Plan for the Reopening of Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools
Wednesday, July 1, 2020
Elements of the District’s Reopening Plan

1. M-DCPS COVID-19 Response and Planning for the 20/21 School Year
2. Reopening Our Schoolhouses
3. Proposed Instructional Models
4. Safety and Support for Staff
5. Communications, Family Engagement and Advocacy
6. Final Preparations
M-DCPS COVID-19 Response and Planning for the 20/21 School Year
Response to COVID-19 (March - June)

- Raised ~$1M to support community feeding
- 18,000+ teachers trained on Distance Learning best practices
- 119,000 devices distributed
- 4,900,000+ school meals distributed
- 99% student connection rate; 92% attendance rate
- 50,000+ calls to District helplines answered
- 3,000+ home visits conducted
- 119,000 devices distributed
- 50,000+ calls to District helplines answered
- 3,000+ home visits conducted
M-DCPS COVID-19 CHRONOLOGY

M-DCPS begins monitoring potential impacts from a respiratory virus affecting parts of China.

- District Critical Incident Response Team tracks news reports of unexplained pneumonia cases in Wuhan, China.
- Miami-Dade County Health Department contacts District Safety Director with CDC update on the novel coronavirus.
- Staff begins updating the District’s Pandemic Plan.
- District and school staff begin monitoring student absenteeism.
February
District verifies availability of adequate cleaning supplies/equipment and places environmental contractors on standby.

March 2
The Florida Department of Health (FDOH) issues guidelines to stop the spread of the coronavirus, asking residents not to travel to certain areas overseas.

March 10
District staff present the School Board and community with an update on M-DCPS’ coronavirus prevention and contingency measures to date.

March 1
Governor Ron DeSantis announces first two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Florida and directs the FDOH to declare a public health emergency.

March 5
District opens two New Student Service Centers.
At this point, new students’ travel history remains a concern. Earlier enrollment reports indicated that the District was enrolling 30-50 students from foreign nations in home schools daily. To minimize potential staff and student exposure to the virus, two New Student Service Centers are established in the District. These sites are staffed with counselors and a nurse to assist with the registration and health clearance process.

March 11
District activates its Emergency Command Center.
The District Emergency Command Center was activated to address questions from parents, employees and students regarding potential school closures and provide general information concerning the District COVID-19 response.
March 13

Ruth K. Broad/Bay Harbor K-8 Center Closed.
On the evening of March 12, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands advised M-DCPS that one of its employees tested positive for the coronavirus, which has been confirmed by the FDOH. The individual, who works at an after-care program located in the Town’s community center, interacted with students who attend that program.

School Closures Announced.
Superintendent Carvalho announces closure of all M-DCPS campuses and facilities until further notice, due to COVID-19.

March 16

M-DCPS transitions to Distance Learning and Teleworking.
- Distance Learning through the M-DCPS Instructional Continuity Plan commences.
- Over 18,000 teachers are trained on Distance Learning.
- Distribution of grab-and-go school breakfast and lunch meals commences at school sites across M-DCPS.
- Vast majority of the District workforce transitions to performing their functions remotely.

March 17

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) announces school closures statewide through April 15.
March 26
Safer-At-Home Order is issued for Miami-Dade County. About half the state’s reported COVID-19 cases are in Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties.

April 1
Governor DeSantis signs Executive Order 20-91, thereby implementing a statewide Safer-At-Home Order effective April 3 and expiring April 30.

April 18
The FLDOE extends school closures and distance learning statewide through the end of the school year.

March 31
The FLDOE extends school closures statewide through May 1.

April 6
M-DCPS launches ICP 2.0 and begins capturing student attendance through virtual means.

April 29
Recovery and reopening plans announced.
✓ Governor DeSantis unveils Florida’s Recovery Plan, a step-by-step guide to reopen Florida’s economy.
✓ Superintendent Carvalho announces summer learning plans through the S.O.A.R. initiative and his intent to convene a Reopening Workgroup to inform M-DCPS’ reopening plans for 2020-2021.
May 4
Governor DeSantis lifts statewide Safer-At-Home Order, except for Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties.

May 13
Miami-Dade County releases draft guidelines in anticipation of its Phase I reopening on May 18. These are part of the County’s “The New Normal Guide.”

