

Pherrell Williams

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PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



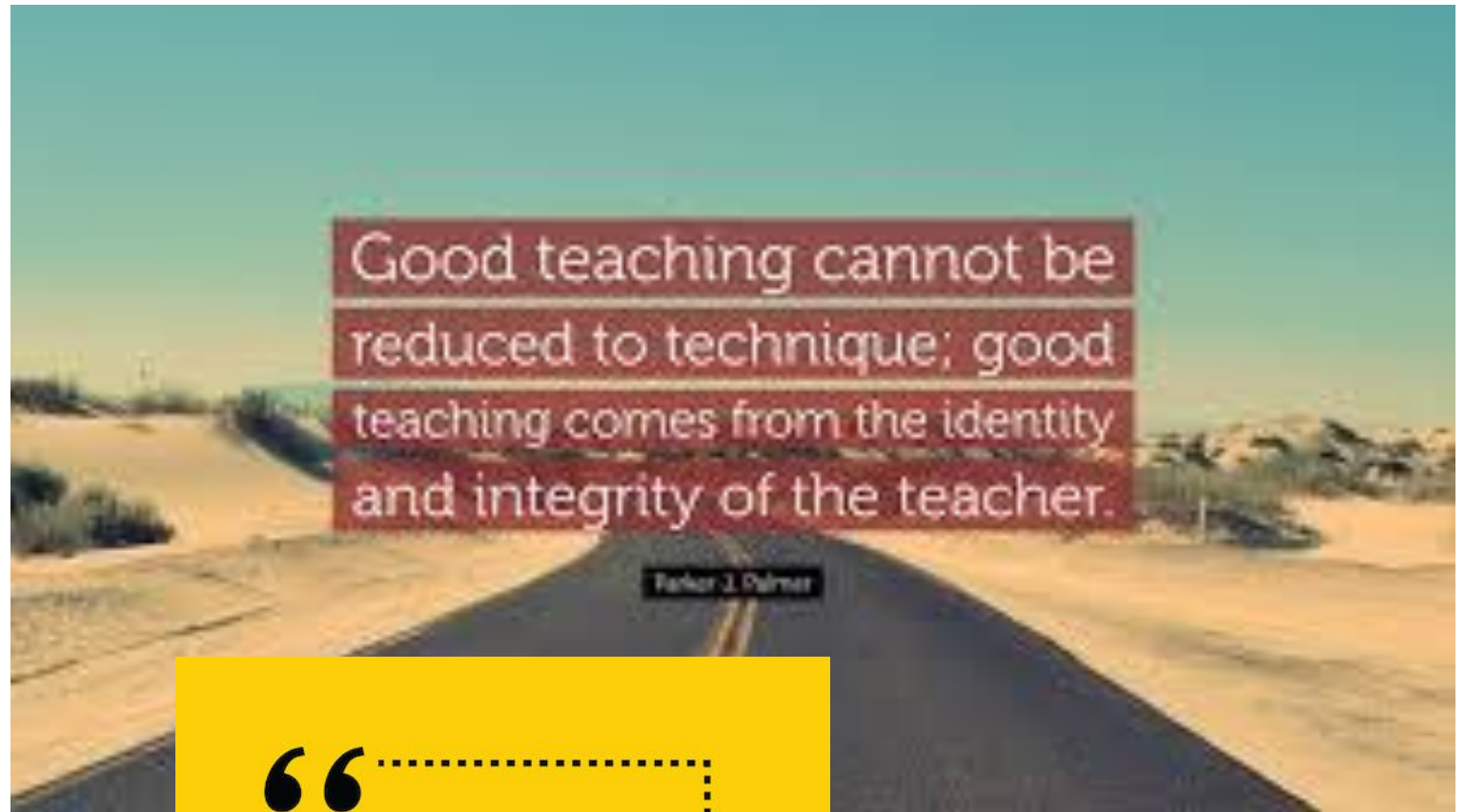
REOPENING PLAN 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

Roy M. Seitsinger, Jr., Ph.D.
Superintendent



Creating Our Children's Future

*Traditional
Thinking
WILL NOT
WORK!*



Bucket is Full

Everyone's bucket is full. No matter the issue, no matter the timing. No matter who is involved. It is important to be aware that, for many reasons, everyone's emotional bucket is full! Be patient. Be kind. **Take a breath!**





Don't Worry About

- Sharks
- Sea Lice
- Asteroids, Comets, Meteors
- Aliens
- Nuclear War
- Other People's Money
- What people think of you
- THE PAST
- What you own
- Everything you are doing wrong
- WORRYING!





