Fall 2020 Safe Return Planning

Your input is important!

www.smcps.org/streaming

Ask questions!
Timeline

- Parent/Staff Surveys: June 2020
- Stakeholder Groups: July 2020
- Family Communication: August 2020

School Year Begins
Daily Reported COVID Cases in Maryland
Guiding Principles

Health and Safety
Equity and Access
Communication and Engagement
Engaging and High Quality Instruction
Technology and Resource Support
Meeting the Diverse Needs of Students
STAGE 2 REQUIREMENTS FOR OPENING SCHOOLS

Strategies for Reopening Process

In Stage 2 of Governor Hogan’s Roadmap for Recovery, schools and school programs will begin the reopening process. The decision on the reopening of schools is a decision of the State Superintendent in concert with the Governor, the State Board of Education, the MD Department of Health, and other MD agencies and personnel. Upon a decision, Dr. Karen Salmon, State Superintendent of Schools, will announce the reopening and will communicate directly with the Local School Superintendents and the public. In preparation of reopening, the Maryland Together: Maryland’s Recovery Plan for Education will serve as a roadmap for the local school systems in developing Local Recovery Plans. Requirements are enumerated below. Each school system must include these requirements in their reopening plan. The requirements for opening schools during Stage 3 will be determined.
Reopening Maryland Schools
K-12 Decision Matrix

STEP ONE: The Governor’s Office, in coordination with members of the coronavirus recovery team and experts at the Maryland Department of Health, monitor key health metrics and identify the appropriate stage within Maryland’s Roadmap to Recovery. The State Superintendent of Schools, in consultation with the State Board of Education, subsequently determines the operational status of schools within each stage.

Impacts on School System Decisions

When the State is in Stage 1:
All school activities are to be conducted online and through distance learning platforms.

When the State is in Stage 2:
Some in-person school activities may commence, in accordance with the Governor’s gating and social distancing measures.

When the State is in Stage 3:
In-person school activities may fully resume, and schools can begin normal operations.

STEP TWO: When the State is in Stage 2, schools must follow Requirements for Opening Schools as outlined in Maryland’s Recovery Plan for Education.
- Develop and submit local education plans with a plan for in-person instruction.
- Incorporate equity as a component in the local recovery plan.
- Incorporate per school recovery stakeholder group.
- Identify learning gaps and instructional placement of students.
- Ensure that all students follow and maintain curricular frameworks and MDH guidelines.
- Adhere to components of SCHO, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- Adhere to health procedures outlined by the Maryland State Board of Education.
- Ensure high-quality special education instruction.
- Ensure quality and accessibility for students.
- Develop systems for tracking attendance.

STEP THREE: Local school systems make determinations regarding which groups of students and staff will be able to re-enter buildings. Specific schedules, calendar modifications, and delivery of instruction are at the discretion of the local school system. School systems can be more restrictive than the requirements outlined in the State Recovery Plan, and the health and safety measures outlined by the Governor and MDH depending on conditions in their locality.
New language “consistent with additional safety measures”
Health and Safety

SMC Health Department COVID data webpage

Age

- 0-9: 24
- 10-19: 51
- 20-29: 92
- 30-39: 81
- 40-49: 91
- 50-59: 90
- 60-69: 85
- 70-79: 101
- 80-89: 85
- 90+: 40
- Data unavailable/not identified: 1
Recovery Planning Teams

Over 90 members

- Parents
- Students
- Teachers
- Education Association Members (EASMC/SMASA)
- Administrators
- Central Office Staff
- SMC Health Department
Options for the Fall

**Hybrid Classroom Instruction**
- 2 days in person at school
- 3 days online

**Blended Learning A/B Schedule**
- Majority self-paced asynchronous structure
- Some real-time synchronous elements

**Completely Virtual Learning**
Phasing into a Hybrid Schedule

- **Step 1**: Begin with online learning with consideration for students receiving specialized services.
- **Step 2**: Sequence bringing in grade-level groups starting with Kindergarten, 6th grade, 9th grade.
- **Step 3**: Monitor and add additional grades until all levels are back pre K-12.
In the School / At the Workplace

- Hand Washing
- Face Coverings
- Cleaning
- Hand Sanitizer
- Physical Distancing
- Training
Organizational Planning

Communication and Engagement

- Town Hall and Board Meeting presentations
- Letter for Families
- Technology Survey

Scheduling

- Schoology
- Virtual
- Options and Models - A/B
- Choices

Staffing Support
Courses are being built in Schoology ensuring content standards, as well as identification and mitigation of instructional gaps are addressed.

Schoology will allow SMCPS to provide instruction to all of our students in all courses normally offered.

Grade recordation practices for teachers/students will “return to normal.”

At this time, materials such as textbooks and novels, will be inventoried, issued to students, and able to be taken to and from home/school.

There is a Parent and Student Schoology Resources Google Site currently under development.
Student Services

Specialized Instruction/IEP/504

- Student interventions will be provided using a virtual platform for students not in school
- Schoology platform will allow opportunity to meet IEP services through virtual face-to-face instruction for those not in school
- Diagnostic assessments to begin SY21 to identify specific instructional needs due to school closure

Attendance

- Attendance will be recorded for in school and virtual environments
Health Services

- Health room management of student care
- Health education: handwashing, face coverings, maintaining healthy school environment
- Collaboration with St. Mary’s County Health Department to ensure best practice

Mental Health Services

- Access to social-emotional learning lessons
- Access to mental health and counseling support for school and virtual environments
Supporting Services

Transportation
- Reviewing seating capacity and routing options
- Reviewing impacts on daily school bus arrivals and afternoon departures
- Reviewing bus driver, bus attendant, and student expectations
- Reviewing bus cleaning protocol

Clean and Healthy
- Establish a proactive approach to cleaning and maintaining safe facilities based on recommended cleaning protocols (i.e., disinfection of high touch surfaces, air and water quality)
- Establish response plans to address potential illness in students and staff
Supporting Services (Continued)

Food Services

- Considering a pre-ordering system that would allow ordering meals in advance
- Hoping to provide multiple days of meals if students are not in school every day. Pre-ordering options may be available for in-school and/or pick-up at the home school location.
- Food distribution sites (sites to be determined) will be established if SMCPS initiates a fully virtual learning environment

Athletics and Extracurricular activities

- Effective July 13th: Outdoor only summer conditioning activities with safeguards in place
- Developing multiple scenarios for Athletics and Extracurricular Activities in future phases including but not limited to competition schedules, seasonal start dates, compressed seasons, modified seasonal play, and limitations on gatherings
Next Steps

Board of Education Meeting
- July 22, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Town Hall Presentation
- July 29, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Parent Letter

Updates to SMCPS Website
Fall 2020 Safe Return Planning

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Questions submitted so far...

Will a fully virtual option be available?

Will masks be required if a hybrid model is implemented and what will be the consequence for students refusing to wear one?

Will there be fall sports / extracurricular activities?

What will happen when a student or staff member test positive for COVID?