May 15
M-DCPS opens Parent Reopening Survey in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole to obtain critical feedback from parents regarding their beliefs on COVID-19 and preferences on school reopening.

Week of May 18
M-DCPS initiates phased reopening of the School Board Administration Building Complex for those employees who cannot easily telework, implementing distancing measures and temperature checks.
June 3
Last Day of School at M-DCPS.
After 51 days of Distance Learning, M-DCPS students close out the 2019-2020 school year. Despite the numerous challenges, student attendance for the last quarter averaged 92.3%

June 4
M-DCPS opens Teacher Reopening Survey to obtain critical feedback from teachers regarding their beliefs on COVID-19.

June 8
Summer Learning and Meal Distributions start.
✓ M-DCPS enters the “Recover” phase of its S.O.A.R. initiative, targeting nearly 50,000 students.
✓ School meal distributions continue at 50 school sites across the county.

June 11
FLDOE Releases Guidance on Reopening Schools

June 15
M-DCPS School Reopening Workgroup holds its first meeting.

June 17
Data released from Johns Hopkins University indicates that Florida is 1 of 10 states seeing the highest average of daily new COVID-19 cases since the pandemic started.

June 22
M-DCPS School Reopening Workgroup holds its second meeting.

June 26
M-DCPS School Reopening Workgroup holds its third meeting.
Guiding Documents

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Schools
- Florida’s Recovery Plan
- FLDOE Reopening of Schools Guidance
A Comprehensive, Informed Approach

Guiding Documents

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Schools
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The Plan: Re-Opening Phase 2

Phase 2 will begin after the successful conclusion of Phase 1, which includes a downward trajectory of the endemic and epidemiology criteria while maintaining adequate health care capacity. This will occur when there is no evidence of a rebound or resurgence of COVID-19 cases and satisfies the benchmarks outlined in this Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step plan.

The Safe, Smart, Step-by-Step plan sets forth minimum recommended health protocols. Individuals and institutions should adhere to all public health orders from federal, state, and local officials, including state regulatory agencies.

INDIVIDUALS

Vulnerable Populations
Individuals older than 65 years of age and individuals with a serious underlying medical condition (such as chronic lung disease, moderate-to-severe asthma, serious heart condition, immune-compromised status, cancer, diabetes, severe obesity, renal failure and liver disease) should continue to stay at home. When leaving the home, these individuals should follow social distancing and other general mitigation guidance. Those living with vulnerable individuals should be aware of the common cold that they can carry the virus back home after returning to work or other environments where distancing is not practical.

Vulnerable populations should also be informed that they are a member of the vulnerable population so that their employer can plan accordingly.

Social Gatherings
All individuals should continue to maintain physical distance from others in public, particularly in enclosed environments.
- Individuals should avoid socializing in groups of more than 50 people in circumstances that do not readily allow for appropriate social distancing of at least 6 feet.

Travel
Individuals may resume non-essential travel.

EMPLOYERS

Telework
All employers should continue to encourage teleworking where practical. Employers should begin implementing plans for employees to return to work in phases.

Employee Screening
All employers should screen employees before entering the premises for symptoms of COVID-19 or influenza-like illness and, where practical, take the temperature of each employee.

Other

Bars, Pubs and Nightclubs
Bars, pubs, and nightclubs that derive more than 50 percent of sales from alcohol should operate at 50 percent of building capacity with an emphasis on distanced standing room capacity and prioritizing outdoor service. Owners should consider:
- Spacing tables at least six feet apart and reducing and spreading the arrangement of seating at the bar to incorporate appropriate social distancing between patrons as well as between patrons and the bar staff.
- Restricting coupling of tables or table groups to 10 or fewer patrons.
- Encouraging beverage orders to be taken at the table by bar or wait staff rather than at the bar counter.
- Incorporating intentional and manageable traffic flows to enable responsible social distancing for patrons waiting on service when accepting orders directly at the bar.
- Cleaning and disinfecting all surfaces after each use.
- Menus, if laminated, should be cleaned after each usage. Paper menus should be designed for single use and then disposed of immediately after use.

