Return-to-School Recommendations 2020-2021

Presented to the Board of Education
Dr. Jamii Hitchcock, Superintendent
July 27, 2020
Guiding Principles

1. Health & Safety
2. Research-based Decisions
3. Commitment to Social Emotional Support
4. High-quality Instructional Practices
5. Providing Learning Tools for Success
Oak Park Schools Data

100% of our **students** reside in the 3 geographic areas with the highest number of cases on Michigan.gov.

87% of our **staff** will or may be at increased risk for underlying medical conditions.

79% of our **parents** surveyed prefer their children enroll in a half or full year of online learning.
Oak Park Schools Demographics

- **97%** of our students are African American & Latinx.
- **41%** of our staff are African American & Latinx.
- **80+%** of our students are economically disadvantaged.
- **10** of our students experienced the loss of a parent or live-in family member due to COVID-19
- **1** of our staff died due to COVID-19
- COVID-19 disproportionately impacts communities of color & economically disadvantaged populations.
Recent Research & Data: What do we know?

**South Korean Research Study**
Source: CDC.gov

- Transmission Children 0-10 years of age transmit to others less often than adults, but there is still a risk.

**Pediatrics Journal**
Source: pediatrics.aapublications.org

- Children of all ages appeared susceptible to COVID-19
- Less severe than adults for young children, but (particularly infants) were vulnerable to infection.
- Strong evidence for human-to-human transmission in pediatric patients.

**Harvard Medical School**
Source: hms.harvard.edu

- Testing is being prioritized for patients who meet a high risk category, most children do not meet the criteria for testing.
- Severe symptoms are linked to immature immune systems in children.

Three students attending in-person summer classes in the Detroit school district just tested positive for COVID-19
Source: wxyz.com
Efforts to reduce COVID-19 have led to decreased use of routine immunizations for children. Doing so, during the pandemic is essential for protecting individuals and communities from vaccine-preventable diseases and outbreaks. Routine vaccinations prevent illnesses that lead to unnecessary medical visits.
Public Health Concerns

Prompts a Confident Reopening?

- Contact Tracing & Regular Surveillance
- Diagnostic Testing w/ Rapid Results
- Unambiguous CDC School Guidelines

Prompts a Confident Reopening?
Return-to-School Roadmap Phases 1 - 3

School Operating Status

- No in-person instruction, online learning only.

Online Learning at Home

- Robust, blended synchronous & asynchronous online learning.
Phase 4: Two Return-to-School Recommendations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage One</th>
<th>OPS Online Learning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>Online Learning through Card Marking I (October 30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1b</td>
<td>Leading up to October 30, we will actively monitor &amp; consult w/ public health officials to determine when to resume in-person instruction.</td>
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| Stage Two   | Return-to-School In-person |
School Operating Status

- No in-person instruction, online learning only.

Online Learning at Home for All Students

- Robust, blended synchronous & asynchronous online learning
- Grades: K-12 Consistent Schedule
- Access to Social Emotional Support
- Active monitoring & consult w/ public health officials through October 30
Phase 4: Stage Two - Online Learning through Card Marking

School Operating Status

- In-person instruction with health & safety requirements & strong recommendations; active monitoring & consult with public health officials on when to resume.

See July 13 Operations presentation

Online Learning at Home for Families who Register for Semester or Full-year

- Robust, blended synchronous & asynchronous online learning
- Grades: K-12 Consistent Schedule
- Access to Social Emotional Support
Proposed Tentative Timeline

- **Official Recommendation to the BoE**: Tentatively: August 3
- **Communication to the OPS Staff**: August 3
- **Communication to the OPS Community**: August 3
- **Parent/Family Selection of Program Preference**: August 17
- **Submission of OPS Preparedness Plan**: August 15
- **Virtual Staff Opening & Professional Learning**: August 25 & 26
- **Announcement RE: Reopening to Staff & Parents/Families**: Mid-October
- **Active Monitoring throughout Marking Period I**: Ending October 30
- **Early October Flu Season Ahead**
Our recommendation to the Board prioritizes the health and safety of students, staff and families and is based on the most current education and research. In collaboration with our teachers, staff, administrators and OPS families, we propose to you the following:

1. Instruction is provided through an online learning platform from certified OPS teachers and staff through Card Marking I (October 30).

2. Active monitoring and consultation with public health officials through Card Marking I (October 30) to determine a safe return to in-person instruction.

3. The need for technological devices for teachers to support online and in-person instruction.
THROUGH THIS TOGETHER