C H A N G E

What we know for sure:
THE CHANGES ARE HERE TO STAY!
GET COMFORTABLE WITH UNCERTAINTY!
BE PREPARED TO PIVOT!!

ME!

The moment
I took my
mask off
during a
**MASK
BREAK!**



“It is possible to prepare for the future without knowing what it will be. The primary way to prepare for the unknown is to attend to the quality of our relationships, to how well we know and trust one another.”

Margaret Wheatley, 2004

PRIORITIES



- *Safety and well-being*
- **The trusting relationship between the teacher, staff, and the student**

Preston Public Schools



Reopening Plan

2020-2021 School Year

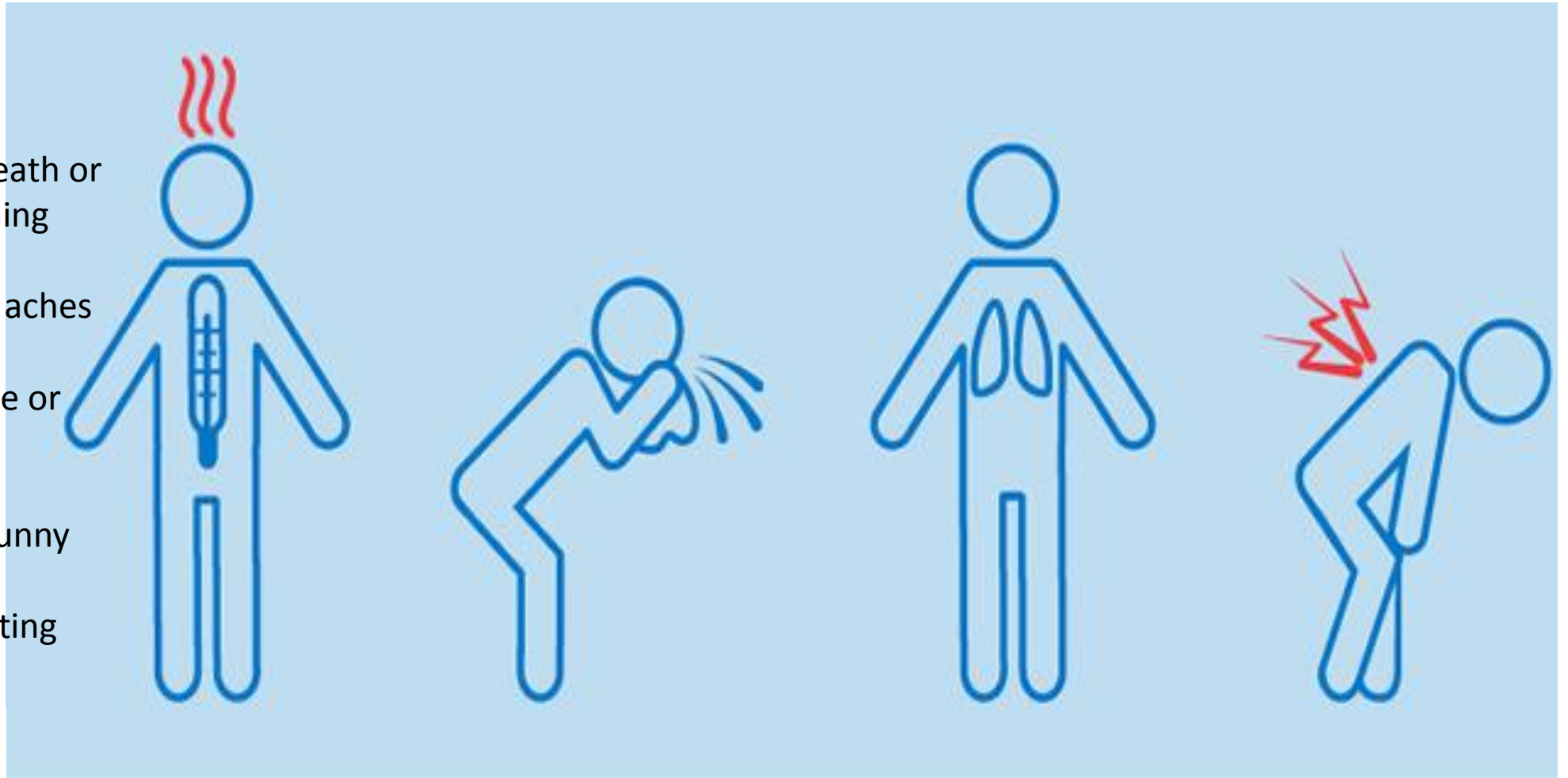
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People with COVID-19 have a wide range of symptoms, ranging from mild to severe.
Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus.