Restaurants
Restaurants and food establishments should operate at no more than 75 percent of building capacity, with appropriate social distancing and a minimum of 6 feet separating parties, as the virus is most transmissible indoors under close, sustained contact.
- Parties should not exceed 10 people. Businesses should limit inside waiting areas for patrons waiting to be seated.
- Allow walk-ins but continue to emphasize reservations only business model or call-ahead seating to manage spacing effectively in restaurants.
- Outdoor dining areas should continue to be prioritized.
- Operators should clean and disinfect all surfaces after every use.
- Businesses should consider posting signs to remind staff and patrons of safety and sanitation protocols.
- Businesses should continue to screen employees before work and consider requiring employees to wear face masks or face coverings while inside or within close proximity to members of the public.
Guiding Documents

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Schools
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- FLDOE Reopening of Schools Guidance

A Comprehensive, Informed Approach

Reopening is a Locally Driven Decision

- This document is NOT a set of mandates or final set of considerations.
- Reopening ultimately must be driven by local data and the goal of restoring optimal conditions for learning.

This document is:

- A guidance document with recommendations.
- Informed by both published expert guidance and input from dozens of stakeholders (see appendices).
- A resource and framework for local decision making.
- A document that is intended to be updated and changed as the context evolves.

Child care (early learning) programs, K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions should use this document as points to consider and implement with local context, knowing that there is not one perfect formula for reopening and differently situated communities will likely establish equally successful plans to reopen that do NOT mirror each other.
Guiding Documents

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Schools
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A Comprehensive, Informed Approach

The following general guidance is recommended for all employers throughout each phase of re-opening:

- Practice social distancing, whenever feasible, as the virus is most transmissible indoors under close, sustained contact.
- Clean and disinfect high-touch, high-traffic surface areas.
- Develop and implement policies and procedures to train employees on personal hygiene expectations, including increased frequency of hand washing, the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60 percent alcohol and, clear instruction to avoid touching hands to face.
- Make hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or similar disinfectant readily available to employees, students and visitors.
- Encourage employees and students who feel sick to stay home.
- Monitor employees and students for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return until they meet CDC criteria to do so or are cleared by a medical provider.
- Consult with the county health department regarding procedures for workforce tracing following a positive COVID-19 test by an employee, student or those who have come into contact with an individual testing positive for COVID-19.
Guiding Documents

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Schools
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- FLDOE Reopening of Schools Guidance

Recommending to Redesign the School Day to Reduce Risks

While most educational programs are not designed for social distancing, schools are encouraged to explore creative redesigns of how a campus or program is utilized and how students move about can dramatically reduce risks and simplify, when necessary, contact tracing.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Appointee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Linda Brown, PhD, ARNP</td>
<td>President/CEO – Xspurt Provider Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Michael Finney</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO – Beacon Council</td>
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<td>Dr. Lisa Gwynn</td>
<td>Vice President – Academy of Pediatrics, Florida Chapter</td>
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<td>Ms. Karla Hernandez-Mats</td>
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<tr>
<td>Father Reginald Jean-Mary</td>
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<td>Ms. Adriana Jimenez, MPH</td>
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<td>Mr. Eric Knowles</td>
<td>President &amp; CEO – Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce</td>
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<td>Dr. Joycelyn Lawrence, MD</td>
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<td>Ms. Phyllis LeFlore</td>
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<td>Ms. Mercy Lopez</td>
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<td>Ms. Claudia Mariaca</td>
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<td>Mr. Hector Roca, MSgt., US Army Ret.</td>
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<td>Dr. Benny Rub, MD</td>
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Observations from other countries that have begun reopening their schools show that support and agreement for such decisions are associated with people’s attitudes on various topics.

Understanding our stakeholders’ attitudes and beliefs about COVID-19, its risks, and preventative measures enables the District to develop plans and protocols that better align with their expectations and needs.

Two surveys were designed and deployed – one for parents and one for teachers – to learn more about their perceptions of COVID-19, as well as their preferences for school/work attendance, transportation needs, potential barriers to working in either a physical or virtual environment, and proficiency with various learning platforms.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

**Stakeholder Surveys**

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- Understanding our stakeholders’ attitudes and beliefs about COVID-19, its risks, and preventative measures enables the District to develop plans and protocols that better align with their expectations and needs.
- Two surveys were designed and deployed – one for parents and one for teachers – to learn more about their perceptions of COVID-19, as well as their preferences for school/work attendance, transportation needs, potential barriers to working in either a physical or virtual environment, and proficiency with various learning platforms.

