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# Providing a Safe and Engaging Education for our Students

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FAMILY AND PARENT TOWN HALL  
2020-21 PLAN FOR REOPENING SCHOOL



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# Agenda

## **District Commitments and Decision-making Considerations**

### **Choices for school programs for 2020-21**

- In person instruction with enhanced safety and health measures
- Fully online school program

### **Promoting Healthy and Safe Environment**

- New health and safety measures for staff, students, and our facilities

### **Communicating with Parents and Families**

### **Registration for 2020-21 School Year**

### **Questions/Comments**



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# District Commitments – Shared Values

## Every Student. **Every Day.**

Together we are....

- Growing our team of effective and committed educators
- Creating a culture of high expectations
- Respecting our diversity
- Inspiring community trust and support
- Building pathways to successful futures



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# District Commitments – Health and Safety

## Decision Making Considerations for School in the Fall

- District is committed to providing to a safe and healthy working and learning environment
- District is committed to ongoing partnership with local health professionals to consider local data, national/international research, best practices, and recommendations
- District will follow state guidelines and requirements including the Governor's Office, CDPHE, CDE, CHSAA.
- District recognizes we will need to approach this year with flexibility and the ability to adapt as health conditions change locally or guidance changes from the state
- We all need to work together to develop and implement our plan. We all have a role to play in keeping our staff, our students, and our community healthy



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# District Planning and Approval Process

- ❑ District is presenting current planning based on current guidelines from the State as well as local guidance
- ❑ District is sharing key elements of the plan with key stakeholders prior to approval (teachers and staff, parents, community, health officials)
- ❑ The reopening plan will be considered and approved by the District Board of Education at their July meeting
- ❑ The plan and associated requirements and guidelines will be updated as we receive updated guidelines from the state or local officials and will likely be updated throughout the year



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# Promoting academic success and student engagement

## Overview of the Two Instructional Model Choices for 2020-21

**Option 1:**  
In-person instruction in our district schools



COVID outbreak



OR

**Option 2:**  
Fully Online School Program (CDLS state program)





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# Parents and families have a choice: In Person Instruction or Online School Program

## Option 1: In Person Instruction

- We are planning to offer in-person instruction with enhanced health and safety measures for staff and students
  - The health and safety measures will be determined by following local health department and hospital officials' guidance and state requirements for schools
  - These safety measures could change throughout the year based on changes in local health conditions (e.g. COVID outbreaks), medical research, or changes in state requirements
- All students will have access to a computer for use at school during in-person learning and additional learning at home
- Teachers will be teaching our regular RE-1 curriculum and providing our regular school activities and programs with safety measures wherever possible based on state guidance
  - Note: we are still waiting on guidance from the state regarding sports and some activities
- All teachers and schools will be planning for short-term periods of temporary online learning when there is a COVID outbreak in our area. We will go back to in person instruction as soon as we can (probably 1-2 weeks).
- Students enrolled in the in-person learning can choose to enroll in the online school program after the first semester if they would like.



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# Parents and families have a choice: In Person Instruction or Online School Program

## Option 2: Fully Online School Program

- We are planning to offer a fully online school program for parents and families who want to choose this option.
- Families wishing to enroll in the fully online school program will be provided a computer for each child enrolled in the online school program
- The online school program will include students and teachers from our schools as well as other schools across the state.
- The online school will include online teaching and support from teachers across the state as well as support from a local RE-1 district coordinator who will communicate with and support families and students in the program.
- Students enrolled in the fully online school program will still be considered to be enrolled in RE-1 and will be able to access our school meals as well as some school-based activities.
- Students enrolled in the fully online school program can choose to return to in-person instruction in our schools after the first semester if they would like.





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# Promoting a **healthy and safe** working and learning environment

## What might our enhanced health and safety measures look like?

### Masks and face shields

- Based on the new state requirements staff will be provided with high quality medical grade masks from the state and face shields from the district to wear at work (**based on guidance from the state staff will be required to wear masks indoors**). Our local medical professionals stated that wearing these types of masks at work would provide a proper level of protection for staff based on research
- Students- Students ages 10 and older will be required to wear masks indoors (**based on guidance from the state this will be required**)

### Plexiglass dividers for small group work in the classroom

- Teaching staff will have plexiglass dividers available for their classroom to use at their desk or a small group worktable to support small group work and/or check-ins with individual students.

### Enhanced cleaning

- Custodial and other staff will be doing enhanced cleaning throughout the day and deeper cleaning throughout the week

### Ventilation

- Teachers will open windows in classrooms wherever practical
- District is upgrading HVAC systems in our oldest buildings to help promote better ventilation as well as heating and cooling

# Promoting a **healthy and safe** working and learning environment

## What might our enhanced health and safety measures look like?

### Health screening

- All staff will complete personal health screens every day prior to going to work
- Parents/families are asked to take children's temperatures and be aware of COVID symptoms and not send children to school if they are sick or show symptoms of COVID or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID
- Nurses will do health screening for students or staff who become ill at school

### Social Distancing (group sizes less than 25 and 6 feet apart wherever practical)

- Sports and/or student performances may not take place and/or may not include spectators or audiences (**pending guidance from state and CHSAA**)
- Student assemblies of more than 25 students may not take place or may need to be virtual (**pending guidance from state**)
- Cafeteria – likely that students will eat in their classrooms or have very staggered cafeteria schedules (**pending guidance from the state**)
- Hallways – set up one-way lanes, staggered passing periods, and other routines to minimize number of students in hall and maintain social distancing

### Busing – **We are still awaiting guidance from the state on this**



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# Promoting a **healthy and safe** working and learning environment

## Communications with Parents and Families

- Parent and family education on new safety and health protocols
  - “Citizen’s Guide to Reopening Schools Safely” – end of July
  - Student handbooks will be updated with new information as needed
  - New safety and health protocols will be available on district and school websites
  - Parent and family meetings available to go over new health and safety protocols in detail
  
- Ongoing communications with parents and families
  - School communications – newsletters, Facebook, and websites
  - District communications – Facebook, websites, texts, emails, newspapers and radio, district board meetings and other district meetings
  - Opportunities for parent feedback and input – district parent satisfaction surveys, PTOs/PTAs at schools, district board meetings, district parent meetings
  
- School Communications when there are COVID cases in a school (**pending guidance from the state and local health officials**)
  - Processes for confirming and notifying staff and families of COVID cases in our schools
  - Communications regarding temporary school closure and temporary online learning



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# Registration for 2020-21 School Year

## Choice of two school options for 2020-21 school year

- In person instruction at school (with plan for temporary online learning when there are COVID cases identified at school)

OR

- Fully online schooling

## Two ways to register

- Register online** via our website and link to Powerschool (parents will need to create a Powerschool account and portal – directions will be posted on our website and sent to parents via email). Online registration will be open July 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Register in person at your child's school** - we will be offering in-person registration using appropriate health precautions at each school on the following days:
  - MCHS – July 30th
  - K-8 schools – August 6th



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Questions?

Comments?