We are in a health pandemic and education emergency

Health and safety, as well as access and equity must inform our efforts

Developing a plan required input

- Over 23,000 citizens
- Over 16,000 students
- ReOpen Task Force
- Regional Advisory Teams

What we consistently heard:

- Emotional well-being must be considered
- Schools are a structured, safe place in many cases
- Students missed school
Guiding Principles

• Safeguarding the health and safety of students and staff;

• Allowing all students the opportunity to return into school full time starting in the fall;

• Monitoring the school, students, and staff and, when necessary, potentially canceling classes in the future to appropriately contain COVID-19 spread;

• Emphasizing equity, access, to support the students and communities who are emerging from this historic disruption;

• Fostering strong two-way communication with partners; and

• Factoring the physical safety, social-emotional well-being, and the mental health needs of our students when they are not in school.
• Districts should plan for fall reopening with in-school return for all students, every day.

• Health and safety guidance protocols and infection mitigation strategies will be emphasized:
  
  - Maximize Social Distancing
  - Frequent hand washing/use of hand sanitizer
  - Face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth
  - Enhanced cleaning/disinfection of spaces/surfaces

• Plan subject to change based on developing health conditions
**Classrooms**

- Cohorting
  - Strongly encouraged, Grades K–8
  - Encouraged where feasible, Grades 9–12
- Maximize social distancing
- Facial coverings – mandatory for staff and students during school day when inside the school building
- Frequent handwashing
- Enhanced cleaning

**Buses**

- Facial coverings – mandatory for drivers and students
- Monitors encouraged for fall, particularly for younger grades
- Social distancing activated based on COVID community spread
  - No Spread
    - Full Capacity
  - Minimal Spread
    - Full Capacity, Heightened Health & Safety Protocols
  - Moderate Spread
    - Reduced Capacity and Social distancing
Ramping Up, Ramping Down

- CT data trends positively; we can plan optimistically for fall reopening
- Districts should prepare plans for full reopening
- Alternative plans should be prepared (hybrid model with fewer students and enhanced remote learning) in the event of future increases in community spread
- COVID-19 Community Spread will determine Ramp Down to promote health and safety regionally and throughout CT

High COVID Spread
Full Remote Learning

Moderate Spread
Hybrid Model

Minimal Spread
Full In-Person with heightened Health & Safety Protocols

Contained/Vaccine
Full In-Person
This is the *first step* to reopening

Plans will change based on *COVID spread* (or developing health conditions)

*Flexibility* will be the only constant

*Comprehensive Plan details* will be publicly released Monday

*Updates & supplements* will be informed with input from partners

CT students deserve the best opportunity for success!