**PARENT SURVEY**
- Open from 5/15 – 5/27
- Available in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole
- 100,707 surveys were completed, representing 155,545 students

**TEACHER SURVEY**
- Open from 6/4 – 6/10
- 18,622 surveys were completed out of 19,250 teachers
Parents and teachers were asked to indicate which statement they believed the most about the public health risk of COVID-19.

**Perceptions on COVID-19 Health Risks**

- **A** Reopening of the schools can put children and others at high risk of getting the virus. 
  - Parents: 46.4%
  - Teachers: 42.0%

- **B** Risks for children to get the virus is moderate; reopening of schools still is seen as a risk because the virus can be spread without having symptoms. 
  - Parents: 37.1%
  - Teachers: 39.6%

- **C** Risks for children and teachers to get the virus (even when not showing symptoms) is low. 
  - Parents: 16.5%
  - Teachers: 18.4%
Perceptions on COVID-19 Prevention

Parents and teachers were asked to indicate which statement they believed the most about the ability to make schools safe.

A. It is very difficult to make schools safe because children can be careless (not covering mouth or social distancing).
   - PARENT: 52.8%
   - TEACHER: 50.1%

B. Health & Safety measures (such as cleaning and social distancing) can lower the risk of getting the virus in schools.
   - PARENT: 37.8%
   - TEACHER: 37.4%

C. Health & Safety measures (such as cleaning and social distancing) are not enough to prevent the virus in schools.
   - PARENT: 9.4%
   - TEACHER: 12.5%
Four Guiding Principles for Reopening Schools

1. Ensure the safety and wellness of students and staff.
2. Deliver high-quality instruction to students, regardless of delivery model.
3. Provide parents flexibility and choice in instructional delivery models.
4. Optimize use of resources.
Reopening our Schoolhouses

2020-2021
Focused on the Student & Staff Experience

Before Students & Staff Arrive on Campus

When Students & Staff Arrive

When Students & Staff Move About on Campus

When Students & Staff Are in Classrooms

When Students & Staff Participate in Extracurriculars

When Students & Staff Leave

Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Safety First

01. Bus Drop Off
02. Sanitation Station
03. Breakfast Grab-n-Go

04. Single Direction Walking
05. Reduced Classroom Seating
06. Lunch Outdoors/In Classroom
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

**Stakeholder Feedback**

Percentage of those who agree with proposed prevention measures:

- **Temperature Checks**: 94.0% (Parents) 94.8% (Teachers)
- **Washing Hands**: 83.2% (Parents) 99.0% (Teachers)
- **Wearing Face Coverings**: 83.2% (Parents) 83.0% (Teachers)
- **Eating Meals in Class**: 82.1% (Parents) 56.0% (Teachers)
- **One-Way Hallways**: 86.0% (Parents) 86.0% (Teachers)
Though schools are not designed to easily allow for social distancing of 6 feet, every effort will be made to maintain as much distance as possible. Reopening schools requires certain procedures be in place to ensure safety as students, teachers and staff return to school campuses.

✔ Establish protocols for expanded entry areas in compliance with State mandates for safety and security
✔ Assess staggered arrival and dismissal times for students
✔ Establish parent pick-up/drop off protocols
✔ Evaluate emergency drill procedures (active shooter, fire drill, etc.)
✔ Stagger classroom release, when feasible
✔ Create protocols for transitions during passing times
✔ Strategically place signage to reinforce safety protocols
✔ Require parents to perform temperature checks on students prior to school arrival
✔ Require face coverings for staff and students
Following Some Simple Steps…

Posters and flyers with simple and effective measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 illustrate and remind us of ways to stay safe and healthy.
District/Campus Health Protocols and Sanitation Procedures

✔ Perform routine sanitization of general facilities throughout the day
✔ Create sanitation logs, checklists and procedures for routine deep cleaning
✔ Require face coverings for students, staff, and visitors
✔ Set screening protocols for all visitors
✔ Set capacity limitations for restrooms and elevators
✔ Install hand sanitizing stations in high-traffic areas (e.g. building entrance, etc.)
✔ Monitor student attendance for increased chronic absences
✔ Establish protocol for reporting symptoms and initiate contact investigation/tracing in collaboration with the Miami-Dade FLDOH
✔ Continue replacing quality air filters for HVAC systems
✔ Increase frequency of sanitization of high-touch areas with hospital-grade germicide throughout the day and after school in preparation for next day
✔ Explore deep sanitization of schools on weekends
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Classroom Environment

