Changing & adapting COVID-19 impacts on public education in 2020
How do we decide what school will “look like” in the fall?

- Guiding principles:
  - Health and safety of staff, students and our community
  - Continuity of learning aligned with state standards
  - Equity and access for all
  - Supporting emotional and mental health of staff and students
  - Clear and constant communication with stakeholders
Local decisions must align with guidance from the Governor and State Superintendent.
Five workgroups made up of CCPS staff members — administrators, teachers and support staff — began meeting May 28, and met for two weeks with more than 500 hours of collaboration per team to discuss reopening options. The committees are:

- Health and safety
- Operations
- Instruction
  - High school
  - Middle school
  - Elementary school

- Reopening survey sent to CCPS staff on June 3
- The community survey was sent June 23
3,015 respondents participated in the staff survey. The Top 5 groups that responded are:

- Teacher — 1,299 respondents or 57.66 %
- Instructional Assistant — 289 respondents or 12.8 %
- Secretary — 109 respondents or 4.84 %
- Instructional Specialist — 95 respondents or 4.22 %
- Administrator — 91 respondents or 4.04 %
What is your comfort level in returning to your school or worksite in the fall?

- Comfortable/somewhat comfortable (68.36%)
- Uncomfortable (32.67%)
Staff survey

How do you think schools should reopen in the fall?

Use a combination of distance learning & in-person instruction (50.73 % or 1,143 respondents)

Resume normal operations (20.95 % or 472 respondents)

Continue distance learning (29.47 % or 664 respondents)
Staff survey

- What safety guidelines should CCPS consider as we reopen schools?
  - Social distancing strategies — 75.10 %
  - Additional focus on hygiene and sanitizing — 88.90 %
  - Mask/face covering requirements — 66.71 %
  - Temperature checks of staff, students & visitors — 71.77 %
  - Reduction of class sizes — 18.82 %
Parents can choose distance learning or in-person instruction.

- **Distance learning option**
  
  - CCPS will use interactive platforms and offer more synchronous online instruction
  
  - Students must register and participate for the entire grading period

The first day for teachers is Aug. 24. The first day for students is Aug. 31.
Instructional options for 2020-21 School Year

- **In-person option**
  - Students who are not registered for the virtual option will be assigned to their home school
  - Students will be assigned in-person instruction 2 days each week. Other days will be virtual
  - Some students (special education, EL, FARMS, students without internet, early learners) may be offered more in person days each week
  - Safeguards will be in place at every level to reduce risk of exposure as much as practical
  - Plans are flexible and include room for change if safeguards have to be reduced or increased
  - A return to traditional school will be implemented once the county’s health is steady and CCPS has an agreement with county public health and safety officials
Proposed health & safety safeguards

• Health screenings:
  • Students
  • Employees
  • Contractors

• Masks/face coverings:
  • Students (developmentally appropriate) and staff will wear masks, especially when social distancing isn’t possible
    • Masks will be mandatory on school buses, during class transitions and when social distancing is not possible
Proposed health & safety safeguards

- Social distancing
  - Desks will be 6-feet apart
  - There will be no communal gatherings
    - Lunch will be served in classrooms
    - Recess will be held with parents permission. Parents can opt-out of recess for their children
- Class transitions will be reduced
- Lockers will be assigned to meet social distancing guidelines
- Additional entrance ways for arrival and dismissal will be open to maintain social distancing
- Visitors/volunteers/field trips will not be allowed
Cleaning & sanitizing

• Hand wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and in common areas
• Routine cleaning of frequent touch points will be increased
• Enhanced cleaning and antiviral “fogging” will be used as needed
• CCPS staff is exploring ways to increase ambient airflow

• Students and staff are encouraged to bring refillable containers for water instead of using water fountains
• If a student becomes ill during the school day
  • The student will be isolated
  • Parents must pick up the child within an hour of receiving notification that their child is ill
  • Parents and guardians should increase the number of near-by emergency contacts in their child’s file to ensure they will be able to be picked up from school.

• If there’s a positive COVID case — or one is suspected — in a school
  • Each case is different and will be individually investigated
  • Advice from health department officials, the director of school safety and security, and school administrators will be followed to reduce exposure to others
Transportation

- One student per seat unless the students live together
- Parents must register their child to be a bus rider prior to the start of school
- Parents are encouraged to transport their children to school if possible
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized at least twice a day
Professional learning & training for staff

- Continued training opportunities for online teaching
- Enhanced safe schools training
- Virtual town hall-style training
  - 30- to 60-minute presentations with Q&A sessions which will be archived on MyCCPS
- Social/emotional supports
  - Training for and resources for staff and peer support
  - Training for staff to recognize stress and trauma
Employee considerations

- School-based employees should plan to resume their work activities as outlined in their contracts (10-, 10.5-, 11- or 12-month schedule)
- Supervisors will work with employees on childcare concerns
- Employees with questions related to COVID-19 can contact Human Resources at 301-934-7255
- The sharing of information related to confirmed COVID-19 cases to staff and community members will be released following health department guidelines
- Staff members are expected to self-report positive test results and/or prolonged exposure to someone who is COVID-19 positive
Conditions may change

- CCPS will continue to monitor guidance from the Governor, the Health Department and MSDE and adjust plans as needed
- We understand the need for decisions and will communicate often with our community
- We want children back in school - when it is safe
It’s All About Teaching and Learning