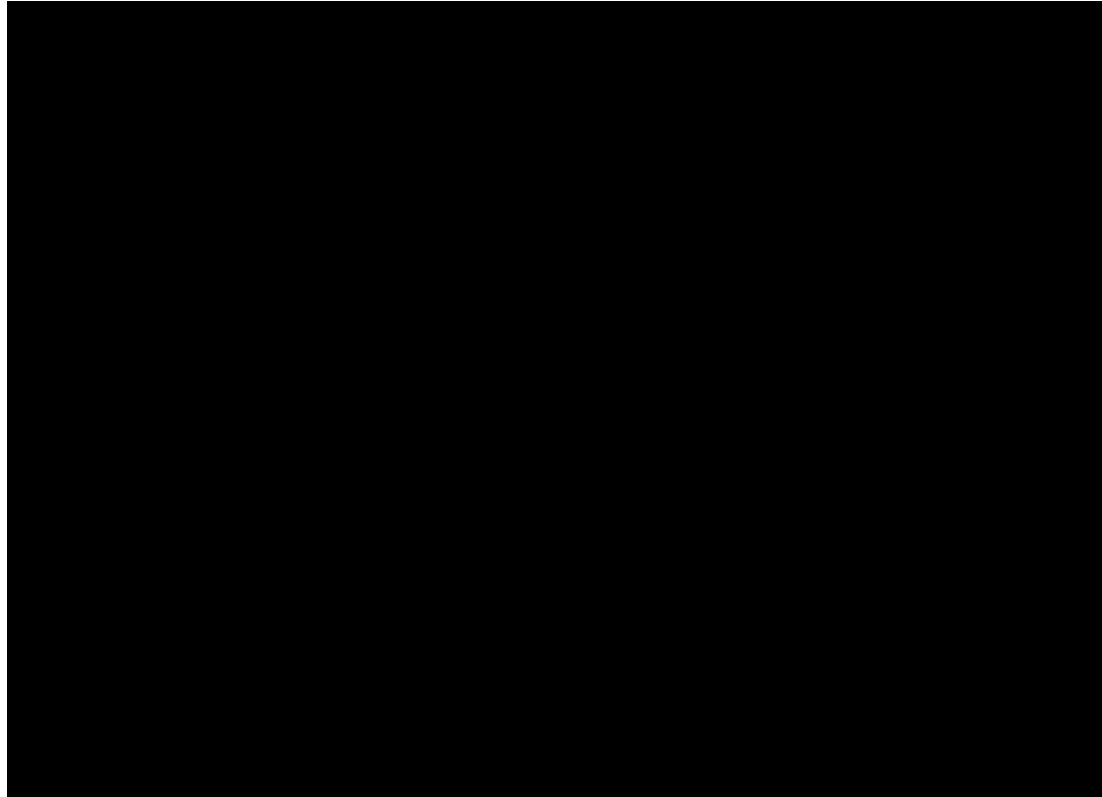
## Elementary Lunch Set Up:

- Cafeteria set up for a total of 46 students to eat lunch
- Gymnasium will be set up with 40 tables when a total of 80 students can eat lunch



# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking

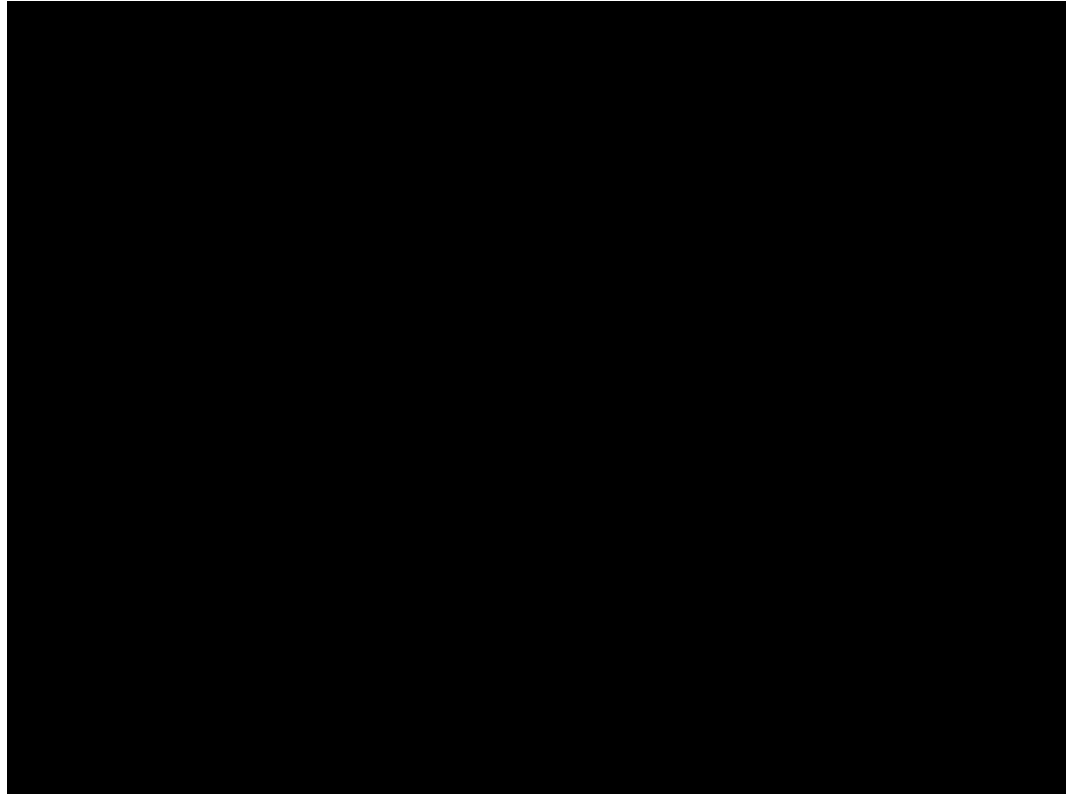
Classroom setup - elementary level  
6 feet distancing





# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking

Classroom set up - middle school level  
6 feet distancing



# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – remain the same

## **Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking**

### **Screening: - No change to initial 7/2 communication**

- Information about symptoms will be communicated on a regular basis and posted throughout the district.
- Staff members who exhibit symptoms need to stay home.
- Students who exhibit symptoms need to stay home.
- Parents will support the district and conduct daily symptom screening and not send to school children who exhibit symptoms
- Staff members will conduct daily symptom screening

# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – remain the same Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking

## Hygiene: - no change to 7/2 Communication

- Education about hand washing will be communicated on a regular basis and posted throughout the district.
- CDC-approved sanitizing products and equipment to strengthen hygiene practices will be in use in our buildings.
- Time for frequent hand-washing and/or sanitizing will be built into the school day.
- Disinfection and cleaning of common areas will occur daily.
  - Greater specificity will be identified in the Health & Safety Plan



# 4 Focus Areas: Hybrid Model – remain the same Distancing, Screening, Hygiene, Masking

## Masking:

- All adults must wear face coverings (mask or shield) when in schools, offices and school vehicles.
- All students must wear face coverings per the Governor's order July 3, 2020
  - Guidance for schools document has been added to our website.

# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

**All students in school with social distancing at a minimum of 3 feet and an emphasis upon masking, hygiene and screening. (given updated guidance 7/16 this is not an option)**

- All students K-12 attend school 5 days a week.
  - The way time is scheduled throughout the day will be different
    - Staggered start to classes accommodate arrival and transportation
  - Opening will look different
    - Goal to have it feel nurturing, welcoming, caring
  - Sharing of materials will be reduced
    - Student supply lists will look different this year

# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

## Direction to be more restrictive\*

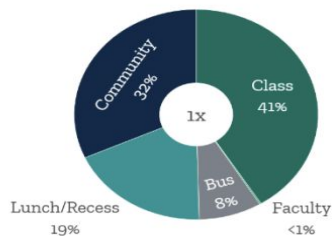
- Hybrid model guided by the [Regional Educational Laboratory report prepared for Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)
  - The Mid-Atlantic Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) was enlisted by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) to provide guidance for the reopening of schools in PA
    - The recommendations and findings were a result of REL's research which used both a qualitative and quantitative approach. Their work included the following:
      - Examination of emerging evidence on COVID-19's public health and educational implications for schools
      - Interviews with a wide range of Pennsylvania stakeholders to assess concerns and challenges related to reopening school buildings
      - Creation of an agent based computational model to assess likely disease spread among students and school staff under various approaches to reopening school buildings

# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

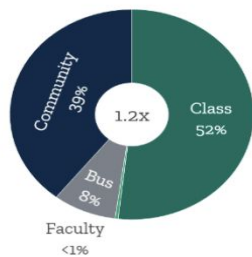
## Direction to be more restrictive\*

- Hybrid model guided by the [Regional Educational Laboratory report prepared for Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)
  - REL provided a full written report and also conducted a Webinar on July 6, 2020 that was attended virtually by Haverford Township School District administrators.
  - The findings cited the following areas that to be addressed:
    - Physical space recommendation of 6 feet apart - Center of Disease Control(CDC)
    - Masks
    - Inequity in Access regarding devices and broadband
    - Measurement of Attendance
    - Outdoor Space
    - Effective Remote Instruction
    - Social Emotional/Well being

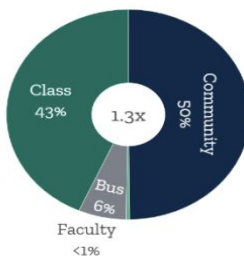
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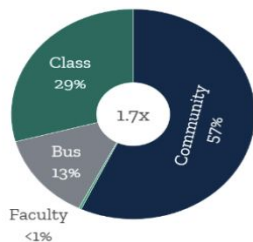
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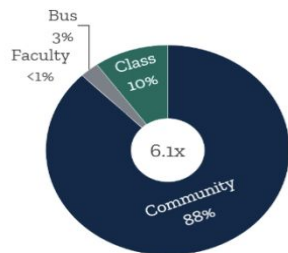
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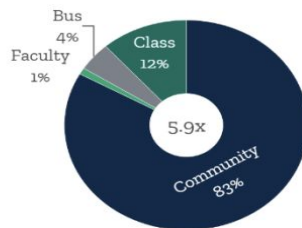
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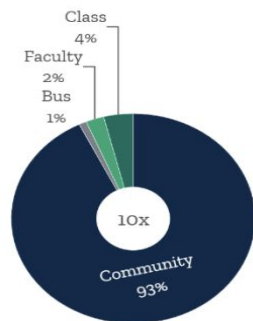
E



F



G



BLUE is GOOD!  
Limits transmission

A = daily attendance without any change

B = daily attendance with precautions

C = daily attendance with precautions & block schedule

D = daily attendance with precautions and students remain in 1 classroom

E = rotation attendance 2 days a week

F = rotating attendance weekly 4 -days

G = rotating attendance -1 day a week



# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

## Direction to be more restrictive\*

- Hybrid model guided by the [Regional Educational Laboratory report prepared for Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)
  - As a result of their research and simulations based of emerging evidence, REL provided seven scenarios for reopening schools: three are hybrid approaches:
    - Scenario E- Rotating 2 days per week. Half of students attending on Monday-Wednesday and the other half on Tuesday-Thursday. ALL students home on Friday --half the number of contacts in classroom and bus.
    - Scenario F- Weekly 4-day per week. Two groups alternating weeks. Rotating through 4 days in school followed by 10 days out of school might lead to lower COVID-19 infection rates,.
    - Scenario G- Students attend one day per week.
  -

# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

## Direction to be more restrictive\*

- Hybrid model guided by the [Regional Educational Laboratory report prepared for Pennsylvania Department of Education](#)
  - Scenarios E and F were identified as the strongest options due to their **low transmission probability**.
  - Scenarios E and F allows schools to operate at close to 40% attendance **slowing the spread substantially ultimately allowing for greater attendance**.

# Learning Plans ~~by 3 PA Phases~~

## Closing of schools: 100% Virtual:

- Students will learn via a combination of synchronous (live, all at the same time) and asynchronous (recorded, viewed at any time) instruction utilizing digital and non-digital resources.
- This is not Haverford Online.

# Timeline

- July 20-24:** Information gathering sessions with School District of Haverford Township employee groups
- July 20:** Details of proposed reopening plans posted on the website; Survey released (with link to plan) to gather feedback on proposed opening plans and tentative parent/guardian plans for the fall; due on 7/27
- July 21:** Haverford Online information session – 5 p.m.
- July 23:** Chester County Department of Health Director Jeanne Casner speaks at the School Board meeting to address protocols for schools to follow when reporting COVID exposure and/or cases, including contact tracing.  
**District will recommend a plan to the board.**
- July 27** Survey responses due
- July 30:** School Board expected to vote to approve opening plan
- August 31:** Haverford School District's first day of school. Principals will communicate with opening plans to engage and acclimate students.