

# Reopening Our Schools

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## The Road Ahead A Draft Plan

Bonnie Edwards, Superintendent  
Bob Fiscaro, Incoming Superintendent  
Liz Mennig, Ass't Sup't  
July 30, 2020

# Mission Statement

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The mission of the  
Haddon Township School Community  
is to expand minds, cultivate problem solvers,  
and inspire leaders who persevere in an evolving world.



# The Road Travelled

# What We Know For Sure



- These circumstances continue to be unprecedented and each of us is working his/her way through its challenges one step at a time
- We care about the circumstances our families are facing
- There is no single approach or perfect plan for reopening our schools.
- We can all agree that the ideal would be for all students to return to a typical school environment and program in September
- Based on current circumstances and guidance requirements for the safety of students and staff, it is clear that this ideal is not possible at this time
- We will follow state and local guidance from our Department of Education and Camden County Health Department in terms of metrics for the appropriate timing for potential changes to our plan

# What We Know For Sure



- Based on current state requirements, we will offer an in-person, as well as a remote-only program in September. We will work to ensure both options are equivalent in terms of rigor and instructional time
- Parents will have the opportunity to choose the option they feel is best for their child and family
- We will need to make adjustments to our school calendar to better support our plan needs
- School buildings will not be available for use in September by community groups due to necessary, ongoing cleaning protocols
- Adult school will not take place in the fall

# Where We've Been (The Road Travelled)



- Transitioned from in-person instruction to remote instruction
  - March 18, 2020
- Remained in remote learning program through the conclusion of the 2019-20 school year
- Required to develop “some type of in-person instruction” for 2020-21
  - June 26, 2020
- Required to develop a remote-only program based on parent choice
  - July 20th with follow-up on July 23rd
- District Reopening Committee Formed
  - June 1, 2020
  - Collaboration with district stakeholders
  - Collaboration with Dr. Fisicaro, our incoming superintendent

# Where We've Been (The Road Travelled)



District Reopening Committees - Thanks to everyone for all of the hard work!

- Steering Committee
- Subcommittees:
  - Health & Wellness
    - Chair: Patty Schwab, Principal, Rohrer Middle School
    - Sean Hengst, Kathy McCutcheon, Lauren Passkoff, Michelle Mercado, Erica Martin, Dana Cotter, Chuck Warfield, Michael Moore, Tim George, Jen Gault, Bonnie Edwards
  - Operations & Finance
    - Chair: Jen Gault, Business Administrator
    - Michael Moore, Dawn Piscopio, Nancy Bobb, Todd Green, Bonnie Edwards
  - Instruction
    - Chair: Liz Mennig, Ass't Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
    - Paul Steltz, Sylvia Smith, Ellen Hargrove, Jason Walton, Danielle Frank, Michelle Greenberg, Amanda Tagmire, Patty Sayles, Mae Valenzuela, Joanne Gattone, Dawn Campiglia, Gary O'Brien, Andrew Swiecicki, John Bertolino, Chuck Warfield, Anthony Fitzpatrick, Don Pullano, Todd Green, Tim George, Dana Cotter, Bonnie Edwards

# Guidance for Planning - The Bouncing Ball

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- Governor's executive orders and announcements
- Camden County Health Department
  - Ongoing consultation
- NJDOE - Camden County Office
  - Ongoing consultation with county groups and districts
- "The Road Back" - New Jersey Department of Education (June 26, 2020)
- American Academy of Pediatrics (June 25, 2020)
- Center for Disease Control (July 23, 2020-update)

# Guidance for Planning - The Bouncing Ball



- New as of July 29, 2020
  - “Out of concern for the health and safety of students, teachers and their families while New Jersey continues to grapple with COVID-19, Assembly Democrats Mila Jasey, Pamela Lampitt and Joann Downey plan to introduce legislation to require school districts to provide virtual or remote instruction during the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year.”
  - At this time, we will continue with our current planning as directed by the State of New Jersey