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea



Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to LEARN and Grow Together

Addendum 4: Interim Guidance for Decision-Making in Connecticut Schools During COVID-19

Leading Indicator	LOW Favors more In-Person Learning	MODERATE Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	HIGH Favors moving to Remote Learning
Number of new cases of COVID-19 (7 day rolling average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	<10 new cases per 100,000 population	10 to <25 new cases per 100,000 population	25+ new cases per 100,000 population



Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut’s Plan to LEARN and Grow Together

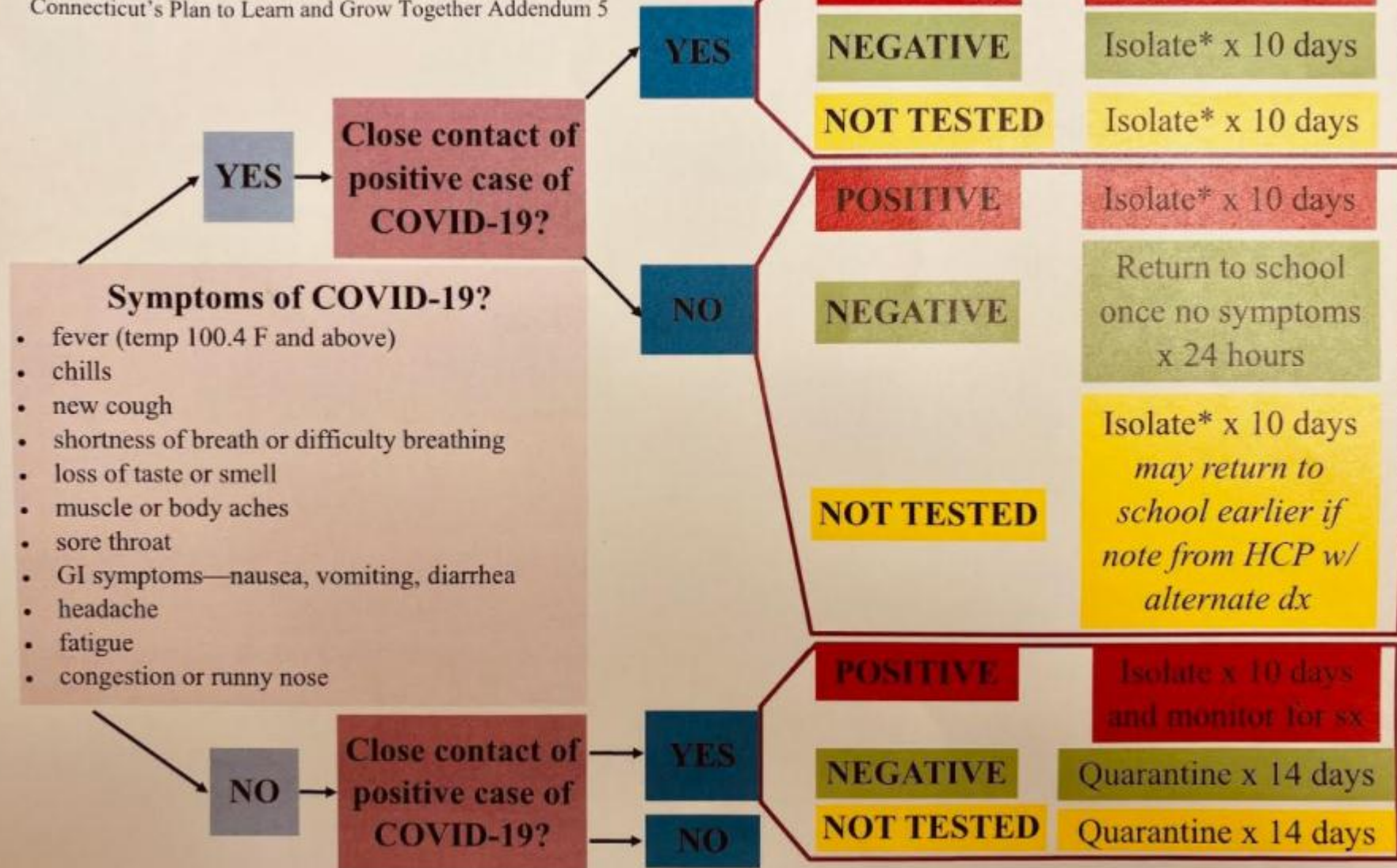
Addendum 4: Interim Guidance for Decision-Making in Connecticut Schools During COVID-19

