



**Beecher Road School  
School Reopening Plan Overview  
Fall 2020**

# Beecher Reopening Committee

- Bob Gilbert, Superintendent
- Analisa Sherman, Principal
- Doreen Merrill, Asst. Principal
- Cheryl Mammen, Director of Special Services
- Al Pullo, Business Manager
- Vito Esparo, Facilities Manager
- Lynn Piascyk, Board of Education
- Beth Cohen, BOWA Transportation
- Shannon Martinello, MD
- Sandy Stein, Board of Selectmen
- Mary Vincitorio, WEA teacher rep.
- Linda Acheson, WEA teacher rep.

- Dr. Mohini Ranganthan, Parent
- Emily Banach , Parent
- Stacey Katz, Nursing Supervisor
- Aisling Fagan, Nurse
- John Laudano Quinnipack Health District
- Debbie Pines, CSEA
- Jane Roddy, Cafeteria Supervisor
- James Crawford, Technology
- Judy Silva, CILU
- John Adamovich, Recreation Director
- Cathy Salinardi, Extended Day Director

# Committee's Primary Resources

- [Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut's Plan to Learn and Grow Together](#) (CSDE)
- [COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-Entry](#) (American Academy of Pediatrics)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC)
- [Connecticut Department of Public Health](#)
- Consultation with CAPPS, CSDE and Area Superintendents
- [Leveraging the Power of Social Emotional Learning](#) (CASEL)

# Introduction & Connecticut's Guiding Principles

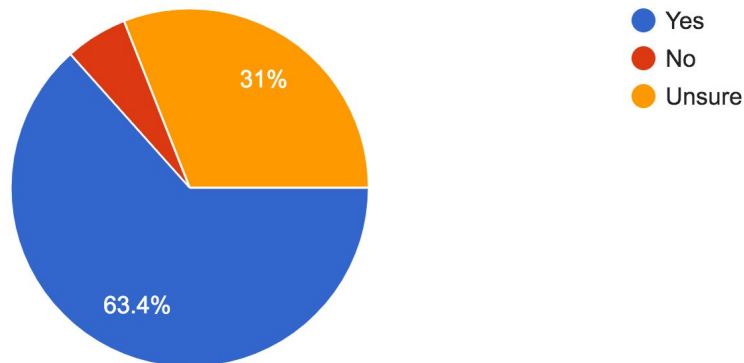
- Allowing **all** students the opportunity to return **full time; per State mandate**
- Safeguarding the health and safety of students and staff
- Monitoring the school, students, and staff for potential school cancelation in the event of COVID-19 spread
- Emphasizing equity, access, and support to the students and communities emerging from this historic disruption
- Fostering strong two-way communication between all stakeholders
- Factoring into decisions about reopening the challenges to the physical safety, social-emotional well-being, and the mental health needs of our students when they are not in school

# Initial Parent Survey

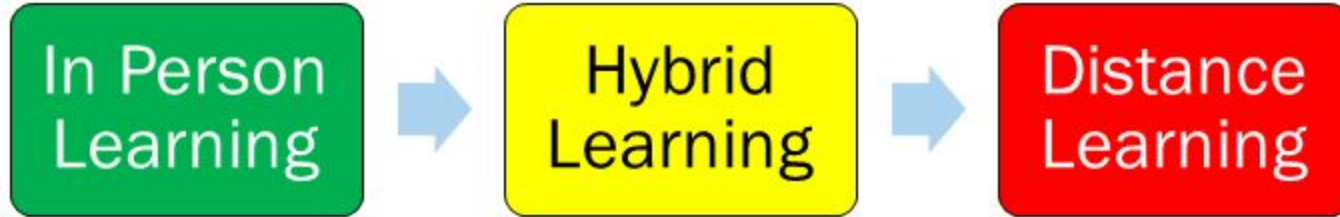
Beecher parents were surveyed in July about their intentions of sending their child back to school this fall. With limited details, a majority of parents intend on sending their child/children back to school with many still undecided.

Do you plan on sending your child to school on site in the fall?