# Context for Planning



- National, state, and local health officials make health decisions
- Parents will need to determine the most appropriate option for their child (in-person or remote)
- COVID-19 health and safety concerns for staff and students are our top priority
  - Risk can be mitigated, not eliminated entirely
  - Focus on physical and emotional health
- Equity and access for all students
  - Consider the needs of this complex time and ensure instructional and device access for all students
- Reality of finances and resources
  - The budget for 2020-21 remains unchanged



# The Road Ahead

# Great Aims



- Approach Reality with Balance of Pride and Humility
- Acknowledge Responsibilities for Health and Safety (Physical and Psychological)
- Affirm that the Journey Ahead is Greater and Bigger than the “Road Back”
- Accept Two Primary Objectives:
  - Returning Students and Staff to School Building Safely
  - Improve/Redesign Meaningful Quality Learning in an Online Space

# Great Aims



Key targets for an excellent education experience for both in-person and remote learning environments:

- Direct instruction
- Guided practice
- Independent practice
- Personal connections and support/balanced with individual student accountability
- Rethinking classical structures for agile team approaches to meet comprehensive goals

# Great Aims



The school to which we return is not the school that we left...

- Social distancing/masks required
  - Staff and students will wear masks when in classrooms, hallways, and on buses
- Daily screening protocols
- Enhanced cleaning protocols
- Commitment to meal distribution

# Great Aims



Agile and flexible systems have the best chance to succeed in an ever-changing world.

- Preparation for 3 phases
  - Hybrid
  - Emergency Remote
  - Full Return
- Potential for phases
  - Differentiated for HS (who may be able to be more successful because of independence level, who may be more likely to contract COVID)
  - Tailoring options once we are in school; the plan CAN shift

# Great Aims

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- Meaningful and rigorous teaching and learning in ALL environments
- Sense of urgency; looking through the rearview mirror
- Meet objectives for families choosing either hybrid or remote models

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# Navigating the New Road

# Navigating the New Road - Hybrid Model

Monday - Day A	Tuesday - Day B	Wednesday - Remote Day for All	Thursday - Day A	Friday - Day B
"A" students attend school in person in the morning	"B" students attend school in person in the morning	Both live, synchronous and asynchronous learning sessions will take place throughout the day. Students will be expected to complete and submit assignments on this day as well.	"A" students attend school in person in the morning	"B" students attend school in person in the morning
"B" students work remotely from home in the morning	"A" students work remotely from home in the morning		"B" students work remotely from home in the morning	"A" students work remotely from home in the morning
Lunch at home	Lunch at home		Lunch at home	Lunch at home
"B" students attend *synchronous, on-line direct instruction or instructional support sessions from home	"A" students attend synchronous, on-line direct instruction or instructional support sessions from home		"B" students attend synchronous, on-line direct instruction or instructional support sessions from home	"A" students attend synchronous, on-line direct instruction or instructional support sessions from home
"A" students complete **asynchronous work and/or sessions from home (follow up from the morning)	"B" students complete asynchronous work and/or sessions from home (follow up from the morning)		"A" students complete asynchronous work and/or sessions from home (follow up from the morning)	"B" students complete asynchronous work and/or sessions from home (follow up from the morning)

**\*Synchronous - lessons occurring live/at the same time \*\*Asynchronous - virtual assignments, prerecorded lessons; not live**

# Navigating the New Road - Hybrid Model



## Student Day

High School	7:45 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 2:35 pm
Middle School	8:15 am - 12:00 pm 1:00 pm - 2:40 pm
Elementary School (Grades 1 - 5)	8:30 am - 12:30 pm 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Cohort information will be sent home by Friday, August 7.

Please don't assume that if your last name starts with A that you are in the A cohort or if it starts with Z that you're in the B cohort!