Secondary Indicators	LOW Favors more In-Person Learning	MODERATE Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	HIGH Favors moving to Remote Learning
Percent positivity rate (#of positive tests/# of total tests, 7-day rolling average)	Direction of Change: Secondary indicators trending down to flat	Direction of Change: Secondary indicators trending flat to upward	Direction of Change: Secondary indicators trending upward
Number of new COVID- 19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population (7-day rolling average)	Speed of Change: No statistically significant changes to secondary indicators	Speed of Change: Any statistically significant changes upward to secondary indicators	Speed of Change: Consistent, statistically significant changes upward to secondary indicators
COVID-like and Influenza-like illness (CLI and ILI) syndromic surveillance			



Guidance for COVID-19 Scenarios in Schools

based on CSDE/DPH Adapt, Advance, Achieve:
Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together Addendum 5

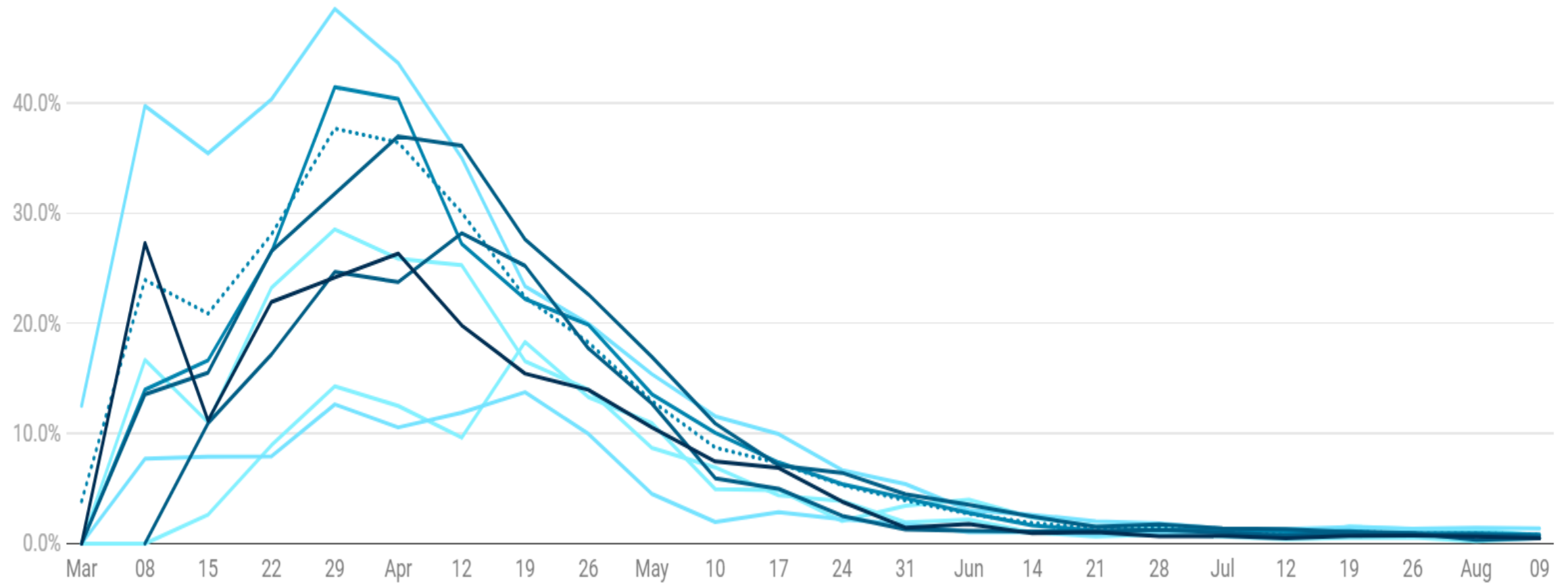


*Isolate for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms **and** until at least 24 hours without fever (without fever-reducing medications) **and** improvement in other symptoms



Percent Test Positivity (7-Day Average)

Connecticut Fairfield Hartford Litchfield Middlesex New Haven New London Tolland Windham



Indicators as of August 13th

Leading and secondary indicators of COVID-19 infection levels by county				
