This plan describes the decision-making strategy HCPS will employ for returning groups of students to in-person activities.

As we bring students into schools for in-person activities, we will monitor the impact those activities have on transmission of COVID-19.

If COVID-19 transmission rates stay level or continue to improve, we will return greater numbers of students and staff to schools.

If transmission rates increase, we may need to reduce in-person activities.
This plan incorporates common metrics widely used to track community transmission of COVID-19.

The metrics and corresponding safety parameters determine the degree to which in-person activities can occur in each stage.

HCPS will continue to collaborate with the Harford County Department of Health about the metrics, safety parameters, and corresponding educational structures for each stage.
MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS FOR DECISIONS

Maryland COVID-19 Data Dashboard

Positivity % by Jurisdiction - Full Screen View

https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/

9/12/2020

Draft Plan - HCPS Return to In-Person Learning
MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS FOR DECISIONS

New cases

Maryland COVID-19 Data Dashboard

https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/
MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS FOR DECISIONS

7-day averages

https://governor.maryland.gov/recovery-schools/
MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS FOR DECISIONS

distancing
1 High Transmission
No in-person Activities

2 Moderate Transmission
In-person with social distancing
Steps A B C
We are currently here.

3 Low Transmission
Less restricted group sizes
No In-Person Activities

**METRIC**
- Positivity – Greater than 5%
- New Cases – Greater than 15 per 100,000 residents

**SAFETY CONDITIONS**
- No in-person activities

**EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURES**
- All activities performed virtually
In-Person with Social Distancing

**METRIC**
- Positivity – Below 5%
- New Cases – Between 5 and 15 per 100,000 residents
- Consider – Quarantine incidence rate at school sites as well as the trajectory of all metrics

**SAFETY CONDITIONS**
- Target distancing: 6 feet
- Cohort: Minimal mixing
- Masks required
- Handwashing protocol
- Cleaning protocol
### Step A
**Current State**
- Learning Support Centers – 8:2 student to staff ratio
- Virtual learning for all students

### Step B
**To consider after four weeks of Step A operations**
Gradual roll-out of:
- Small groups based on populations with greatest need
- Limited hybrid for some grade levels

### Step C
**To consider after four weeks of Step B operations**
Gradual roll-out of:
- Additional small groups
- Expand some group sizes and grade levels served in hybrid models
## Low Transmission

### Less Restricted Group Sizes

*If social distancing requirements are NOT lifted or modified at the state level, in-person activities will look the same as during “Moderate Transmission”*

### METRIC
- Positivity – *Not yet established by state*
- New Cases – Below 5 cases per 100,000 residents (*this has not yet been officially established by the state*)

### SAFETY CONDITIONS
- Target distancing: Not restricted*
- Cohort: Not restricted*
- Masks recommended
- Handwashing protocol
- Cleaning protocol

### EDUCATIONAL STRUCTURES
- Return to in-person learning at all grade levels*
- Virtual learning option available
- Some group-size restrictions may remain

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**Draft Plan - HCPS Return to In-Person Learning**

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Harford County Public Schools
We will use two metrics as the major drivers of decisions:

- Weekly average positivity rate
- Weekly average new case rate per 100,000 residents

If the weekly averages of both rates remain steady or decrease for four weeks, we will move into the next less restrictive step:

- Additional metrics such as trend lines, incidents requiring quarantines, spikes at the state level may affect decisions to move to the next phase
- Availability of PPE may influence decisions to add groups
• We will use two metrics as the major drivers of decisions:
  • Weekly average positivity rate
  • Weekly average new case rate per 100,000 residents
• We will reassess moving to more restrictive steps if the new case rate increases by 2/100,000 or the positivity rate increases by 1.5%
• We will collaborate with the Harford County Health Department if the county experiences those increased transmission rates
Learning together, forward together,
#HCPStopgether.