



PHASED REOPENING UPDATE

February 18, 2021

Dear Hampton Families:

Currently, the Hampton Township School District is implementing our Phased Reopening Plan, which was re-approved by the Board of School Directors at the December 7, 2020, Board Reorganization Meeting. As you are aware, this plan involves elementary students attending in-person instruction five-days per week and secondary students attending on an enhanced hybrid plan. According to our approved Health and Safety Plan, we are implementing these instructional models as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH).

Yesterday, I participated in a meeting with the Pennsylvania Deputy Secretary of Education and my fellow superintendent colleagues from Allegheny County to learn how PDE will implement the CDC school reopening guidelines issued last week. We learned that the PDE is not providing any additional flexibility for full reopening and the requirements for six feet of social distance may be expected even if Allegheny County moves out of the *substantial* spread phase. It appears that the new CDC guidelines are more stringent for full reopening at the middle school and high school setting than elementary schools. It is unclear at this juncture how the PA DOH & DOE will interpret and implement the new CDC guidance.

While the county COVID-19 data is promising, we are still designated by the PA DOE as a *substantial spread* county. Therefore, we must strictly follow the social distance and masking regulations that allow us to be open for in-person instruction. We can only meet these mandates with 50% student attendance at the middle school and high school. With the new development from the CDC and our current substantial spread rating, we will collaborate with the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) to guide future planning. At this time, we are carefully developing in-person options that we intend to present and discuss at the March 1st board meeting. We want to be sure that any options we propose are actually viable and would not violate PDE guidance which may be impacted by CDC reopening documents.

Therefore, we believe that it is prudent to plan carefully for March. At this time, we are proposing the continuation of our enhanced hybrid schedule for Hampton High School and Hampton Middle School for March. Please note our elementary attendance plan would remain unchanged. The specific schedule for the continued enhanced hybrid schedule listed below continues the format that has been in place since the implementation of this plan. We have carefully designed the month of March so that both Pod A and Pod B have equitable in-person instructional days. We continue to provide appropriate transportation for our students who attend the A.W. Beattie Career Center to participate in in-person opportunities currently being provided there weekly.

Enhanced Secondary Hybrid Instructional Model March 2021

March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	A 1	B 2	A 3	A 4	B 5	
7	A 8	B 9	B 10	A 11	12	13
14	A 15	B 16	A 17	A 18	B 19	20
21	A 22	B 23	B 24	A 25	B 26	27
28	A 29	B 30	B 31			

In March: A- 11 in person instructional days

 B- 11 in person instructional days

Red blocks indicate No School day

The letters "A", "B" represent the in person instructional days that students will be attending school. Students will remain in the same pods, A or B, as in the previous hybrid schedule.

We are incredibly grateful for our students' and families' support of our enhanced mitigation measures and responding to our need to contact trace and work with the ACHD to ensure our students' and staff's safety. Our families and students' extra effort to follow our mitigation expectations and guidance from the ACHD both at school and in the community has been integral to the success of our instructional models. We will continue to work diligently to implement our health and safety plan as approved by the Board. We request that our families continue to support the strategies in place, which have proven effective from an educational and health and safety standpoint.

We will be discussing the future status of our enhanced hybrid plan at the Middle School and High School at our March 1 Board meeting. This discussion will be guided by additional direction and information from the PA DOE and the ACHD.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important information.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael Loughhead
Superintendent of Schools