



Reopening Strategy

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Superintendent*



Presentation Agenda

Purpose

To provide the district's proposal for opening schools in the fall

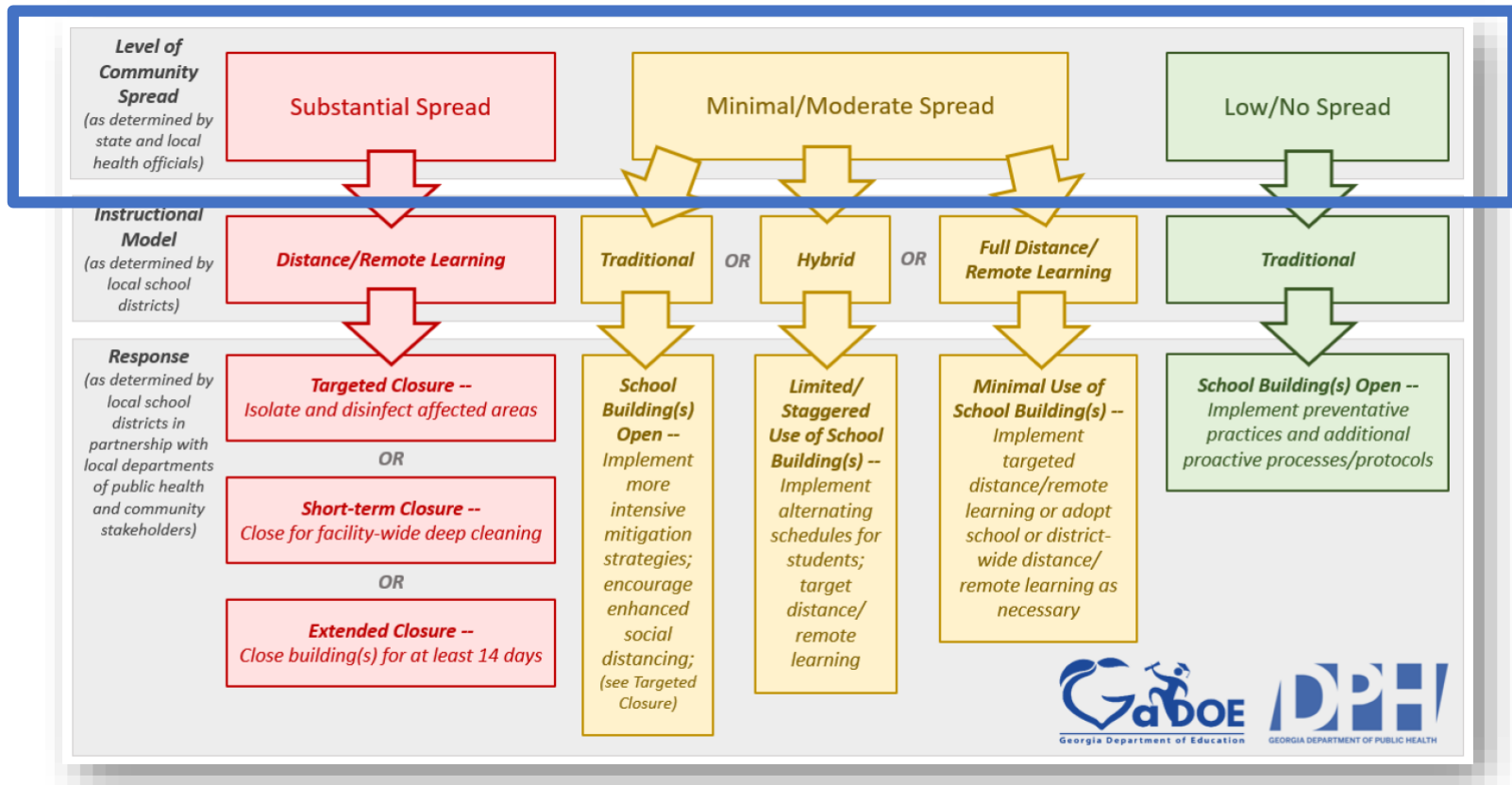
Roadmap

Provide the details of the learning model as well as the high level expectations for instruction, student support, technology, staffing, operations and communications

Administration Takeaway

The proposed reopening strategy incorporates key considerations including health data and guidance, stakeholder and staff feedback as well as operational considerations to keeps students and staff safe.

