



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Re-Entry Planning

January 11, 2021

American Academy of Pediatrics – COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools Summary

Link: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

General

1. Community-wide approaches to mitigation are needed for schools to open and remain open.
2. At present, it appears that children younger than 10 years are less likely to become infected and less likely to spread infection to others, although further studies are needed.
✓ **This will impact students in grades PK-4.**
3. Some data suggest children older than 10 years may spread SARS-CoV-2 as efficiently as adults, and this information should be part of the consideration taken to determine how to safely and effectively open schools.
✓ **This will impact students in grades 5-12.**
4. Policy makers and school administrators should acknowledge that COVID-19 policies are intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk. No single action or set of actions will completely eliminate the risks of SARS-CoV-2 transmission, but implementation of several coordinated interventions can greatly reduce the risks.
5. Since this guidance was first released, there have been several other documents released by the CDC, National Association of School Nurses, and National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. All these documents are consistent regarding the importance of considering the degree to which SARS-CoV-2 is circulating in a community in making re-opening policies.

Physical Distancing Measures

1. Some countries have been able to successfully reopen schools after **first controlling the community-wide spread of SARS-CoV-2** while using 3 feet between students without increases in community spread.
2. Physical distancing by and among adults is strongly recommended, and meetings, break time, lunch, and curriculum planning should take place virtually or outside if possible.



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3. Current evidence for K-8 schools shows that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs primarily between adults, particularly teachers.
4. Staff should be encouraged to minimize contacts outside of school.
5. Parents, in general, will be discouraged from entering the school building.

COVID -19 DATA

As the District plans for the re-entry of students, it is important that the data determines the reopening of schools using the models reviewed and approved by the Board.

Dover Schools Website Link:

https://www.dover.k12.nh.us/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1280352&type=d&pREC_ID=1847168

COVID-19 Data Sources

1. District metric developed by the Dover Medical Advisory Council.
2. Harvard Metric.

PLANNING GUIDELINES

To return as many students as possible for in-person instruction when the COVID-19 data indicates it can be done in a safe manner to protect students, faculty, and staff.

- Prioritize serving students at risk and high priority special education.
- Prioritize serving PK- 4 students in person.

COVID-19 Data Sources

1. District metric developed by the Dover Medical Advisory Council.
2. Harvard Metric.

Planning Guidelines

1. Administration will determine the assignment and location of faculty and staff.
2. All District COVID-19 Protocols and Procedures will be followed.
3. School-based leadership teams will serve as advisory groups to the school's administrative team. The Leadership will determine the final recommendation to be made to the Board.
4. The students' learning needs are the primary focus.
5. The length of in person services for special education priority groups will be consistent across the district.



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6. Decisions to return to school will be based on the COVID-19 Metric referencing the District Metric developed by the Medical Advisory Council and the Harvard Metric.
7. Provide parents the opportunity to choose the mode of instruction that best meets the needs of their children.

Factors for Consideration

1. During the cycle of returning students for in-person instruction, students will be phased-in to allow for a controlled transition to the brick-n-mortar school environment.
2. Schools will need to return to the regular school start and dismissal times in order to align with bus transportation.
3. Reducing the number of transitions for students and their families.
4. Dover Elementary Schools Model, Dover Middle School Model, and the Dover High School Model may look different to address the learning requirements of the different levels of schooling.
5. With the recent change by the American Academy of Pediatrics, students ten years and under distancing can be reduced to three feet.

Recommendations

- Starting March 1, 2021 – With support of the Medical Advisory Council.
 - ✓ PK through Fourth Grade return to in-person learning.
 - ✓ Dover Middle School and Dover High School will target cohort groups.

Other Considerations

1. Staffing – substitute teachers
2. Transportation
3. Food Service

Future Planning

- Summer School
- Lesson learned for application for the 2021-2022 school year