



Return to School Planning

Framingham Public Schools
July 1, 2020



Overview

- Back to School Task Force
 - 50+ school and district staff members representing all schools and wide range of roles
 - 2 meetings as a whole group (3 hours each)
 - Individual subcommittee meetings for ongoing work
 - Recommendations reviewed by Senior Leadership
- Guiding Principles:
 - *Our district is committed to teaching all students, regardless of the instructional setting. This will require careful planning and consideration to ensure we equitably plan for addressing the needs of English learners, students with disabilities, and students from low-income households.*
 - *Creating a safe and supportive school and district culture for students and adults is our top priority.*

Overview



- 6 Elements of the Plan

- Physical Operations
- School Safety Operations
- Academics
- Whole Child
- School Personnel
- Communication

- District Planning Team

- Broad departmental representation
- Invited FHS administration to participate
- Participated in full- and half-day planning sessions
- Work is ongoing with smaller working groups and full group

- Next Steps

- Reconvene Back-to-School Task Force
- Begin work with Principals on school-based plans

Plan is a Living Document



- All plans are in draft form at this time as we await further DESE directives
- Stakeholder feedback may drive some changes
- The FPS plan is subject to change at any time
- Guidelines and directives continue to evolve
- Status of COVID-19 in Framingham and in the state will dictate further revisions

Physical Operations



- Building-specific plans
 - Classroom configurations
 - Office configurations
 - Cafeteria, gymnasium, library, and auditorium layout and use protocols
 - Hallway and stairway travel plans, including one-way movement as needed
 - Storing of individual student belongings
- Minimize visitors to schools with protocols for anyone with business in the school
- Procedures for meetings and emergency evacuations
- Additional preventative measures
- Planning for school meals including safe distribution, consumption, and clean up
- Planning for transportation including safety protocols during travel

6-Foot vs 3-Foot Distancing Illustration



12 Desks at 6-Foot Distancing



20 Desks at 3-Foot Distancing



School Safety Operations

- Cleaning and disinfecting procedures
- Use of personal protective equipment including face coverings
- School safety routines
 - School entry and dismissal
 - Hallway passing
 - Recess
 - Accessing the bathroom
 - Accessing the school nurse
- Personal hygiene including frequent hand washing
- Considerations for students with physical impairments
- Training of students in new routines and practices
- Cleaning of shared equipment
- Attendance reporting procedures
- COVID-19 Response Plan

Academics



- Districts are required by DESE to submit plans for 3 models
 - In-person learning with new safety requirements
 - Hybrid learning
 - Remote learning
- Each plan must outline considerations for special populations
- Prioritize planning for in-person learning
- Final plans will be posted to District website

Academics: In-Person Learning (DESE Goal)

- Return to school full time, 5 days per week
- Will require modifications to the way we typically think about “school”

DESE Recommendations

- Consider utilization of alternative spaces in the building
 - Library
 - Cafeteria
 - Auditorium
- Reduce the mixing of student groups
 - Create cohorts of students
 - Limit student travel within a school

Academics: Hybrid Learning

- Students alternate between in-person and remote learning
- Reduces the number of students in the school at any given time

DESE Recommendations

- Use an A/B cohort model which isolates two student groups
- Prioritize high needs students for full-time in-person learning when feasible
- Provide appropriate resources and supports for students without adequate internet or computer access at home

Academics: Remote Learning

- Fully remote learning model, with teachers providing instruction through virtual means

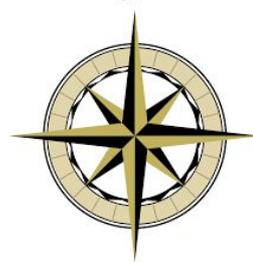
DESE Recommendations

- This model must be available for individual students who cannot return to in-person learning and for all students in the event of future closures
- DESE will provide additional guidance during the summer months

Whole Child



- Development of multi-tiered system of supports with COVID-19 in mind
 - Addressing social emotional and mental health needs
 - Focusing on relationships and transitions
 - Preparing for increased potential for trauma
 - Physical and psychological safety implications and preparation
 - Discipline
- Home monitoring of student health
 - Guidelines for keeping students at home
- Considerations during extreme heat
- Extracurriculars, athletics, and before/after school programming



School Personnel

- Staff rights and responsibilities
- Professional Development (alignment to FPS Strategic Plan 2020-2024)
 - Training for the return to school
 - Virtual learning (technology applications)
 - Social emotional learning/safe and supportive classrooms
 - Racial Equity, Anti Racism, and Culturally Responsive Practices
 - Impacts of Economic Disadvantage
- Support for new staff
- Teacher absences and substitutes

Communication



- **District Communication Plan**
 - Regular summer communication with planning updates
 - Opportunities for family and community feedback
 - Fall communications with return to school updates
- **School Communications**
 - Video communication to prepare students and families for return to school
- **Family Engagement**
 - Support in use of instructional software
 - Assistance in use of technology (chromebooks)
- **COVID-19 Communication Plan**

School Will Look Different...



- Required use of face coverings
- Frequent hand washing
- Careful furniture placement to promote social distancing (3-6 foot distancing)
- Possible one-way stairs and corridors
- Changes to lunch routines
- New protocols for riding the school bus (to be determined)
- Increased use of technology for student collaboration
- Increased tracking of student and staff movement and attendance for contact tracing
- Fewer visitors to schools
- Increased opportunities for relationship building and social emotional learning
- Curriculum modifications as necessary