Tools that Guide Our Decision Making



Our approach to decision making is based on the guidance and recommendations of local, state and national public health officials. It is intended to prioritize the safety and well-being of our students and staff as we start the 2020-21 school year. These recommendations also provide the opportunity for responsive planning to ensure our preparedness to address the changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Levels of Community Spread Explained



COVID-19 Transmission Levels (Levels of Community Spread)

Substantial Spread: Greater than 100 cases per 100,000 county residents

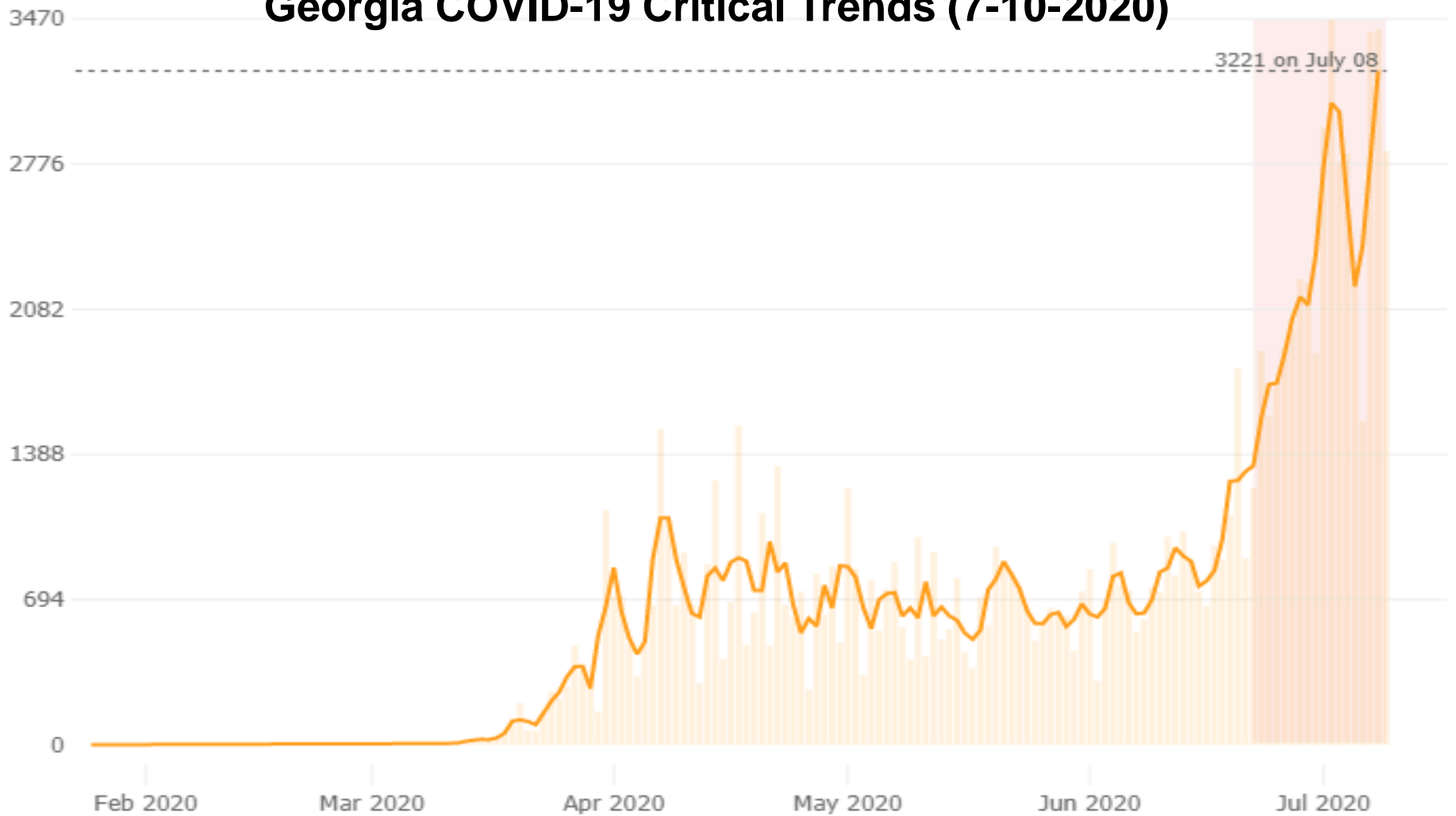
Minimal/Moderate Spread: 6-100 cases per 100,000 county residents

No/Low Spread: 1-5 cases per 100,000 spread

Insufficient Data: Rates cannot be adequately calculated. These counties may have low levels of transmission, but may be affected by other factors such as levels of COVID-19 testing.

