



Latest Guidance: Reopening Schools During Pandemic

Haverhill Public Schools
School Committee Meeting
March 11, 2021



Current HPS COVID-19 Dashboard



COVID-19 Data | Week of 2/25/21 - 3/3/21

[PREVIOUS DASHBOARDS](#)

Current Instructional Mode:
Hybrid

Number of Pools completed: 195 pools tested
Number of Pools positive: 9 pools positive

CITY OF HAVERHILL DATA

Percent Positivity:	4.25%
Change in Percent Positivity	Lower
Average Daily Incidence	25.9 per 100,000
Relative Change in Case Counts	Lower Color: Red

STUDENT DATA

Positive in Person	5
Positive Remote	14
Quarantined Students	67
Weekly Attendance Rate	88%
School Year Positivity Count	565

STAFF DATA

Positive Staff in Person	5
Positive Staff Remote	1
Quarantined Staff	16
Weekly Attendance Rate	95%
School Year Positivity Count	125



HPS Vaccination

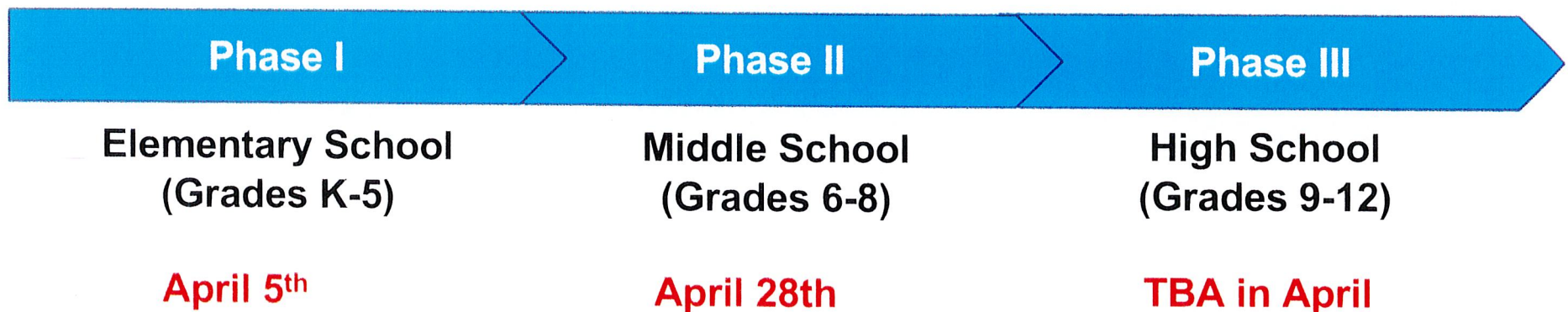
HPS vaccination efforts are well underway
– Thank you Greater Lawrence Family Health Center
Supporting our teachers with 1,000 vaccination appointments !!!



DESE Return to In-Person Learning Expectations

Board of Education provided the Commissioner with the authority to shift away from remote and hybrid models, and begin a fuller return to in-person learning

Return to full-time, in-person school five days per week will proceed in three phases



Timeline for subsequent phases will be determined in consultation with medical experts and state health officials

Proposing an elementary instructional model after April 4th that calls for anything other than five days of full, in-person learning for grades K-5 needs to request a waiver.



HPS Proposed Return to In-Person Learning Schedule

Proposed Haverhill Return to In-person Learning Schedule *

Date	Proposal
Monday & Tuesday April 5 & 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K & 1 Return to Full In-person Learning• Greenleaf & T.E.A.C.H. Programs Full In-Person Learning• Grades 2-12 Cohort A In School• Grades 2-12 Cohort B Remote
Wednesday April 7	Last Remote Day – All Students
Thursday & Friday April 8 & 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K, 1, 2, 3, 4 Full In-person Learning• Greenleaf & T.E.A.C.H. Programs Full In-Person Learning• Grades 5-12 Cohort B In School• Grades 5-12 Cohort A Remote
Monday - Friday April 12 - 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 Full In-person Learning• Greenleaf & T.E.A.C.H. Programs Full In-Person Learning• Grades 7 -12 Hybrid
Monday - Friday April 19 - 23	VACATION
Monday - Friday April 26 to years end	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• K, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 Full In-person• Greenleaf & T.E.A.C.H Programs Full In-Person Learning• 9 – 12 TBD awaiting DESE guidance

*Requires waiver



DESE Guidance on Reopening Schools

For many districts, this will be a substantial programming shift mid-school year. Families should expect that districts may need to make challenging tradeoffs to accommodate the full in-person instructional mode

For instance,

- If students are currently learning in a hybrid model, the shift to more in-person days may require changes in classroom learning spaces and, in some cases, teacher-student assignments.
- If students are currently in a remote model or choose to learn remotely when these new requirements go into effect, the remote learning option may look different than the model offered prior to the implementation of these new requirements.

