

Additional Questions and Answers Posed After the Live Viewing Session on 3/5/21

Answers were distributed via e-mail on 3/9/21

Question: If K-2 is scheduled to return on 3/22, will the students in 3-5 that are already in person stay remote until 4/7?

Answer: *No. All students in Grades 3-5 would remain in their hybrid AB model until we phase all of them in for the less than 6-feet model. However, any students who were remote during marking period 2 that want to be in person will have to wait until 4/7 to return.*

Question: Parents wanted to know why isn't our district following suit with other districts who have successfully used desk barriers, why are we wasting time trying to figure out other options?

Answer: *As superintendent, I never consider it "wasting time" when trying to seek to understand what our stakeholders - teachers, staff, administrators, and parents - are thinking. Instead, the input of those stakeholders can help drive our decision-making process.*

Question: State transportation doesn't require double masking or face shields, why are our buses requiring them?

Answer: *As we follow CDC guidelines, we need barriers when students are inside six feet on the buses. Presently, we can seat 20 students at six feet apart on a large bus. Going inside 6 feet will require a barrier.*

Question: Can we ask Dr Cox to clarify if moving to a 4 day week is on the table for elementary?

Answer: This is a topic I will continue to discuss with stakeholders.

Question: Concern that face shields are very hot, condensation, especially for those that wear glasses.

Answer: *These are good points of emphasis, and I understand your perspective. We are currently evaluating all options.*

Question: We are getting asked if there is a minimum distance that the district would require? We are getting asked if everyone is all back and classes range from 20-28 kids in each class ... realistically what is the

distance between the kids? And if the district has a minimum requirement like a 3 foot minimum?

Answer: *At this point in time, the District does not plan to go inside 3 feet of social distancing between students.*

Question: My son's 1st grade class currently has 12 students in-person and 4 online learners. Some may choose to return in-person, some may not. If no one returns OR if one or two kids do, and they were able to still maintain the same 6 ft distance as they have now in the classroom....would that eliminate the need for all of these added precautions? Until it became necessary, if more students returned? Or will they have to add all of this EVEN IF no additional students return?

Answer: *If the number of students means students lose 6 feet social distancing, barriers or protective shields will be needed. If the numbers in attendance results in students still having 6 feet, they would not need the barriers or protective shields.*

Question: Someone asked if we have the funds to cover the partitions, My question is, are we sure we're able to secure the amount of partitions needed? Especially if other schools across the country are in a similar boat. Have we confirmed that the needed supply is available?

Answer: *The answer to both questions is yes.*

Question: As the parent of a 1st grader I think the face shields are a mistake. My son comes home every day with jelly or yogurt all over his face, and I can only imagine what a face shield would look like. And unless the teacher is going to help each child clean it (unrealistic), then my child has to not only have the obstruction of possibly a plastic partition that will undoubtedly have spit and debris on it, plus a face shield that potentially has food/spit on it...and his mask? Plus add in the heat in coming months? I will send my son regardless, and will support whatever decision is made, but please think this through realistically for 5-7 year olds.

Answer: *Thank you for sharing your input which coincides with the purpose of providing a survey: to understand the viewpoints of the parents and employees.*

Question: I have a question for Dr Cox, more like a clarification, the Phase In model will start with K-2, then the other grades will follow, correct? So it's safe to assume that on 3/22 my kindergartner (and all of K-2) can be full time in person while my 4th grader (and the rest of 3-5, as well as Middle and HS) will still in hybrid mode?

Answer: *Yes, you are correct.*

Question: Will the district be open to hearing published research parents have located regarding the topic of barrier uses in schools?

Answer: *Our school administrators, the Coordinator of Health Services and I receive continual updates and reports, and monitor federal, state and local agencies for guidance updates. Parents have also shared numerous research-based documents about a variety of topics connected to the pandemic since last spring. I welcome the opportunity to receive this information.*

Question: Can you confirm that the decision that parents make for the final marking period is able to be changed during the semester (in person moving back to full remote, full remote student choosing to attend in person)? It had been said on the q/a session that the change could be made, but hearing (via social media, which isn't usually accurate) that decisions made are final.

Answer: *Yes, I can confirm that you are correct that parents will have the option to switch their child to either model during the semester. By doing so, it aligns with the fact that we are inviting all students back to the classrooms.*

In order to ensure appropriate spacing in classrooms, and the resources to provide remote instruction, we will need a process and intermittent deadlines to request make these changes. When pivoting from one mode to the other, the principal will need advance notice from parents.



Question: How will change of classes work? So many kids in the hallways--how will social distancing work?

Answer: *We are aware of this challenge and it is one of several operational topics we are discussing with principals as recently as today.*





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