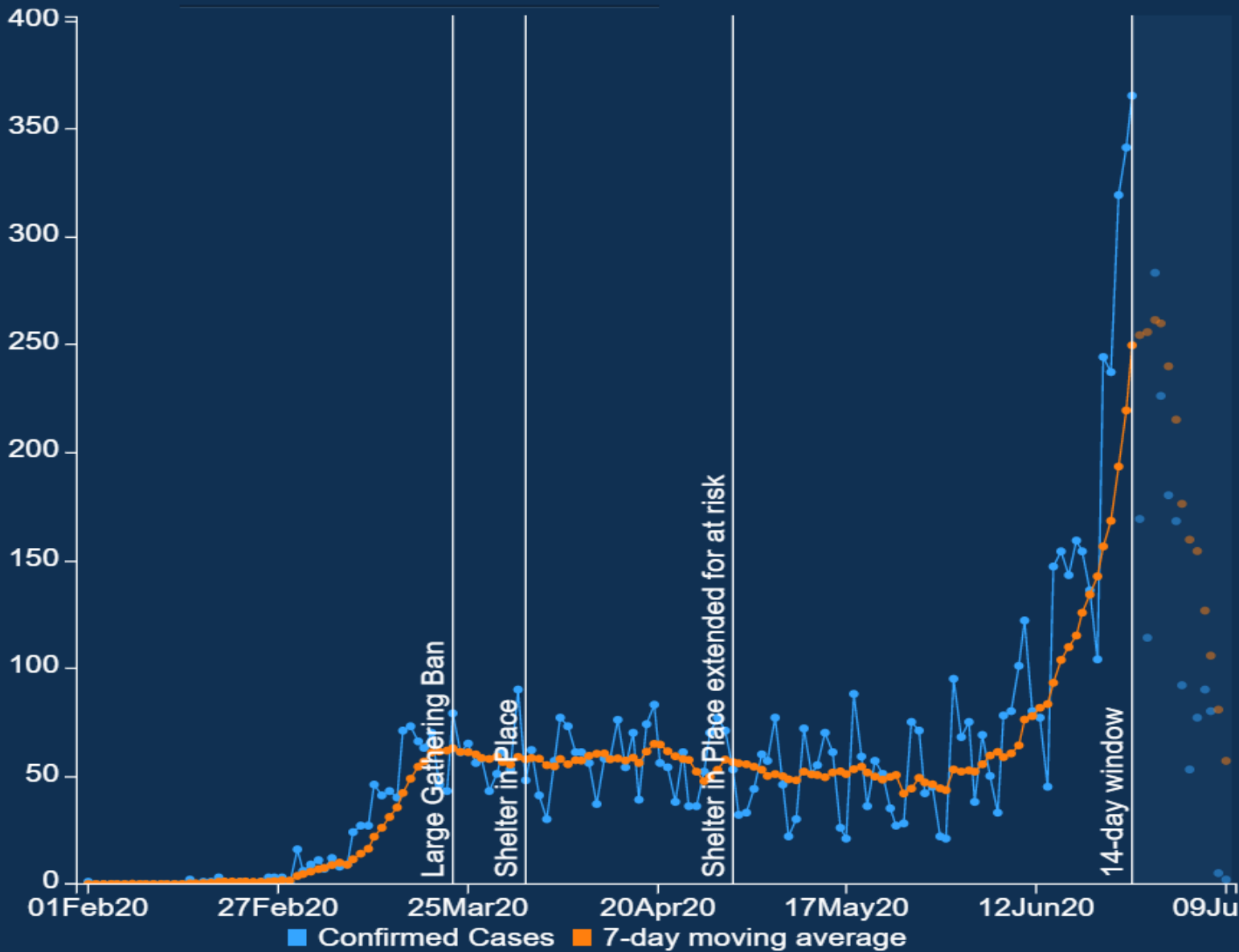
These designations are based on the average number of new cases per day over a 14-day period as reported by public health officials.