- Manage class size to maximize social distancing
- Require face coverings for students and staff
- Explore installation of physical transparent barriers where appropriate
- Cohort students to minimize exposure and allow for contact tracing
- Create in-classroom meal service options to reduce exposure
- Designate handwashing breaks throughout the school day
- Remove non-essential shared items from the classroom
- Creatively repurpose alternate spaces (cafeterias, gyms, media centers, courtyards) for instructional use
- Encourage use of digital resources for instruction
- Determine feasibility of singular platform to facilitate parent engagement during distance learning

FDOE GUIDANCE

Where Social Distancing is Not Feasible: Class Size and Busing

6 feet of distance between desks is not feasible for most classrooms and almost never for school buses. However, the impact of class size is not as significant, as Florida’s K-12 class sizes are already constitutionally mandated to be small: 18 or fewer students for grades K-3; 22 or fewer students for grades 4-8; and 25 or fewer students for grades 9-12.
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Classroom Capacity

Social Distancing Configuration
Bus Transportation Considerations

✔ Require face coverings for students and staff on the bus
✔ Create bus route models to accommodate reduced occupancy
✔ Intensify cleaning protocols for transportation
✔ Increase the number of bus stops to facilitate social distancing
✔ Evaluate options for screening and requirement of face coverings
✔ Install barrier to prioritize health and safety of school bus drivers
✔ Re-evaluate availability options for courtesy bussing
✔ Recruit additional drivers to support reduced occupancy per bus
✔ Encourage social distancing at pick-up/drop-off points
Adapting Student Meal Service

✔ Minimize crowds by deploying alternative meal service options
✔ Provide Grab-and-Go Meals to be eaten in the classroom
✔ Design classroom delivery models for younger students
✔ Use signage and other social distancing strategies in cafeteria
✔ Adjust lunch service options to utilize alternative space for meal consumption (i.e. cafeteria service line, meal delivery to classroom or use of outdoor space)
✔ Adopt cashless, touchless point-of-sale transactions for cafeteria service line
✔ Stagger meal schedules to limit students in the cafeteria at one time
✔ Maximize social distancing as much as possible during mealtimes
Reopening
Schools
20/21

Before/After-School Care, Extracurricular Activities and Athletics

✔ Implement a phased approach for participation in activities and athletic programs, starting in July
✔ Monitor and follow guidance from Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA)
✔ Conduct extracurricular activities virtually when possible
✔ Establish sanitization procedures for shared equipment
✔ Evaluate before/after school program models to accommodate reduced adult/child ratio, which may include adjustment of operational hours
Contact Tracing

**Individual Showing Symptoms**

1. Individual is moved to Isolation Room and monitored/screened
2. If needed, individual is asked to seek medical assistance
3. If individual leaves the worksite/school, notify Chief Health Officer (CHO)/School Operations

**Initiate Contact Tracing and Identify:**
- Students and staff with direct contact
- Areas of building individuals have traveled
- Whether individual resides with students/staff at another worksite

**CHO collaborates with FDOH on Contact Investigation**

- Worksite Administrator follows FDOH guidance for worksite/community notification (in event of positive case)

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**Consider a Contact Tracing Protocol**

Districts and schools are encouraged to have communications and protocols in place to work with local health officials to implement contact tracing. Local health departments have comprehensive contact tracing programs and can coordinate with health staff at schools. The CDC also offers guidance on the importance of maintaining the privacy of those impacted.

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**Responding to a Confirmed Case**

Schools are best prepared if they are ready to respond to a confirmed case. To help prepare, FDOH is collaborating with FDOE on guidance for contact tracing, testing, verbal screening, preparing school clinics, PPE and more.
Student Suspected/Confirmed Positive for Communicable Disease/COVID-19

Magnet / Educational Programs / Vocational Share Time Outside Campus

Dual Enrollment

Identifies all classes and students in the classes the student has direct contact with

Extra Curricular Activities

Student’s information is entered into an In-School Contact Tracing System. Our Contact Tracing strategy identifies all students connected with the educational programs, activities, and/or services that the student participates in with other students and connections to staff.