# Navigating the New Road



## Why cohorts?

- Helps to ensure that social distancing can take place to the greatest degree possible

## Why an “all remote” day?

- Requirement to provide an all remote option necessitates such a day
  - Lessons, videos, assignments

## Why all remote on Wednesdays?

- Balance in the schedule
  - Students (schedule; more consistency of hours for school)
  - Calendar (professional development, half days)

# Navigating the New Road - Special Education

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- Decisions regarding student schedules will be made on a case-by-case basis
  - Students in self-contained programs (Preschool Disabilities, LC-1, LC-2, and LC-3) will be assigned to both A and B cohorts; attend in-person, four days per week
- Student therapy sessions will be done in person to the greatest extent possible
- We will use aides to support remote learning per individual student needs

# Hybrid Model (Preschool & Kindergarten)

Session	Monday - Day A	Tuesday - Day B	Wednesday - Remote Day for All	Thursday - Day A	Friday - Day B
Morning Session	Morning "A" students attend school in person in the am	Morning "B" students attend school in person in the am	Both live, *synchronous and **asynchronous learning experiences will take place for am and pm sessions.	Morning "A" students attend school in person in the am	Morning "B" students attend school in person in the am
	Morning "B" students work remotely from home in the am	Morning "A" students work remotely from home in the am		Morning "B" students work remotely from home in the am	Morning "A" students work remotely from home in the am
Afternoon Session	Afternoon "A" students attend school in person in the pm	Afternoon "B" students attend school in person in the pm		Afternoon "A" students attend school in person in the pm	Afternoon "B" students attend school in person in the pm
	Afternoon "B" students work remotely from home in the pm	Afternoon "A" students work remotely from home in the pm			Afternoon "B" students work remotely from home in the pm

\*Synchronous - lessons occurring live/at the same time \*\*Asynchronous - virtual assignments, prerecorded lessons; not live

# Navigating the New Road - Hybrid Model



## Preschool and Kindergarten

- Both programs will run using an A/B cohort model, including an all remote day on Wednesdays, in order to support social distancing
- Mask-wearing will be required for both students and staff
- Because Preschool and Kindergarten are already half day programs, they will continue to utilize their regular schedules (ie Kindergarten from 8:30-11:00)
- K Club will be offered to students in the hybrid model following the A/B cohort schedule (ie K Club for students in the “A” group on Mondays and Thursdays only)
- Preschool tuition will remain the same despite the changes because costs to run the program don't diminish. However, parents will be offered the opportunity to withdraw their child and have their deposit returned as long as they notify the BOE by August 10. Letter to go home tomorrow

# Navigating the New Road - Remote by Choice

High School	7:45 am - 12:00 pm	All students will follow an A/B/Remote schedule for both morning and afternoon
Middle School	8:15 am - 12:00 pm	
Elementary School	8:30 am - 12:30 pm	

- Students will be expected to login and participate in live sessions per their regular schedule throughout their assigned cohort days. Assignments will be given and turned in daily
- Form to request the “remote by choice” option will be sent via email & US Mail early next week. Deadline to respond is August 14
- Families will be given the option to go to the hybrid model throughout the year (at least at the end of each marking period)
- Students needing to shift to remote instruction for reasons related to COVID-19 may return to hybrid model as soon as they are cleared to return to school

# Navigating the New Road - Remote by Mandate

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- Takes place with a Governor or Health Department-issued “stay at home order” or shut down of a school or district
- Regular school schedules and times will be followed
- A mix of scheduled synchronous and asynchronous instruction will be utilized
- As always, best practices regarding instruction will be in place (direct instruction, guided practice/reinforcement, independent practice)

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation

- PD days for staff:  
September 1st - 4th
- First day for students:  
September 8th (“B” Day)
- First week of school:  
B/Remote/A/Remote
- General - A/B/Remote/A/B
- All half PD days on  
Wednesday, except 5/14

A

B

Remote

## Haddon Township Public Schools

### 2020-2021 Calendar

September 2020							September 2020 (16 Student; 20 Teacher)							March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	Labor Day - Schools closed	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	1-4	Tchr professional development	5	6	7	8	9	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	28	Schools Closed	29	30	31			21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30											28	29	30	31			
October 2020							October 2020 (22 Days)							April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	5-6	NJEA Convention	7	8	9	10	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	25	All Schools Early Dismissal	26	27	28	29	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	26-27	Thanksgiving recess	28	29	30	31	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24							18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31							25	26	27	28	29	30		
November 2020							December 2020 (17 Days)							May 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	23	All Schools Early Dismissal	24	25	26	27	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	24-31	Winter recess					2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14							9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21							16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28							23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
29	30												30	31						
December 2020							January 2021 (19 Days)							June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	Winter Recess	2	3	4	5	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Tchr professional development	14	15	16	17	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	Martin Luther King's Birthday	19	20	21	22	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26							20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31									27	28	29	30				
January 2021							February 2021 (19 Days)							July 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	10	Tchr professional development	11	12	13	14	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	15	Presidents' Day	16	17	18	19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16							11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23							18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30							25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
February 2021							March 2021 (23 Days)							August 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	10	Tchr professional development	11	12	13	14	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Tchr professional development	15	16	17	18	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Memorial Day	22	23	24	25	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27							15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
28													22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
													29	30	31					