Georgia COVID-19 Critical Trends (7-10-2020)



COVID-19 Cases Over Time

Georgia > Fulton County ▾



Source: Georgia Department of Public Health Daily Status Report:
<https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>

COVID-19 Atlanta Reopening Dashboard – July 8, 2020

#ATLSTRONG

Current Status: **Phase 2**

Phase I targets met on 5/24, Phase II metrics are reported to public bi-weekly, Next update is on 07/14

Updated Guidance Phase II (new activities added)

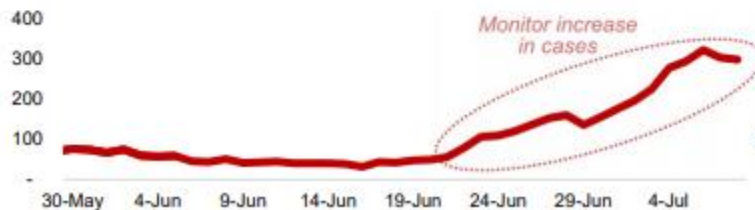
- Small, private gatherings, of no more than 10 people, with social distancing
- To-go AND curbside pickups from restaurants and retail establishments

Focus areas for next seven days

- Monitoring current overall upward trends in new cases, hospitalizations, percent positive tests, and downward trend in Hospital Capacity
- **Contract tracing data not yet provided by State of Georgia, but remains a key metric for movement to Phase 3**

Disease Spread Indicators

New COVID cases (7-day trailing avg.)



Current Trend

Days

10

Trending upward as of 6/29

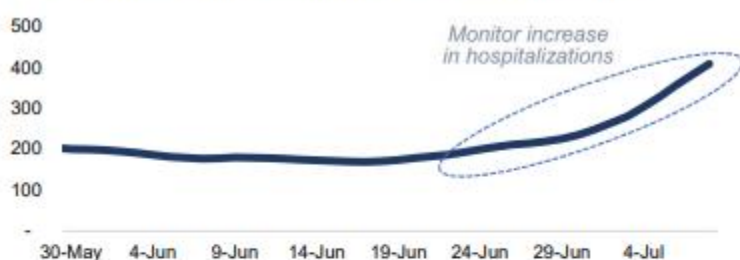
Phase II Target

Days

14

14-day downward trend

COVID hospitalizations (7-day trailing avg.)



Days

21

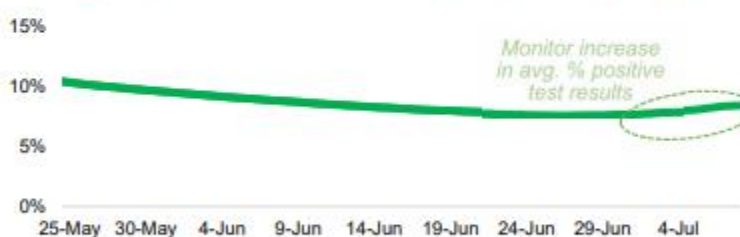
Trending upward as of 6/18

Days

14

14-day downward trend

Avg. % positive test results (7-day trailing avg.)



Days

12

Trending upward since 6/27

Days

14

14-day downward trend

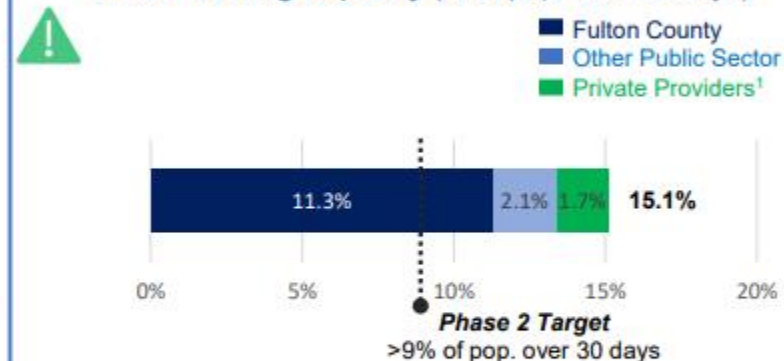
Hospital Capacity Indicators

Hospital Bed Availability (Daily)



Testing Indicators

COVID Testing Capacity (% of pop. over 30 days)



*** Contract tracing data not yet provided by State of Georgia, but remains a key metric for movement to Phase 3

1 Private providers include CVS & Walgreens; based on 6/29 data

Disclaimer: All data used herein is not owned or maintained by the City of Atlanta. Data has been sourced from Fulton County Board of Public Health & Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency. Fulton County-wide data is used as a proxy for severity in the City of Atlanta jurisdiction. The City of Atlanta does not claim responsibility for the accuracy of the source data.