	Leading Indicator	Secondary Indicators		
County	New COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population per day	Percent test positivity	New COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population per day	Percent COVID-19-like illness hospital ED visits
Connecticut	1.8	0.9%	0.5	1.1%
Fairfield	2.6	1.4%	0.5	1.8%
Hartford	1.3	0.8%	0.4	0.5%
Litchfield	0.5	0.2%	0.1	1.1%
Middlesex	1.3	0.6%	1.0	1.0%
New Haven	1.8	0.9%	0.6	1.7%
New London	1.1	0.8%	0.3	1.1%
Tolland	0.3	0.3%	0.0	0.4%
Windham	2.3	1.3%	0.0	0.4%

Temperature Screening

Connecticut
Department of
Public Health
Presentation

COVID-19 and
Schools:
Mitigation
Strategies,
Community
Spread, and
Decision-Making

August 17, 2020

DPH is currently not recommending temperature screening at schools:

- Poor indicator of COVID-19 infection status
- Bottlenecks
- Inaccurate readings/repeated testing
- False sense of security
- Labor intensive
- Instead, give some ownership to students/parents for health monitoring





DISTRICT RESPONSE

- Reopening Team
- Social-Emotional Learning Team
- Curriculum Instruction Team
- Professional Development Team
- District Leadership Team
- District Safety Team
- The Board of Education
- **EVERYBODY!!**





OPTIONS FOR INSTRUCTION



Full Face-to-Face
with social distancing and
cleaning priorities in place



Hybrid Model
combining face-to-face
with virtual instruction



Full Virtual Instruction
with improved instructional
designs and student
engagement strategies

Why Hybrid?