M-DCPS Transportation Routes (If Applicable)
- Identifies buses that may impact other grade levels,
  - Elementary
  - Middle School
  - K-8 Centers
  - Senior High School

Identify sibling(s) of Student with Communicable Disease / COVID-19. In-School Contact Tracing will also be done on the identified sibling(s).
Mental Wellness Support

✔ Administer wellness survey to families to identify priority supports for reopening
✔ Provide a blended model of support, inclusive of in-person and virtual deployment of mental health services
✔ Enhance partnerships with network of mental health professionals to provide services
✔ Continue operating Mental Health Parent Assistance Line to support families with their needs - (305) 995-7100
✔ Implement trauma-informed practices by training school-site administrators and staff to identify warning signs
Proposed Instructional Models

2020-2021
Instructional Models

The instructional models contained in this plan have been designed based on input garnered from parent surveys. The different instructional options offered in this document considered the following concerns and recommendations:

• Preserving in-school instruction whenever possible;
• Providing a distance learning option;
• Addressing students’ academic, emotional and social needs;
• Minimizing health risks while at school; and
• Pivoting with agility to distance learning in the event of a subsequent school closure.
Incorporating Parent Preferences Into Our Models

Reopening Schools In Person Distance Combo

PK-2
- In Person: 34%
- Distance: 37%
- Combo: 29%

3-5
- In Person: 36%
- Distance: 34%
- Combo: 30%

6-8
- In Person: 40%
- Distance: 31%
- Combo: 29%

9-12
- In Person: 41%
- Distance: 33%
- Combo: 27%

Miami-Dade County Public Schools
School models are driven by facility utilization after parents opt for non-schoolhouse options.

Communications Campaign through July 10

Will you send your child to their brick and mortar school in August?

Timeline for response to survey: July 6 – July 10

Parent Notification Week of July 27

Schoolhouse Model (Daily Attendance)

Hybrid Learning Model (2-3 Day/Week Attendance)

SCHOOLS WILL OPEN AUGUST 24
Schoolhouse Model

Schoolhouse Daily Attendance Model:

✔ Students attend school daily for face-to-face instruction with teachers.

✔ Teachers use blended learning model to be prepared for potential building closure.

✔ Class sizes will be reduced to promote greater social distancing.

✔ Non-traditional spaces are used for instruction to maximize safety.

✔ Cohort model is used to build community and limit mass movement.

✔ Includes VPK, Head Start/Early Head Start, and students with disabilities in separate classroom settings.
Schoolhouse Model

**ADVANTAGES**

- Where feasible, students will attend school daily and receive the support and instruction needed.
- School district will receive regular FTE funding per student because seat time requirements will be met.
- No issue with lack of mobile device or connectivity at home.
- Students will have access to both core courses and electives.
- Working parents will not need to make alternate arrangements to take care of children during school hours.
- Students with special needs or English Language Learners will receive instruction and support services daily.

**DISADVANTAGES**

- As attendance increases, maintaining social distancing may be more difficult.
- Employees and students have a higher risk of contracting COVID-19.
- Teachers would have to quickly shift to delivering online instruction if COVID-19 cases are identified.
Hybrid Models

✔ Students will attend school either two or three days per week.
✔ Teachers will be provided with District-developed curriculum content to modify as needed for instructional delivery for eLearning days. This would allow a seamless transition into distance learning.
✔ Schools will employ physical distancing measures meeting established thresholds.
✔ Class sizes will be reduced.
✔ Schools will have to account for specialized classroom space needs for students with disabilities.
✔ Not an option for Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and Head Start/Early Head Start Programs.
Hybrid Model 1: 10 Day Continuous Instruction

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<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<td>Cohort A*</td>
<td>In-School</td>
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<td>Cohort B*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each cohort represents ½ the student body. *Students on modified curriculum will attend school daily as possible.

ADVANTAGES

- Reduces class size to support social distancing and poses a medium/moderate health risk.
- Model maximizes contact time with cohorts of students in school daily.
- Teachers will be provided with District-developed or purchased content to modify as needed for instructional delivery that can seamlessly transition into distance learning should schools close suddenly due to COVID-19.
- Model allows for block scheduling in secondary schools.