Reopening Model Selection and Perception from Community Survey

Preferred Model Selection

Full-Time Virtual – **37%**

Delivery Model in Alignment with Health Recommendations – **57%**

Option Outside of APS – **6%**

Selected Full-Time Virtual

7%

at least somewhat
comfortable returning face-to-
face



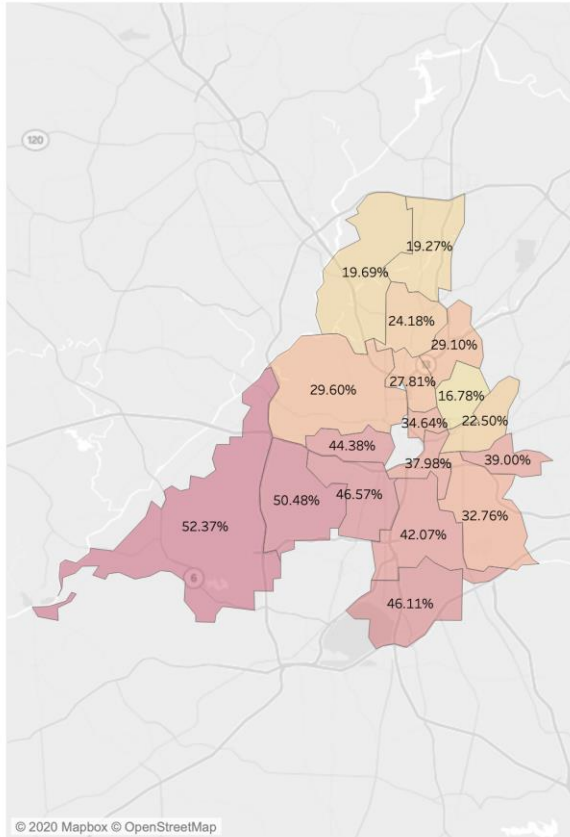
Selected Model based on Health Recommendation

66%

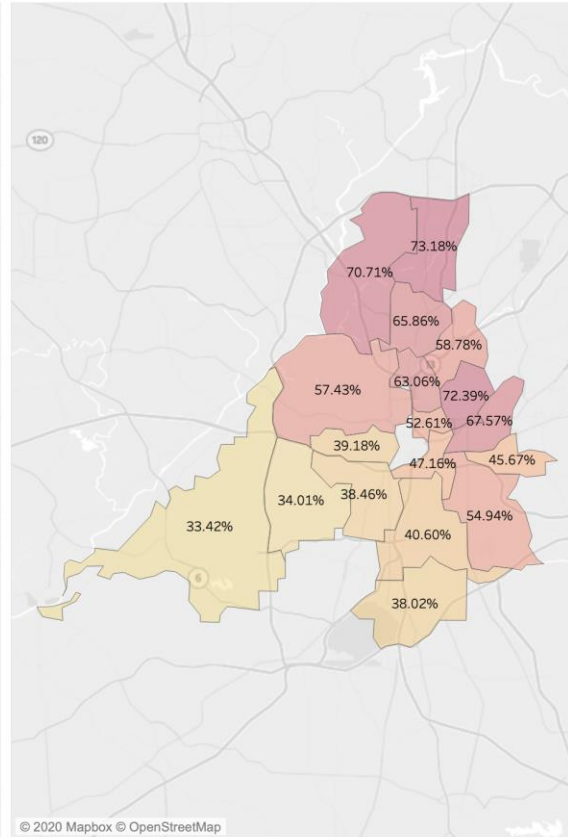
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Community Preferences By Zip Code

Percent of Respondents Selecting Virtual



Percent of Respondents Selecting "Model Based on Health Data"



There are differences in preferences of return models based on zip code. Those respondents in south and west Atlanta had a stronger preference for 100% virtual model.

Staff Survey Highlights

Teachers Returning to Work

72%

of teachers were at least somewhat uncomfortable returning to work in person.



Health Challenges

~45%

of both teachers and bus drivers are “high risk”. This does not include staff with potential childcare issues.

