



CMS Phased Return to In-person Instruction -Elementary Revision

October, 2020

Objectives

- Share a potential revision to the phased-in elementary return to in-person instruction
- Share implications of a revised plan for instruction, public health / safety, and district- and school-level operations

Local Context

July 14 - Gov. Cooper declares K–12 public schools in NC will open in Plan B

July 30 - CMS Board votes to begin the school year in Plan C

September 16 - CMS Board approves a plan to transition PreK-12 students to Plan B

September 17 - Gov. Cooper announces elementary schools may open in Plan A

Plan	Public Health Scenario	Back to School Scenario
Plan A	State COVID-19 metrics continue to stabilize and/or move in a positive direction.	Minimal social distancing required. All students attend school, at the same time and in-person daily.
Plan B	State COVID-19 metrics worsen and it is determined additional restrictions are necessary.	Moderate social distancing required. School facilities and vehicles limited to no greater than 50% maximum capacity.
Plan C	Only if state COVID-19 metrics worsen significantly enough to require suspension of in-person instruction and implementation of remote learning plans required by Session Law 2020-3.	Remote learning only. No students utilize district facilities or transportation.

Approved on September 16, 2020

Week	Sept. 29	Oct. 5	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Nov. 16	Nov. 23	Nov. 30	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	Dec. 21, 28	Jan. 5	Jan. 11	Jan. 18	
PreK	Teachers Return		PreK students (excluding Montessori PreK)														
K	Scope of the Governor's 9/17 Plan A announcement is limited to K-5 only			Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A	
1				Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A	
2					Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A
3					Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A
4					Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A
5					Teachers Return		A	B	C	A	B	C	A		B	C	A
6							Teachers Return		A	B	C	A		B	C	A	
7							Teachers Return		A	B	C	A		B	C	A	
8							Teachers Return		A	B	C	A		B	C	A	
9										Teachers Return		High School EOC Testing		B	C	A	
10										Teachers Return				B	C	A	
11										Teachers Return				B	C	A	
12										Teachers Return				B	C	A	

Dashboard - Public Health Metrics

Dashboard public health metrics for Mecklenburg County

- Positivity rate
- Case rate per 100,000

Recall: the dashboard specifies how to bring students back for in-person learning based on the status of these two public health metrics

- Both green > 14 days: consider in-person learning at all schools
- Both yellow (and none in red) > 14 days: consider in-person learning only for specific prioritized student populations
- One or more in red > 14 days: consider virtual (remote) learning for all students

Both metrics in green for >14 days: Consider/continue in-person learning at all schools in compliance with State's orders. One or both metrics in yellow (and no metrics in red) for > 14 days: Consider/continue in-person learning only for specific prioritized student populations in collaboration with Mecklenburg County Public Health (MCPH). One or more metrics in red for >14 days: Consider virtual learning for all students in collaboration with MCPH.

Dashboard - Public Health Metrics

Dashboard public health metrics are **yellow** for Mecklenburg County, indicating specific prioritized student populations should attend school.



September 25, 2020

Minimal community spread

Moderate community spread

Substantial community spread

Public Health Metrics

Community Transmission and Disease Trends

Case rate per 100,000 persons
(7 days)

< 10 cases/100k

10 – 100 cases/100k

> 100 cases/100k

Test Positivity %
(7-day average)

< 5%

5 – 10%

>10%

Both metrics in green for >14 days: Consider/continue in-person learning at all schools in compliance with State's orders. One or both metrics in yellow (and no metrics in red) for > 14 days: Consider/continue in-person learning only for specific prioritized student populations in collaboration with Mecklenburg County Public Health (MCPH). One or more metrics in red for >14 days: Consider virtual learning for all students in collaboration with MCPH.

Revised Elementary Plan

Revised K-5 In-Person Instruction Plan

- Governor's Plan A for grades K-5 statewide allows all K-5 students to attend school in-person daily
- Local public health metrics at yellow indicate *specific prioritized students* should attend in-person instruction at this time
- CMS' revised elementary plan prioritizes *larger* groups of K-5 students attending school for in-person learning more *frequently*
- Though the Governor's Plan A relaxes many social distancing requirements, CMS remains committed to the safety of our students and staff, and will continue, among other precautions, to:
 - monitor and respond to our dashboard
 - require students and staff to wear a face covering
 - emphasize frequent and proper hand washing
 - observe social distancing to the extent possible
 - practice enhanced cleaning and hygiene procedures

Revised K-5 In-Person Instruction Plan

Goal: Increase the number of students in school for in-person learning at any given time, and increase the frequency with which individual students attend in-person

- Collapse attendance group C into groups A and B, creating two attendance groups in grades K-5 only
- Modify rotation such that students in attendance group A attend in-person Monday and Tuesday, and attendance group B attends in-person Thursday and Friday, weekly
- Wednesdays are a remote learning day for all students, whether group A or B
- School-based staff continue to report on Wednesdays
- Elementary students begin reporting on November 2 (no change)
- Elementary teachers report on October 19 (no change)
- Weekly cadence for reviewing metrics to inform subsequent phases does not change