DISADVANTAGES

- Classroom teachers will not be available to students on the eLearning days.
- Schools will not have any days during the week without students in the building for deep cleaning and sanitation.
- Model may not allow for academically fragile students, ELL, or ESE students to spend additional time with teachers and/or therapists in school.
- Not approved for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and Head Start/Early Head Start Programs.
Hybrid Model 2: Block Schedule
(2 Consecutive in-school days)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort A*</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>In-School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort B*</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEEK 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort A*</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>In-School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohort B*</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>In-School</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
<td>eLearning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each cohort represents \( \frac{1}{2} \) the student body. This is a two-week overview, the number of in-school sessions for each cohort will even out at the 4-week mark. *Students on modified curriculum will attend school daily as possible

**ADVANTAGES**

- Reduces class size to support social distancing and poses a medium/moderate health risk.
- Model maximizes contact time with cohorts of students in school daily.
- Teachers will be provided with District-developed or purchased content to modify as needed for instructional delivery that can seamlessly transition into distance learning should schools close suddenly due to COVID-19.
- Model allows for block scheduling in secondary schools.

**DISADVANTAGES**

- Classroom teachers will not be available to students on the eLearning days.
- Schools will not have any days during the week without students in the building for deep cleaning and sanitation.
- Model may not allow for academically fragile students, ELL, or ESE students to spend additional time with teachers and/or therapists in school.
- Not approved for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and Head Start/Early Head Start Programs.
My School Online (Distance Learning)

Online Daily Attendance Model:

✔ Students maintain their enrollment status at their brick and mortar schools.

✔ Students attend school online during regular school hours and follow a standard school schedule.

✔ Teachers meet with students daily utilizing web conferencing technology.

✔ Teacher-designed lessons using purchased courseware.

✔ Students can return to their school campuses second semester if they so choose.

✔ Wrap-around support services provided for students (e.g. Counseling Services, Therapies, and Mental Health) on campus or remotely as appropriate.

✔ Not an option for Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and Head Start/Early Head Start Programs.
My School Online (Distance Learning)

**ADVANTAGES**

- Eliminates classroom exposure to COVID-19.
- Student experience will be uninterrupted should schools close suddenly due to COVID-19 outbreak.
- Licensed courseware will ensure an improved and consistent student experience.
- Students can accelerate their learning.

**DISADVANTAGES**

- Additional costs.
- Student supervision and support is not as robust as in the brick and mortar environment.
- High need for parental involvement, especially in lower grades.
- Difficult for many students with special needs (Pre-K to grade 12) or English Language Learners.
- All students need a mobile device and connectivity.
- Limited course offerings.
- Not approved for the Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) Program and Head Start/Early Head Start.
SECTION FOUR

Safety and Support for Staff

2020-2021
Reopening:

Safety First

01. Daily Health Screening
02. Distanced Workstations
03. Physical Barriers
04. Avoided Sharing of Equipment
05. Virtual Meetings
06. PPE / Increased Sanitization
Protecting & Supporting Our Workforce

✔ The District’s confidential, cost-free support program, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), will continue to support employees by providing ongoing assessments, counseling, referrals, and case/care management as needed.

✔ The District’s Employee Wellness Program, Well Way, remains committed to promoting the physical and mental wellbeing of all staff through employee education and partnerships for services, including telemedicine and telecounseling.

✔ Employees with underlying medical conditions may seek accommodations to continue performing their essential job functions by contacting the District’s Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Office.
Professional Development & Training

Training modules regarding health and safety precautions will be developed for all employee groups.

Synergy 2020

LEADing Forward (Operations)
- ✔ Leading with Equity in Mind
- ✔ Responding to COVID-Related Employee Concerns
- ✔ Student Health Protocols During COVID-19
- ✔ Supporting Student and Employee Mental Health
- ✔ Effective Family Communications Strategies for Schools

Virtually Unstoppable (Teaching and Learning)
- ✔ Building an Equity-Centered Social-Emotional Learning Program
- ✔ Strategies to Support Social-Emotional Learning
- ✔ Distance Learning A to Z
- ✔ Zooming into 2021: Strategies for Creating Virtual Collaborative Spaces
- ✔ Trauma-Informed Pre-K Classrooms
Communications, Family Engagement and Advocacy

2020-2021
Multiple means of communication with families, employees, and community stakeholders in English, Spanish, and Haitian-Creole will be utilized. These include:

- Automated text, voice, and email messaging to families and employees
- Digital newsletters
- Social media posts on various platforms
- Published editorials and newspaper columns
- Radio announcements
- Television, radio, print, and digital media news coverage
- Various telephone support lines
- Dedicated webpage on District website
Community Partnerships

✔ CDC guidelines recommend limiting nonessential visitors to campuses.
✔ Partnerships with business, alumni, municipalities, chambers and other CBO’s will continue to support the needs of our students, their families and the District.
✔ All volunteers, mentors, and community partners will be encouraged to continue their service utilizing alternative methods (i.e., virtually and outside the school building).
✔ School volunteers, mentors and community partners will be encouraged to follow CDC guidelines, if their roles require visiting campuses.
✔ Volunteer policies and procedures are being revised to incorporate CDC guidelines and alternative methods of service.
Family Engagement

✔ All volunteers and school-site liaisons will utilize Raptor for registration, background screening, tracking their service hours and communications.
✔ Professional development on virtually engaging families and partners will continue to be offered throughout the year to our educators and community stakeholders.
✔ District recognition events will be held virtually to prevent mass gatherings.
✔ District advisory committees and PTA/PTSA will continue to meet virtually; working to advocate and communicate with stakeholders.
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

## Ongoing Advocacy to Support Reopening Efforts

### REGULATORY

**FTE/Attendance**
- Seeking flexibility in definition of "present"
- Full FTE Funding for virtual & blended
- Hold harmless for Transportation FTE

### ADVOCACY

**School Lunch**
- Waiver extension
- Bailout for lost revenue

**Additional Stimulus**
- Supplemental Funding

**E-Rate**
- Connectivity beyond the schoolhouse

### FINANCIAL PICTURE

**Budget Picture**
- Predictions of $8B-$10B statewide loss look accurate
- State plans on honoring K-12 obligations using reserves and stimulus

**CARES Act**
- K-12 Fund → $119M for all Miami-Dade. Needed for program protection when revenue decreases
- Gov. Fund → Fund Summer Restart program

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Reopening Schools
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Reopening District Checklist

- Finalize instructional models, staff training and plan to support schools with implementation.
- Maximize funding sources to support reopening.
- Assess parental preferences regarding instructional models.
- Maintain clear communication channels with schools, parents and community stakeholders.
- Continue collaborative conversations with union leaders to establish clear expectations for all employees.
- Ensure supply chain for keeping schools stocked with critical supplies.
- Update protocols to respond to changing conditions and clearly communicate them to all stakeholders.
- Deploy operational toolkit to schools to support implementation of all health and safety protocols and procedures.
The District will provide schools with a readiness checklist that addresses:

- Health Protocols for At-Risk Students and Employees
- Protocol Training for Employees
- Arrival, Dismissal, and Lunch Procedures
- Stakeholder Communication
- Facility Sanitation and Overall Safety
- School Culture/SEL Supports
- Master Scheduling
Reopening Schools

Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Parent Guidance

To support families, Miami-Dade County Public Schools will create a parent guide to assist them in:

Evaluating Risks
Based on your family’s circumstances and needs, determine if you’d like to send your child(ren) to the physical schoolhouse or participate in distance learning.

Selecting Your Schooling Preference
Between July 6 and 10, choose your preferred instructional model for the fall via the Parent Portal, Dadeschools Mobile App, or contacting your child’s school.

Preparing for Opening of Schools
Ensure you and your child are ready for a return to physical and/or distance learning setting in terms of materials, and stay updated on new procedures.

Remaining Engaged
Learn what tools/applications your school will use to communicate with you and your child(ren) during the year and check them frequently for new information and best practices.
July 1
Special School Board Meeting is held to discuss M-DCPS Reopening Plan.

July 14-17
Professional Development related to Reopening is provided for teachers and school administrators during Synergy 2020.

Week of July 27
Parents will receive notification regarding their child’s instructional model assignment.

July 6-10
Between July 6 and 10, parents will indicate the preferred instructional model for their child in the fall via the Parent Portal, Dadeschools Mobile App, or contacting their child’s school.

July 27
Early Start for targeted students (L25, SWDs, ELs) commences.*

August 24
Start of the 2020-2021 School Year

*Contingent on Phase 2 conditions