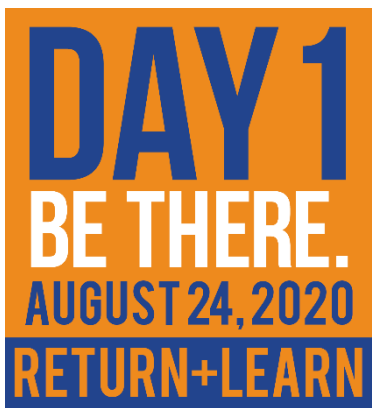
Cluster Staff Returning to Work

Between 64% and 80% of teachers in each cluster are at least somewhat uncomfortable returning to work in person.

Bus Drivers Returning to work

67%

of bus drivers were at least somewhat uncomfortable returning to work in person.



Reopening Plan for Atlanta Public Schools SY20-21

Key Dates	Interaction	Key Activities
<p>Pre-Planning August 3 – 7, 2020 August 10 – 14, 2020</p>	<p>Mostly Virtual some in person activities may be needed in small or limited groups for staff</p>	<p>Focus on Planning for the Virtual Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect with Families • Team building • Teacher Planning • Teacher Professional Development • Safety and Yearly Planning
<p>Runway for Return to Learning August 17 – August 21, 2020</p>	<p>Mostly Virtual some in person activities may be needed in small or limited groups for parents to pick up needed supplies and materials for the 9 week period</p>	<p>Focus on Student Wellness & Preparation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess Student Learning • Social Emotional Learning Support • Health & Wellness Checks • Student Supply Distribution • Emergency Contact Information Submissions
<p>Day 1: First Day of School August 24, 2020</p>	<p>Virtual Learning for all students <i>(for at least the first 9 weeks of school or until we have entered minimal/moderate spread)</i></p>	<p>Focus on Student Learning and a Strong Start</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students Engage with Curriculum • Additional Student Assessments • Get to Know You Activities • Learning Expectations

Phase I Reopening: High/Substantial Spread

(Virtual Instruction)



APS will implement a virtual instruction model for students where they remain enrolled at and receive instruction from teachers at their school. While similar to last spring, the model offers key improvements focused on greater connections, engagement and best practices for distance learning.

- Instructional delivery will include such strategies as **live, virtual instruction, interactive videos and independent work.**
- Parents may opt to enroll in the Atlanta Virtual Academy if that is their preference. Students would receive instruction from AVA teachers, not their home school teachers
- **Prioritized content from SY20** (esp. last 9 weeks) and integrating them within the SY21 scope and sequence documents
- Implement a set of **instructional engagement tools** and a **content management system** to monitor student participation and performance.
- **Daily instructional schedules** will be provided including teacher office hours
- Focus on learning practices and key strategies that cut **across all content areas and programs**

This option will also be available for implementation throughout the school year if individual schools or the district elects to close due to a COVID-19 outbreak.

Student Supports



Aligned to Virtual Model

Whole Child Supports Framework

Trauma to Transition Team

Intervention Services

Targeted Support for Students with Disabilities

- Determined **ESOL & Gifted service/delivery models** aligned to the virtual model
- Developed a **Whole Child Supports Framework** set to launch in August 2020, to include SEL, positive behavior supports, and wellness
- Launched a **“Trauma to Transition” team** who mapped critical student and staff supports to aid in the return to school and work
- Developed plans to work with school-based teams to triage **intervention services** to ensure that the widest range of eligible students are matched to appropriate RTI/MTSS supports
- Supports for **Students with Disabilities** will remain focused on (3) essential areas for virtual/remote learning in the Fall: individualization, meaningful parent participation and provision of services. More details regarding the supports for SWD in a virtual/remote learning environment are available here: [Distance Learning Plan for Special Education](#)

Technology



Working Devices or Hotspots

Additional Virtual Support

Instructional Technology Tools & Apps

Parent Learning Sessions

GetKidsConnected

- Ensure that all students/staff have access to a **working device or hotspots** to students with no devices or connectivity challenges
- Reorganize technology resources to provide **additional virtual support**
- Additional **instructional technology tools and apps** will be provided to students
- **Parent learning sessions** will be offered for working in a virtual environment
- Atlanta Public Schools (APS) has partnered with **Comcast** to launch the **Get Our Kids Connected** campaign to support thousands of students attending APS who do not have an internet connection and/or appropriate equipment in their home. If you know an APS student who needs internet service or a laptop, please email getourkidsconnected@apsk12.org or call 404 802 KIDS (5437)