Revised Elementary In-Person Rotation

Week of	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2 and beyond				
			Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
K	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B
1	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B
2	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B
3	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B
4	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B
5	Teachers Return		A	A	A & B Remote	B	B

Full Remote Academy

There is no change for students assigned to the Full Remote Academy

- Requests for transfer into and out of the Full Remote Academy should be submitted in writing via email, fax or letter to the assigned school's registrar before **Friday, December 4, 2020**. If approved, the change will be effective with the beginning of the second semester on January 4, 2021.
- Requests to transfer into or out of the Full Remote Academy prior to the second semester will be handled at the school level and are not guaranteed. Requests may be approved if the school can reasonably accommodate the request without major disruptions to class size / scheduling and the request meets at least one criteria below:
 - a member of the household received a new medical diagnosis which puts the person in a high-risk category
 - a sudden change in access to childcare
 - a sudden change in the family's finances or employment
 - a change in school assignment due to a move or approved transfer

School Examples - Reducing to Two Attendance Groups

K-5 Full Remote Enrollment Varies Greatly by School

Elementary and K-8 schools range from 12% - 53% Full Remote Academy (FRA) enrollment

- working with each principal to assess the implications of AB groupings for class size and scheduling

Governors' Village STEM Academy - 42% enrolled in Full Remote Academy

- can accommodate AB grouping, **and** maintain 6 feet social distancing in lower campus K-1, 3-4 (unable to accommodate social distancing in 2nd grade mobiles and 5th grade)
- each grade level assigned a dedicated FRA teacher; remaining teachers are paired such that one will teach in-person students while the other teaches remote students

Ballantyne Elementary - 52% enrolled in Full Remote Academy

- can accommodate AB grouping, **and** maintain 6 feet social distancing in classrooms
- each grade level assigned a dedicated FRA teacher; remaining teachers are paired such that one will teach in-person students while the other teaches remote students

K-5 Full Remote Enrollment Varies Greatly by School

Sharon Elementary - 15% enrolled in Full Remote Academy

- can accommodate AB grouping, given current staffing, **if** no longer required to maintain 6 feet social distancing in classrooms
- currently, all teachers teach students across attendance groups A-D

Briarwood Elementary - 21% enrolled in Full Remote Academy

- in order to accommodate AB grouping, **and** maintain 6 feet social distancing in classrooms, teacher assignments would have to change
- currently, all teachers teach students across attendance groups A-D

Implications of Revised Elementary Plan

Instructional Implications of Revised Plan

- Increased frequency of in-person instruction for all K-5 students not enrolled in the Full Remote Academy
 - Opportunity for more rapid response to assist students, provide materials, troubleshoot technology, etc.
- Remote Wednesdays represent opportunities for teachers to:
 - Engage with students, as-needed, to provide small-group instructions/interventions/specialized services to students
 - Engage in Professional Learning Communities and professional development to promote teacher growth and effectiveness
- Wednesdays will be a full instructional day with remote learning in mostly an asynchronous setting
- Students may experience schedule changes, including teacher assignments
- Expectations for balancing synchronous and asynchronous instruction, as well as for the amount of screen time, will remain consistent with guidance provided

Safety / Health Implications of Revised Plan

- Increasing the frequency of students experiencing in-person instruction increases the number of students attending school at any given time
 - Implies reduced / eliminated social distancing on buses and in some classrooms
- Social distancing in classrooms (e.g., six feet between students) will depend on number of students attending in-person and school staffing; it is likely to be limited in some schools and classrooms
- Required safety and public health precautions will remain in place
- Maintain our focus on the 3 Ws (Wear, Wait, Wash) with a particular emphasis on wearing face coverings
- Cohorting students; to the greatest extent possible, services will come to them
 - Gymnasiums will not be used for physical education classes
 - Students may play outside, but will not use playground equipment

Operational Implications of Revised Plan

- Enhanced cleaning will take place in elementary schools on Wednesdays
- CMS Eats @ Home deliveries will stop on October 23; pick up will replace deliveries in an approach to be determined
- ASEP* will offer full-day programming on Wednesdays (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) with priority for those students registered for before and/or after school care; accommodations will be made for all other students if space is available
- Full-day support for children of staff will continue to be provided for K-5 students during their remote learning days, including Wednesdays

*ASEP: After School Enrichment Program

Objectives

- Share a proposed revision to the phased-in elementary return to in-person instruction
- Share implications of a revised plan for instruction, public health / safety, and district- and school-level operations

Week of	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	Nov. 2				
			M	T	W	Th	Fr
K	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B
1	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B
2	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B
3	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B
4	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B
5	Teachers Return		A	A	Remote	B	B