After families make a choice between full in-person and remote, a parent or guardian who subsequently wishes to have their student switch from a remote to in-person model, should be aware that the school or district may require a reasonable transition period. Consistent with DESE's Remote Learning Guidance, we recommend that this transition period be ideally no more than four to six weeks.



Remote Learning Academy?



- Parents still have choice for children to learn remotely this school year. However, all students must be offered full In-person learning in accordance w/ DESE phase in model or a waiver must be granted by DESE
- If RLA is desired SY22 it will require SC vote and DESE application.
- If there is not an RLA vote and applications are not approved, students with specific health needs will receive tutoring under Educational Services in the Home or Hospital 603 CMR 28.03(3)(c) and 28.04(4). All others will participate in full in-person learning



What Does Return to Full In-Person Learning Mean for HPS?

- DESE Mandated 3 Feet SD Minimum
- Class Sizes 21- 25 (depending on classroom)
- Masking – All Grades*, All Staff – Regardless of Vaccine Status
- Students Face Forward w/ Brief Exceptions
- No Singing or Activities Requiring Exertion.
- Repurposing Space & Exploring Alternative Spaces
- Push-in Specials & Small Groups (i.e. special ed, EL services, art on a cart), Movement of In-person Staff & Students within Buildings, Movement of Remote Staff
- Outdoor Classrooms, Tents, Picnicking

* unless medically unable



DESE Guidance on Transportation

DESE Transportation Guidance *Revised 2/11/2021*

Core Practices

- Masks
- Windows open - 2 inches
- Seating capacity guidelines are lifted K – 4
- Seating capacity guidelines for MS/HS w/ high community prevalence 2 students per bench
- Assigned seating all levels
- Review & revise Reopening Transportation Plan



DESE Guidance on Lunches or Unmasked Times

DESE Lunches or Unmasked Times Guidance Revised 3/9/2021

6 feet SD in all unmasked times: Cafeterias cannot accommodate full student body at 6 feet SD
– currently we have 30-40% capacity in schools lunches have been added to accommodate SD.

DESE suggests:

- Add lunch periods, shorten meal time
- Eat in classroom or class & café
- Repurpose Gym, Art or other space, eat outdoors
- Use desks in café instead of tables

Increased spaces require increased staffing

DESE suggests:

- Repurpose ESPs, admin, use crossing guards, bus drivers/monitors, high school interns, parent volunteers
- Teachers supervise meals in classroom, schedule teachers' duty-free lunch at the end of the day and allow for a 30-minute early release



COVID-19 Surveillance Testing, Quarantines & Attendance

- Pooled testing & BinexNow testing will continue
- Quarantining will continue for those not fully vaccinated
- 3 ft SD will increase incidence of quarantining
- Quarantined students may learn remotely, DESE suggestions synchronous teaching
- Students not quarantined or in RLA will report to In-person Learning daily, or be marked absent.



Next Steps for HPS Return to Full In-Person Learning

Surveys are out for parents K - 8 confirming learning model

- PER DESE those not actively choosing RLA will be placed in full In-person Learning
- Changing between selected learning models will take 4-6 weeks
- Once we know how many students in each school and grade want to return to full in-person learning we will know the full impact of the change in terms of reconfiguration of classrooms spaces, peer groups, and teachers.
- Plans for HHS are awaiting DESE guidance – as is plans for prom & graduation.
- Negotiations with union are scheduled for 4 days between now and March 31, 2021
- Waiver is due to DESE by March 22, 2021 if applicable



Thank You Families and Staff

Thank you, HPS families, for all your patience and understanding during this challenging year.

Thank you, staff members, who have been working hard to create changes to make this end of the year safe and educational for our students.