Operations and Health Services



- Masks Required
- Signage
- Hand Washing & Sanitizing
- Regular Screening
- Cleaning & Disinfecting
- Response Protocols

Safety Protocols

- The district will **require the use of masks** and other personal protective equipment for students and employees when in school buildings.
- **Public Health signage** will be used throughout facilities for reminders on health practices, protocols and hygiene
- **Hand washing and sanitizing stations** will be provided in the buildings
- **Regular screening** for symptoms and ongoing self monitoring
- **Temperature checks** will also be used as a screening process when entering buildings as well as additional safety measures

Facilities & Cleaning Protocols

- Improved **routine cleaning** and disinfecting of facilities
- **Response protocols** in place for facilities impacted by COVID-19

Operations and Human Resources



Meal Distribution

Meal Services

- School meals (breakfast and lunch) will be **distributed to students weekly beginning August 10th** . Meal distribution details are forthcoming.



Home School Virtual Instruction Maintain Staffing Levels

Staffing and Teleworking

- Teachers will provide virtual instructional for students through their **home school**.
- **Maintaining staffing levels** ensures the necessary support for the instructional delivery and support
- While schools are operating virtually, **most of central office will continue to telework**. Some jobs may require coming in person all the time or part of the time, depending on the nature of the work.

Teleworking

FAQs



Will students and staff be required to wear masks at school?

- Yes. Students and staff will be required to wear masks when in APS buildings.
- The District plans to procure and distribute personal protective equipment for students and employees to use when in buildings. This equipment will include a mask, hand sanitizer, thermometers, and gloves.
- Guidance will be provided to employees regarding the specific PPE needed based on their role and responsibilities. All PPE will be purchased centrally and delivered to locations before students and employees restart school and work.

How does site-based virtual differ from AVA?

Site-based Virtual

School-based virtual programs are facilitated by and attached to the student's home school.

- Virtual learning program is coordinated by school-based administration.
- Course offerings are determined by school-based administration.
- Daily schedule is determined by school-based administration.
- Schools may choose to use various digital resources to supplement instruction.
- Students work at the pace set for them by the teachers at the local.
- Students receive live instruction as scheduled by their teacher.
- *Site Based Virtual will only occur if the district selects the Virtual Model.*

Atlanta Virtual Academy (AVA) & AVA Jr.

AVA and AVA Jr. are full time Pre-K to 12th grade programs whereby students receive 100% of their instruction online with the virtual teacher for core content, world language, health & P.E.

- Students remain enrolled in their home school but AVA staff provides all the instruction.
- Students receive scheduled live instruction from their AVA virtual teacher.
- Within the virtual platform students engage with a variety of instructional supports, complex text, video instruction, audio support, etc.
- Students will receive ancillary support (i.e., virtual mentors, reading, and math specialist).
- AVA will work collaboratively with the Special Education department to ensure accommodations are met through the IEP and 504 plans.
- AVA is a NCAA approved part time or full-time program whereby students receive 100% of their instruction online

Parents can opt in to AVA or AVA Jr. during the registration period from August 1st - September 30th

What types of parental supports are available for virtual instruction?

- The Department of Instructional Technology and the Department of Engagement have partnered to train parent liaisons and family engagement specialists on digital resources identified to support virtual instruction.
- Educational Technology Specialists (ETS) will continue to offer a Parent Technology Institute (PTI) by Cluster and grade band (ES, MS, and HS) throughout the school year. The PTI will be specific to learning programs in the cluster and will highlight digital resources used by specific grade levels.
- Parent University website will be developed to inform parents on the tenets of virtual instruction and outline how they can assist their learners.
- Update APS Mobile App with MyBackpack application to increase parental access.
- District parent trainings and webinars will occur using Zoom which will allow access to the Language Interpretation tab to assist Spanish speaking families.

When will the school year start? Are there changes to the student calendar?

First Reading – 7/13/2020

- The Administration is recommending that the first day of school be delayed by two weeks, to Monday, August 24th.
- If approved by the Board, this change would reduce our instructional days to 170 for the school year.

APS Student Calendar 2020-2021



What data source did you review for tracking COVID-19?

- Georgia Department of Public Health Daily Status Report:
 - <https://dph.georgia.gov/covid-19-daily-status-report>
- John Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Center:
 - <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/us-map>
- City of Atlanta:
 - <https://atlstrong.org/data-trackers/>