Healthy social distancing



Improved contact tracing



Re-establish trusted relationship
between educators and students



Reduced material contacts



Lower Budget Impact



HYBRID MODEL



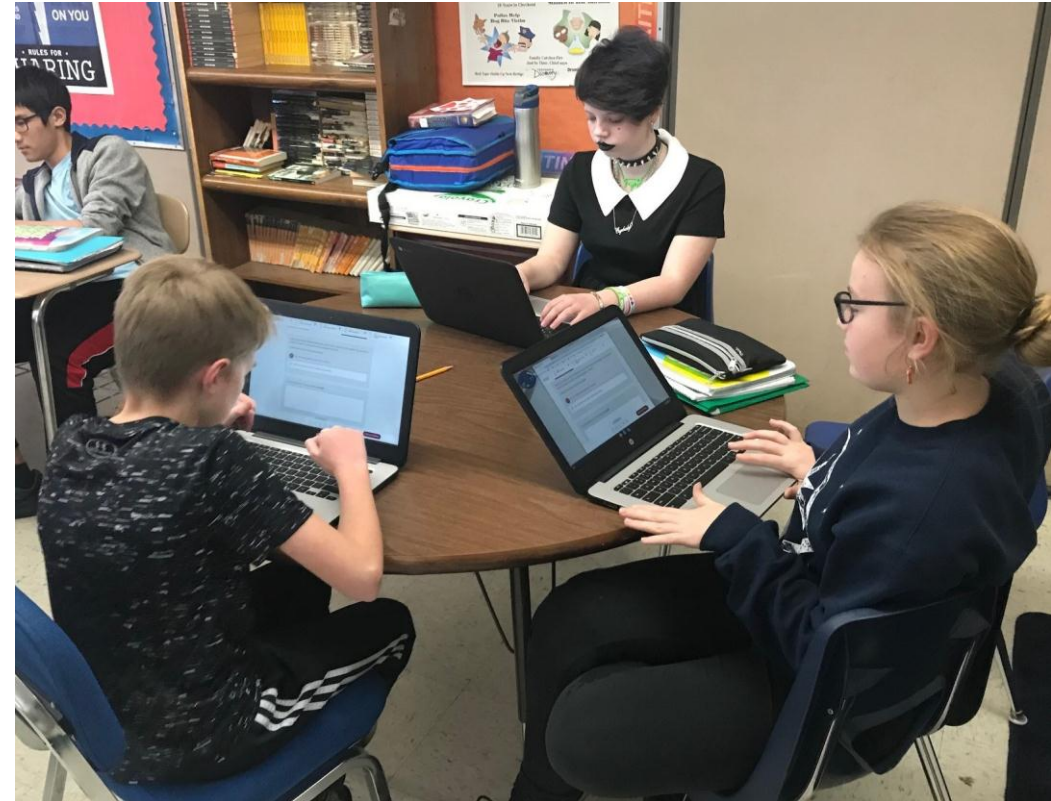
Model	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Hybrid Model	Student Group A In school In-person Student Group B Virtual Learning	Student Group A In school In-person Student Group B Virtual Learning	All Students Virtual Learning Deep Cleansing of School Buildings	Student Group A Virtual Learning Student Group B In school In-person	Student Group A Virtual Learning Student Group B In school In-person



DISTRICT REOPENING PLAN



- **HYBRID MODEL**
- First week – Early Dismissal - Calibration
- Students instructed Everyday
- 41 students chose Virtual
- Social-Emotional Learning Emphasis
- **Academics after Wellbeing**
- Professional Development Important
- District Leadership and Safety Team
- The Board of Education





PreK and K Students

- Teachers move closer
- Masks for ALL
- Comfortable clothes
- Feasible Social Distance