497 responses



# Three Plans Developed



# PLAN 1: State Expectation for Fall - In person model

## In-Person Learning for all students

- Standard full-time school schedule
- Maximized social distancing
- Masks/face coverings required
- Likely modified specials (Music, Chorus, Band, Tech. etc.)
- Cohorting of groups to the maximum extent possible
- Traditional grading practices resume

# Educational Plan Highlights for Students Attending in Person

- Masks will be required
- Social Distancing will be maximized to the greatest extent possible
- Additional time and resources will be provided for self-protective measures
- Enhanced cleaning protocols will be employed
- Lunch protocols will be changed
- Modified health service protocols
- Cohorting of groups will be balanced against educational needs
- Transportation protocols changed
- Plans to maintain EDay before and after school care
- Initial Focus on Social Emotional Needs. Ongoing evaluation of assessment practices.



# PLAN 1: Remote Learning Parallel Track

## Medical, Quarantine, and Similar Reasons

- Students learn at home due to medical concerns, quarantine, or other reasons with support from school
- Assists in an eventual return to school
- Students and parents engage in remote learning with materials and support from the school
- Synchronous and Asynchronous learning
- Recorded and/or live class participation
- Grading practices to be determined
- Staffing to be determined
- Further clarification coming from state

## Parent Choice

- Further clarification coming from the state
- Some Level of Teacher Support
- State provided Learning Hub
- Tech and Union Implications & Considerations: Remote Technology, Live Web Cams, Software programs
- Staffing Challenges/Solutions
- Support required from parents

## Home Schooling

- Parent Choice to instruct child with no support from school

# Synchronous and Asynchronous Learning

*Synchronous Learning:* Face to face teaching- Classes and learning occur on set schedules and time frames. Students and teachers are online at the same time in synchronous classes. When blended or remote, all students must be online at that exact time in order to participate in the class.

*Asynchronous Learning:* Students complete their assigned work on their own time. Students are given a timeframe, usually a one week window, during which they need to connect to their class daily or as determined by the teacher. Students can access assignments and content at any time of the day or night. Prior to remote and distance learning, students engaged in asynchronous learning when completing projects assigned to complete at home over an extended periods.

# PLAN 2: Hybrid Model

**REDUCED SCHOOL POPULATIONS – As a result of surge in community spread in COVID-19, smaller groups of students are returned to school (alternating 50% of students).**

A *possible* alternate school schedule that could be used if the State of Connecticut and/or local health officials place limits on student access to school/busses due to surge of COVID-19 is listed below. When students are not in school, they are working at home with materials provided from the teacher and school.

## **A-B Days (Students go to school on alternate days)**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Student Group A 50% of Students in school</b>	<b>Student Group B 50% of Students in school</b>	<b>A &amp; B Groups Distance Learning</b>	<b>Student Group A 50% of Students in school</b>	<b>Student Group B 50% of Students in school</b>

- Alternative version: Alternating A and B weeks
- Coordinating families in groups A and B with Amity
- Other considerations might include cleaning protocols

# PLAN 3: Distance Learning Model

Short term closures, 2-5 days or 2 weeks, or  
Long Term Closure

- Students and parents engage in Distance Learning with materials and support from the school
- Classroom learning and instructional activities are shared through contact with the teacher
- Improved Distance Learning model from the spring of 2020 with a blend of synchronous and asynchronous learning
- Distance Learning will include 100% of students
- Distance Learning to include flex Fridays

# Special Education Services

- We recognize that there is a significant percentage of our student population who receive special education services and are immunocompromised
- These students and families have the added concern that an immunocompromised situation adds, so it is imperative that we address not only educational, but health and safety concerns
- These needs will be addressed on an individualized basis through our Special Education Services Department

# Masks

- All people in the building will be required to wear a cloth face covering or mask which covers the nose and mouth at all times except when they are eating or drinking
- Frequent mask breaks will be provided outside or where social distancing of at least 6 feet can be provided
- Per CDC guidelines, students will not be required to wear a mask if they have medical or developmental limitations which prohibit them from wearing one

**YES**



# Maximized Social Distancing

- Social Distancing is well recognized as a strategy to mitigate the spread of COVID-19
- We will maximize distancing to the greatest extent possible
- Reduce classroom furniture to allow for greater distancing between students
- All desks facing same direction

# Self-Protective Measures

- Scheduled hand washing times
- Hand sanitizer stations added
- Paper towels and open top waste baskets spread throughout the building
- Inside doors (i.e. hallway bathroom doors) propped open whenever possible



# Additional Cleaning Protocols

We are enhancing our cleaning protocols to further limit the likelihood of transmission.

