



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Beginning the week of April 5, Dover Middle School and Dover High School began their fifth week of in-person learning with the hybrid model where students receive two days of in-person learning per week. Below are the number of students/families who chose to remain with the virtual learning model:

- Dover Middle School Virtual Students: 269
- Dover High School Virtual Students: 305

Six-foot distancing between students and adults has been maintained. In addition, the wearing of masks has been required.

Following are the Dover Middle School and Dover High School hybrid schedules:

DOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL - March 2021

	Grades 6, 7 and 8			Grade 5
7:30-7:55	Homeroom & check in		7:30-7:55	Homeroom & check in
8:00-8:40	Period 1		8:00-9:00	Period 1
8:45-9:25	Period 2		9:05-9:30	Break
9:30-9:40	Snack Break		9:30-10:30	Period 2
9:45-10:25	Period 3			No Period 3 due to longer Periods 1 & 2
10:30-11:10	Period 4	Grade 6 10:30-11:00 Encore 11:00-11:30 L/R		10:30-11:00 L/R 11:00-11:30 Encore
11:45-12:25	Period 5 Grade 7 11:30-12:00 L/R 12:00-12:30 Encore	Grade 8 11:30-12:00 Encore 12:00-12:30 L/R	11:45-12:25	Period 5
12:50-1:30	Period 6		12:50-1:30	Period 6
1:30-2:20	Office Hours/ Independent work time		1:30-2:20	Office Hours/ Independent work time

Wednesday condensed schedules – Grades 6, 7, 8

Staff time	7:10-7:30
Homeroom/Advisory	7:30-7:45
Period 1	7:50-8:20
Period 2	8:25-8:55
Period 3	9:00-9:30
Period 4	9:35-10:05 Office hours for 5/6
Period 5	10:10-10:40 Office hours for 7/8
Period 6	10:45-11:15
Lunch	11:20-11:50
Teacher work time	11:55-2:25



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

Grade 5

Staff time	7:10-7:30
Homeroom/Advisory	7:30-7:45
Period 1	7:50-8:40
Period 2	8:45-9:35
Period 4	9:35-10:05 Office hours
Period 5	10:10-10:40
Period 6	10:45-11:15
Lunch	11:20-11:50
Teacher work time	11:55-2:25

DOVER HIGH SCHOOL - 2020-2021 Bell Schedule

Block	Time	Minutes
1	7:40 am to 9:00 am	80
2	9:05 am to 10:25 am	80
Flex	10:30 am to 11:10 am	40
3A	A Lunch: 11:15 am to 11:40 am	25/30
3 Pause	Pause: 11:45 am to 11:55 am	10
3B	B Lunch: 11:55 am to 12:20 pm	25/30
3 Pause	Pause: 12:25 pm to 12:35 pm	10
3C	C Lunch: 12:35 pm to 1:05 pm	30
4	1:10 pm to 2:30 pm	80

Wednesday Schedule

Block	Time	Minutes
1	7:40 am to 8:15 am	35
2	8:25 am to 9:00 am	35
3	9:10 am to 9:45 am	35
4	9:55 am to 10:30 am	35
Advisory	10:40 am to 11:20 am	40
Lunch	11:25 am to 11:55 am	30
Office Hours	12:00 pm to 2:30 pm	150

Starting the week of April 5, Dover Elementary Schools began their eighth week of in-person learning. Students/families electing to return for in-person are receiving in-person instruction five days per week. Below are the number of students/families who chose to remain with the virtual learning model:

- Garrison Elementary School: 130
- Horne Street School: 146
- Woodman Park School: 130



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

With the implementation of the in-person learning model at the elementary schools, three-foot distancing for students has been maintained and six-foot distancing for faculty and staff when feasible. In addition, mask wearing has been required.

On Friday, March 12, District faculty and staff had the opportunity to receive their first vaccination for COVID-19. The second vaccination is scheduled for Friday, April 9. The vaccination was made available to teachers, paraeducators, administrative staff, bus drivers, custodial and maintenance staff, food service staff, other support staff members, and administrators. With the vaccination cycle being completed on April 23, Dover Schools will have vaccinated 538 of the faculty and staff. Other faculty and staff have qualified for other vaccination offerings due to age or medical conditions. At this time, the District does not have a count of those individuals who participated in other vaccination programs. It is noted that the District vaccination clinic was offered to 700 possible participants. The 538 vaccinated through the District's vaccination closed pod represents 77% of the faculty and staff as described earlier.

With the vaccination cycle completed on April 23, the administration had planned to recommend to the Board to have Dover Middle School and Dover High School transition from the hybrid model to full-day – five days per week for in-person learning starting on Monday, May 3. The Dover Elementary Schools had already been approved by the Board to allow students remaining virtual/remote to have the opportunity to re-enter for in-person learning on May 3. With the Governor's announcement on Thursday, April 1, the timeline for the District has been moved from Monday, May 3 to Monday, April 19. It is still important that the Board review and act on the proposed plan for re-entry for in-person learning and recognize the adjustments that will need to be made to accommodate in-person learning.