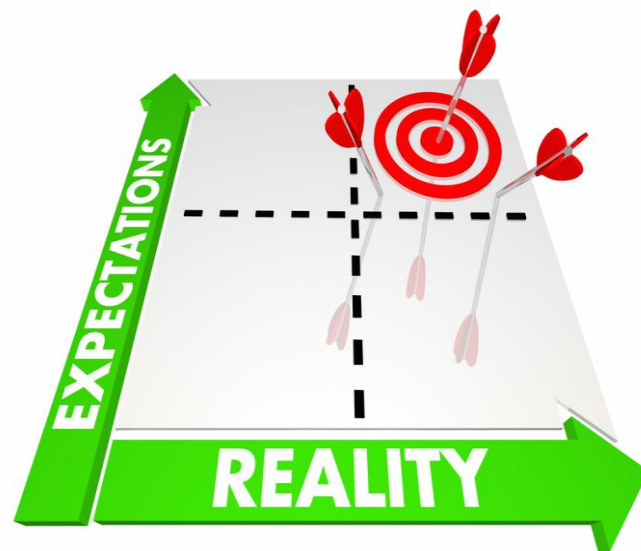
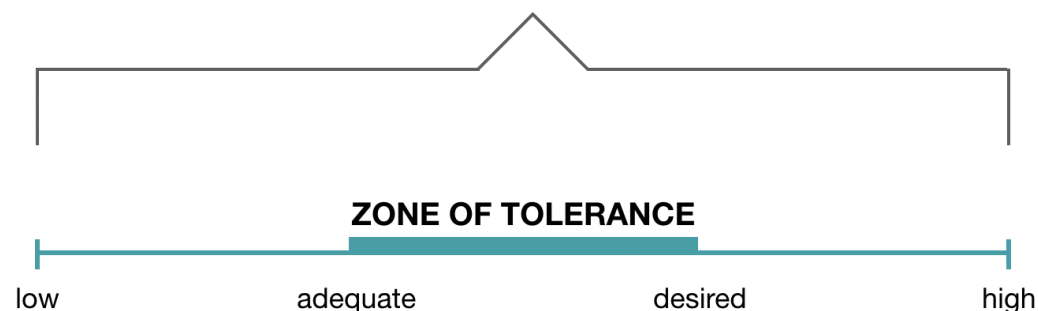


EARLY CHILDHOOD



MANY NEW TOOLS

EXPECTATIONS vs EXPERIENCE



Rethinking Teaching 2020

Enriching remote, online, hyflex, blended, and in-person teaching for fall 2020

Instead of This

- Long lectures
- Worksheets
- Feedback
- High stakes tests
- One-size-fits-all
- 100% live classes
- Dominant curricula
- Solo activities

Try This!

- Mini-lessons with active learning ([research](#))
- [HyperDocs](#), [webquests](#), or [interactive stories](#)
- [Feedforward](#)
- Low-stakes [mastery of learning](#)
- Universal Design for Learning ([UDL Strategies](#))
- Low-tech and asynchronous activities
- Culturally relevant pedagogy ([research](#))
- [Connected Learning](#) & [social activities](#)

Teaching During COVID-19

- **Don't Replicate School** - 6 hours in school is not the same as 6 hours on Zoom. [Zoom fatigue is real - here's why video calls are so draining](#)
- **Keep High Expectations** - Don't change your expectations, change your approach. Maintain high expectations for all learners but understand that students are struggling more than ever. Students will need extra support and flexible deadlines rather than consequences.
- **Abandon Surveillance & Control Tools** - Without being able to look over students' shoulders you might want to turn to tools that will allow you to see and control what students are doing on their screens. Instead, focus on building trust, relationships, and respect. Provide clear expectations and transparency for asynchronous learning activities ([Transparent teaching and learning framework](#)). Check-in often with formative assessment tools.

Surveillance & Control

The use of surveillance, proctoring, and control tools (e.g., browser lock) **reinforces "compliance and submission to authority"** in an environment that should be emphasizing individual motivation, critical thinking, and internalized ethics."
bit.ly/surveilpedagogy

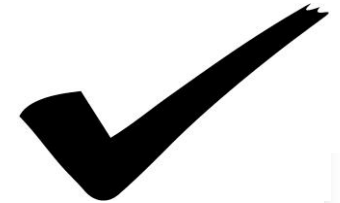
Low-Tech Learning

Reduce screen time with low-tech activities:

- Haiku Hikes, Journaling, Postcard Writing
- Building, Inventing, Designing, Crafting
- Sketchnoting, Drawing, Map-Making
- Observing, Collecting Data, Predicting
- Creating Comics, Collages, Songs, & Rhymes
- Interviewing, Storytelling, Playwriting
- Learn more: [Kids Have All the Write Stuff](#)