- Contact areas (high touch points) will be limited where possible. For example, some doors will be propped open to avoid touching door handles to eliminate the contact
- Our custodial staff will receive ongoing training on sanitizing and disinfecting products that they will be using during the school day
- Arrangements will be made to clean high-use bathrooms during the day
- Our custodial staff will be following appropriate guidelines to clean, sanitize or disinfect in the evenings
- Teachers will have soap, water and/or hand sanitizer for their classrooms
- We are optimizing conditions for air circulation throughout the buildings

# Lunch Protocols

Examining the safest practice - options under consideration:

- Woodbridge Public Schools Food Services will be operational
- Possible alternative options include:
  - Additional lunch waves
  - In-classroom dining
  - Outdoor dining if possible
  - Grab & Go bagged lunches
- Free/Reduced lunch will continue to be provided

# Cohorting

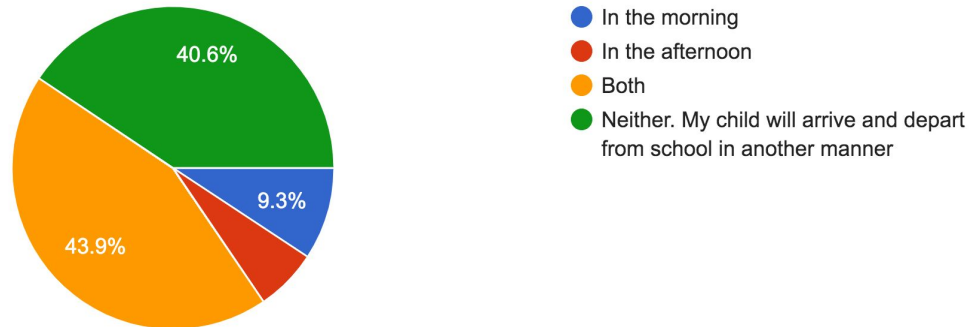
- Cohorting is the strategy of limiting interactions between individuals to mitigate the spread of the virus and aid in contact tracing if indeed there is a positive individual
- Maximize cohorting by homeroom/classroom whenever possible during the school day
- State of Connecticut guidance recognizes the balance between cohorting and providing an educational experience that more closely resembles typical education at each developmental level

# Transportation

- Parent Survey responses below
- Masks will be required for all
- We intend to use bus aides for the first two weeks to support new bus routines, mask requirements, social distancing and loading/unloading restrictions
- Parents are encouraged to drive their child/children to and from school where possible

Do you plan on having your child ride the school bus:

497 responses



# Health Protocols - School Based

- The number one rule is if you are [feeling sick](#), STAY HOME!
- All parents are required to screen students before leaving for school. Check to ensure temperature is below 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit and observe for symptoms associated with COVID-19 outlined by public health officials
- Individuals who report symptoms during the day will be quarantined within the building and sent home for monitoring
- If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, we will engage the health department in contact tracing and will quarantine individuals as necessary
- We will notify members of the school community if an individual within the school community tests positive
- We will not release the name of any individual who tests positive. We will, as noted above, work with the health department in making determinations about who must be quarantined if necessary (the state is working on criteria for determining temporary or prolonged school closures)

# Before/After School Care

- The Extended Day Program will continue to provide before and after school care at BRS
- The school system and the Extended Day staff will collaborate to follow the best practice guidance provided by the Department of Education and the Health Department
- Heightened health and safety protocols will be in place. Wearing masks, maximizing social distancing, frequent hand washing and increased cleaning protocols will be in effect

# Calendar and Transition Back To School

- Our students have never attended school like we are planning for 2020-2021
- Initial goal is to focus on the social-emotional well-being of students and staff
- Relationships of students and teachers are the foundation of success we had in remote learning
- Calendar adjustments (PD and minimum days) to support orientation for small groups and teacher preparation (State approved 3 additional days of PD with 177 school days for students this week)

# Summary

- Thank you for taking the time to review this presentation
- Questions still to be answered by State
- Further work and protocols required
- Memorandums of Understanding
- School calendar adjustments
- Additional surveys as needed
- Budget and staffing implications
- Technology implications
- Ongoing changes requiring flexibility
- Continued communication



# Discussion