#### Emergency Make-Up Days

If needed, emergency make-up days will be used in this order: Feb. 12, Apr. 9, Apr. 8

	Early Dismissal
	No School
	No School: Teacher Inservice

Revised: July 30, 2020

PLEASE REFER TO YOUR BUILDING CALENDAR FOR ADDITIONAL EARLY DISMISSAL DAYS FOR YOUR SCHOOL

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation



## Staffing

- Each elementary building will have a nurse on duty during in-person learning
- Each bus will have an aide present to ensure social distancing and that masks are worn
- District will provide masks and PPE
- Efforts to secure appropriate substitutes due to projected increase in needs will be ongoing

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation



## Health and Safety Information

- Cleaning Protocols (buildings, classrooms, high touch points)
  - Custodians:
    - 1st shift - focus on cleaning of high touch surfaces and disinfecting
    - 2nd shift - focus on typical cleaning duties
    - Contractor - focus on nightly disinfection
- Screening Protocols; Health Protocols
  - Head Nurse, Kathy McCutcheon
  - Daily home pre-screening process for students and staff
  - Protocols for illness in school, including those with symptoms of fever, cough etc. (designated isolation room available in each building)
  - Nurse in each building during in-person learning times
  - Any parent/visitor to a school will be screened upon arrival

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation



## Health and Safety Continued

- 4.5 feet minimum for social distancing; with 6 ft. to the greatest extent possible
- Clear dividers
  - For desks in instructional areas with small groups
  - In higher traffic areas (ex. Main Office, Nurses)
- Hand sanitizer stations and wipes provided in each classroom
- Posters and messaging around schools - social distancing, safe hygiene practices

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation



## Child Care

- SACC
  - No before school care
  - Aftercare will be limited based on square footage
    - Students will be divided in pods of ten with one counselor per pod
  - Available for hybrid students on in-person school days only
  - Will use lottery system to select participants
- K Club
  - Available for hybrid students on in-person school days only
  - Available for all in-person kindergarten students

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation



Other items of importance....

- Focus on Social and Emotional Health
  - Building connections with students in-person and remote
  - Preparing to spend additional time in establishing new routines with time to practice
  - Preparing to support students who may experience anxiety upon returning to school
- Professional Development
  - Critical topics:
    - Best practices for remote instruction
    - Technology to support instruction
    - Bridging back to school (supporting social and emotional needs)
    - Equity

# New Road - Successful Steps to Implementation

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- Addressing Food Insecurity
  - We will continue to provide five days per week of breakfast and lunch for eligible families with pick-up once per week
  - We will continue to contact district families as the needs of families may change over time
- Clubs and afterschool activities
  - Focus on what can be done remotely
  - Sports - per NJSIAA rules

# The New Road - Ways to Support Your Child

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- We will develop parent information to assist in preparing your child for what to expect upon returning to school
- Learning and practicing how to wear a mask
- Understanding the school to which they return is very different than the one from which they left:
  - Physical set up of classrooms
  - Social distancing from classmates and staff
  - Procedures (examples: hs/ms locker use, hallways, smaller groups of students, expectations for learning remotely)

# Important Dates to Remember



- Cohort information will be sent home by Friday, August 7
- Preschool tuition will remain the same despite the changes because costs to run the program don't diminish. However, parents will be offered the opportunity to withdraw their child and have their deposit returned as long as they notify the BOE by August 10. Letter to go home tomorrow
- Form to request the "remote by choice" option will be sent via email & US Mail early next week. Deadline to respond is August 14