

DISTRICT UPDATE

11-10-20

- Updated Guidance
- Planning
- COVID Updates



UPDATED
STATE
GUIDANCE
11-6-20

- Currently half of Massachusetts students are learning in an all-remote model
- Metrics were updated – 120 communities were labeled as ‘red’, now 16 communities are labeled as ‘red’
- State views only three communities as having transmission rates that are prohibitive to any in-person learning (Chelsea, Lawrence, Revere)
- Previously – Red communities should consider remote
- Updated – Red communities should consider hybrid
- In Massachusetts, the ultimate decision is left to individual communities
- State is putting pressure on communities that are not providing in-person instruction (i.e. East Longmeadow, Watertown)

UPDATED
STATE
GUIDANCE
11-6-20

State does not plan to close schools

Schools are not showing high transmission rates

The great majority of districts in full-remote need to provide in-person instruction

New Metrics implemented

(From DESE Memo 11-6-20)

Districts are expected to prioritize in-person learning across all color-coded categories, unless there is suspected in-school transmission, in accordance with DESE's *Guidance on Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios*. Districts and schools in communities designated gray, green, or yellow are expected to have students learning fully in-person, if feasible. A hybrid model should be used only if there is no other way to meet health and safety requirements. Parents and caregivers will continue to have the option to choose a district's remote learning program for their children.

UPDATED STATE GUIDANCE 11-6-20

If a school or district needs to go full-remote, it needs to return to in-person as quickly as possible

(From DESE Memo 11-6-20)

Schools in red communities should implement hybrid models, while maximizing in-person learning time for high-needs students.

Only as a last resort in classrooms, schools, or districts when there is suspected in-school transmission or a significant municipal outbreak, in accordance with DESE's *Guidance on Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios*. Classrooms and schools should reopen after appropriate mitigation strategies have been implemented, as determined in consultation with the local board of health, DPH, and DESE.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?



No change – we are already providing as much in-person instruction as possible



Space requirements prohibit full-return (classroom – buses)



Given recent trends, doubtful that the state will decrease distancing requirements

PLANNING



All-remote (readiness for potential need)



New schedule at GMS



K-1 return on hold



District-wide survey

COVID UPDATES

- Cases – Communication and partnership with DPH
- Abbott BinaxNOW testing participation
- Capital – New ventilation systems
- Weather – mask breaks, space, DESE guidance on snow days
- Statewide audit regarding time on learning
- Staffing – Aside from health and safety, our most significant challenge



QUESTIONS?



GOAL #1

ENSURE THAT INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICES IN ALL SETTINGS REFLECT HIGH EXPECTATIONS, ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, AND ARE PERSONALIZED TO ACCOMMODATE DIVERSE LEARNING STYLES, NEEDS, AND LEVELS OF READINESS



GOAL #2

DEVELOP AND EXECUTE EFFECTIVE PLANS, PROCEDURES, ROUTINES, AND OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS TO ADDRESS THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF STUDENTS.

DRAFT GOAL #3

IMPLEMENT A COHESIVE APPROACH TO RECRUITMENT, HIRING, INDUCTION, AND SUPPORT OF STAFF



Streamline
evaluation system



Flexible staffing
structures



Modify induction
and mentoring
programs