MOVING FORWARD

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic there are factors that the District and our families have recognized as needs.

SEL/Mental Health: Many parents/guardians and staff have discussed the mental health needs of students who have been isolated from their peers and from school, many for over a year.

Socialization: Although athletics and other limited experiences were opened at the middle and high school, students' normal interactions and play have been impacted significantly. It is important to note that social distancing and health protocols will still be in place, therefore school will still not be the same as pre-COVID times, but students will be provided more opportunity to socialize than has been offered throughout the pandemic.

More time to teach: Teaching time has been lost with our students. The District cannot cram in or accelerate learning into the remainder of the school year, nor should we. The District can reinforce prior learning and solidify it as well as introduce new concepts more thoroughly. It will take far more time and



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

careful planning to make-up for lost learning but increased instructional time over the final weeks of school will benefit all students. It is important that students can be engaged with in-person learning in order that continual efforts can be focused on student learning and achievement.

Acclimatization: Many families, due to legitimate COVID concerns, have chosen a virtual only model since March 2020. School is more than a classroom or a building, it is a community. Over the past year, students have had many options for school. It is important for students to have the opportunity to reacclimate to school to increase their comfort and confidence for the 2021-2022 school year.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT FACTORS

The following are significant factors that will need to be considered:

1. **Emergency Order #64:** The Emergency Order #64 issued by the Governor requiring the minimum of two-days of in-person instruction expedited the current Dover Middle School and Dover High School hybrid model by one week. With most of the faculty and staff being vaccinated, the District needs to be proactive in providing the opportunity for all students to return for in-person learning five days per week for the full day. It is predicted that once a certain percentage of vaccinations are achieved related to school personnel, the Governor may order schools to reopen for additional in-person learning opportunities.

The prediction has become a reality. It was an earlier date than had been anticipated, but it is necessary that the District accommodate the Governor's directive of April 19, 2021.

2. **COVID-19 Vaccinations:** The vaccination of more than 77% of the faculty and staff for COVID-19 adds another layer of mitigation in the Dover Schools. It is noted that the state has established protocols to vaccinate children 16 and 17 years of age, with a parent/guardian present.
3. **Mitigation Factors:** The following mitigation factors will need to continue:
 - Wearing of masks
 - Complying with the social distance guidelines to the extent possible
 - ✓ 3 feet for students
 - ✓ 6 feet for adults
 - Frequently washing hands
 - Completion of the daily screener
 - Continued adherence to District protocols
4. **Additional Space:** With additional students returning for in-person learning, additional space may be needed to accommodate all students. Options such as tents for the food service program are being



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning

Board Considerations

April 5, 2021

researched as well as tables and chairs to accommodate outdoor eating and instruction. With the change to an April 19th re-entry, these items may not be able to be secured in time.

Forty additional desks are required at Horne Street. The forty desks will be transferred from Woodman Park School to Horne Street School. Depending on COVID guidance for the Fall of 2021, additional desks may be needed throughout the district.

In some areas of schools, tables may be used that require students to face each other with three feet distancing. The wearing of face masks mitigates this issue.

Furniture that was purchased for the new high school and in other buildings was selected to allow for student collaboration. Depending on future mitigating requirements, additional furniture may need to be purchased.

5. **Staffing:** There are still a limited number of substitutes for the district. With the vaccination of most staff, staffing is projected to be easier to manage. To accommodate those students electing to stay virtual, the elementary schools will need to adjust staff assignments with the creation of multi-age teams for virtual students and in-person students. This is noted later in the document.

With increased enrollment of in-person students, when a substitute teacher for the class of an absent teacher is not available, it may become necessary to move students to large group areas such as the cafeteria. Supervision will be provided. Students would receive their instruction and assignments virtually.

It is noted, the District will need to work with employee's who are under ADA plans and other health restrictions, given the updated timeline of April 19.

6. **Transportation:** Transportation routes will be maintained. It is noted that social distancing with most students returning for in-person learning cannot be maintained on the busses. Windows will be opened to allow proper circulation and ventilation. Students will be assigned seats. Mask wearing on the bus will be mandatory.

Parents/guardians transporting their own students to school will need to be prepared for possible traffic congestion at the start and dismissal of school.

7. **Food Service:** With the current model, the participation in the breakfast and lunch program has increased. The following is the daily average participation numbers for March 2021:



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

SCHOOL	BREAKFAST PROGRAM	LUNCH PROGRAM
Dover High School	15	160
Dover Middle School	70	207
Garrison Elementary School	106	123
Horne Street School	133	160
Woodman Park School	195	183
Remote Meals	37	37

The current food service model will be continued at the Dover Elementary Schools, Dover Middle School and Dover High School. Meals will continue to be provided for students who remain virtual.