OPT-IN VIRTUAL LEARNING



- A family may chose Virtual Learning at any time.
- There must be a commitment of at least a trimester.
- Schools need at least a two week notice for any change in learning models.
- Opt-In Virtual Learning needs the approval of the Superintendent.
- The four core subject areas will be the focus.
- Special Education and 504 commitments will be adhered to.
- Certified staff will support multi-grade levels depending on the number of students.
- There will be no Ala Carte menu.

First time in district history

- We will move to one-to-one devices grades 3 to 8
 - One-to-one computers will be allowed to be carried to and from school
- Ordered 225 more Chromebooks and 20 + laptops from the state

TECHNOLOGY



STAFFING



- Retained staffing during the last budget cycle
- Welcome New Staff On Board
 - Ann Gluade
 - Brendon Merrill
- Hybrid Model: Possible
 - A new custodians
 - New student support staff
 - Possible new teacher



October 1, 2020

Each month, we will review district data, community data, and regional data. Using that information as a baseline, we will assess our circumstances based on social-emotional and wellness issues. These two factors will help us determine whether we increase our in-person instruction, keep it the same, or move toward more virtual instruction.



Adapt, Advance, Achieve:

Connecticut's Plan
to Learn and Grow
Together



Addendum 1: Temporarily Opting into Voluntary Remote Learning Due to COVID-19

Addendum 2: COVID Guidance and Considerations for Preschool Located in Public Schools

Addendum 3: Fall Reopening Resource Document for Students with High Needs

Addendum 4: Interim Guidance for Decision-Making Regarding the Use of In-person, Hybrid (Blended), or Remote Learning Models in CT Schools During COVID-19

Addendum 5: Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in CT School Districts

Addendum 6: Reopening Guidance for Educating Students with Disabilities

Addendum 7: Reopening Considerations for Connecticut K-12 Music Programs



- Instruction five days each week
- PreK and K students attend school M-T and Th-F, as a classroom cohort
- Everyone wears a face covering/mask
- No visitors in schools without an appointment
- Teacher Instructional Expectations
- Parent Expectations
- No Friends Ride Home on Buses

- Students will use backpacks, not cubbies or lockers
- Sharing of materials is discouraged
- No before and after school programs
- Social Distancing three to six feet
- High Touch Surface cleaning
- Staff will do a Home Health Review
- Parents/caregivers are expected to do a Home Health Review each morning
- Parents/caregivers are expected to do what is possible to support home instruction
- READ FAQs!
- **TRUST YOURSELF!**

An ever-evolving circumstance!

THE ONE!

Our job is to create a safe environment for EVERY-ONE!

- The way we do that is through strict adherence to standards of practice we have put in place
- Maintaining our readiness to PIVOT

AND

- Trusting each other.



BIGSTOCK

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TEAMWORK: WE KNOW THE ANSWER



- **KINDNESS**
- **PATIENCE**
- **COMPASSION**
- **SUSTAINED EFFORT**
- **SELF-CARE**
- **TRUST**
- **GRATEFULNESS**



*Traditional
Thinking
WILL NOT
WORK!*



Portugal: The Man!

<https://youtu.be/EiH0Km58uw0>



OOH WOO. I'M A REBEL
JUST FOR KICKS. NOW
ME KICK IT LIKE IT'S 1986. NOW
MIGHT BE OVER NOW. BUT I
FEEL IT STILL



June 24, 2020, the district submitted its **THREE-TIERED PLAN** for reopening schools.

Preston Reopening Issues

- Wellbeing and safety
- Students
- Staffing
- Economic- Budget-FY 21 and FY 22
- Buses
- Student Virtual Choice

We are deeply appreciative of our team's time and efforts!!

SCALING UP: IMPROVING AND GROWING

- Evolving
- With regard to reopening - Agreement to move in unison when possible
- Support each other

