

Newsletter

Superintendent Goguen

June 25, 2020

Dear Students, Staff and Families of the Webster Public Schools,

Today, Governor Charlie Baker and Commissioner Jeff Riley of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education released their initial guidance about reopening schools this fall. As you will see when reading this guidance, the goal is for as many students as possible to return to school for in-person learning.

The initial guidance about reopening schools requires districts to come up with three plans for the fall to submit to the Department of Education:

1. A full return to school following specific safety guidelines
2. A hybrid model that combines some in-person learning with remote learning
Example: rotating between one week in school for in-person learning, with one week at home with remote learning
3. A full remote learning plan

Our administrators and staff will be reviewing this initial guidance over the next few weeks to develop plans for the Webster Public Schools. I expect more information mid-July from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to assist with the developments of these plans. As we develop these plans we will be seeking to gather important information from our families.

We have attached a **family survey** and ask that you take a few moments to fill it out today. This data will help us plan for each school model accordingly. For example, we will need to know if families have students at multiple schools when planning for the hybrid model, as we would want to keep children in the same family on the same cycle.

The initial guidance is set with the goals of returning to full time in-person school learning, but also states that this is subject to change based on the medical data related to this health pandemic. Having the three plans ready to go and clearly communicated prior to school starting is our goal.

The initial guidance provides information to some of our questions, but not all of them. The initial guidance sets the following requirements:

- Students/ staff should not come to school if they are feeling sick
- Masks/ face coverings will be required for all students in Grades 2 and above and all adults.
- Masks/face coverings will be recommended for students in Grade 1 and below
- Preventive measures of physical distancing (3ft. – 6 ft.), hand washing and frequent cleaning in schools

I encourage you to read the initial guidance and fill out the family survey. As we continue to plan for multiple contingencies for the fall we will continue to keep you informed.

Thank you for your ongoing support, patience and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Kind Regards,
Dr. Goguen