8. **Controlled and Uncontrolled Environments:** The following terms will be used moving forward:

- **Controlled Environments** – A controlled and monitored educational classroom setting where students and staff are seated and spaced at least 3 feet apart with consistent and correct face mask use.
- **Uncontrolled Environments** – An environment where masks are removed such as snack time/lunch and the distance requirement could not be met.

NOTE: The school district requires masks to be worn throughout the day with the exclusion of snack time and lunch.

9. **Community Spread:** It is critical that community spread is monitored. With a significant increase in community spread, it may require schools to return to the virtual model. Limiting community spread is essential to maintaining in-person learning in the District. It is important to note that community spread has a direct impact on the ability for schools to offer in-person learning.

ELEMENTARY MODEL – APRIL 19, 2021

All families wishing to remain virtual through the conclusion of the school year will be permitted to do so. The following is the number of students electing to continue with virtual learning:

SCHOOL	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Garrison	8	10	12	12	11
Horne Street	8	8	11	6-8	10
Woodman Park	6	12	11	17	4-5
TOTAL	22	30	34	35-36	25-26

The following are grade level multiage teams for students remaining with the virtual model:



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

- Horne Street School:
 - ✓ One - K/1 multiage class – virtual
 - ✓ One – 2/3 multiage class – virtual
 - ✓ One –3/4 multiage class - virtual
- Woodman Park School:
 - ✓ One – K/1 multiage class - virtual
 - ✓ One – 3/4 multiage class - virtual

Horne Street School will have two, in-person K/1 multiage classes. The kindergarten students will loop with their teacher to first grade for the school year 2021-2022.

The following are the additional staffing needs for the expansion of in-person learning:

- Garrison Elementary School: 2 paraeducators
- Horne Street School: 1 virtual paraeducator and 1 teacher for 3/4 virtual multiage virtual team
- Woodman Park School: 1 teacher and 1 paraeducator for multiage 1/2 virtual class and 1 paraeducator for 3/4 virtual class

Total number of students electing to participate in the in-person model starting on Monday, April 19:

SCHOOL	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th
Garrison	46	73	62	73	56
Horne Street	54	63	60	73-75	100
Woodman Park	66	75	74	72	81
Total In-Person	166	210	195	218-220	237
Total Virtual	22	30	34	35-36	25-26
% Virtual	13%	13%	15%	14%	10%

DOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL

All families wishing to remain virtual through the conclusion of the school year will be permitted to do so. The following is the current enrollment status of Dover Middle School.

SCHOOL - DMS	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th
Enrollment 4/1/21	277	245	280	259
In-Person	213	179	210	190
Virtual	64 – 23%	66 – 27%	70 – 25%	69 – 27%

Total percent of students electing virtual learning: 25%



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning Board Considerations April 5, 2021

The following needs to be noted for moving to in-person learning five days per week, full days:

1. Social distancing will be reduced for students from six feet to three feet.
2. Classrooms will have some tables in use with students facing each other.
3. Masking will always be required.
4. Expanding cohort groups from homeroom cohort to team cohort. Expanding cohorts to encompass the team.
5. Return to student Infinite Campus schedule.

Once the Board acts on the plan to move from the hybrid model to five full days per week of in-person learning, a survey will be distributed Monday, April 5 to all families to identify if they will complete the school year 100% virtual or in-person.

DOVER HIGH SCHOOL

All families wishing to remain virtual through the conclusion of the school year will be permitted to do so. The following is the current enrollment status of Dover High School.

SCHOOL - DHS	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
Enrollment 3/1/21	401	397	378	346
In-Person	345	315	311	246
Virtual	56 – 14%	82 – 21%	67 – 18%	100 – 29%

Total percent of students electing virtual learning: 20%

The following needs to be noted for moving to in-person learning five days per week, full days:

1. Social distancing will be reduced for students from six feet to three feet.
2. Classrooms will have some tables in use with students facing each other.
3. Masking will always be required.
4. The classes will no longer be cohort groups.
5. Nottingham School District and Barrington School have been contacted about the change to return on April 19. The following is their response pertaining to transportation:

Nottingham School District indicated there will not be any transportation issues.

Barrington School District has indicated that currently there is one high school bus for Dover High School. The bus company is attempting to hire an additional bus driver. In addition, the current bus to Dover High School is at half capacity due to having social distancing of 3 feet on the buses as a School District procedure.



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING ALL LEARNERS!

Expansion of In-Person Learning

Board Considerations

April 5, 2021

Once the Board acts on the plan to move from the hybrid model to five full days per week of in-person learning, a survey will be distributed Monday, April 5 to all families to identify if they will complete the school year 100% virtual or in-person.