Parent/Guardian Update

7/14/2020
Dr. Linda Dwight
School Planning Work

- 25 member task force + additional advisors
- Custodians
- All teachers and staff
- Community partners
- School Committee members
- Board of Health members
- Local officers
- School families
- School leaders
- HTA (Harvard Teacher Association) leaders
Goal/Priorities in Common

❖ Safety of students and staff

❖ Balance competing demands
  ➢ Recognize that each choice is complex and comes with pros and cons.
  ➢ No plan will be perfect, and will need to adapt as situation and experience changes

❖ Meaningful learning and relationships

❖ Flexibility and Communication
Outcomes of Tonight’s Meeting

What I hope to accomplish:

❖ Acknowledge contributors and partners
❖ Provide insight into the work being done
❖ Describe the timeline
❖ Share the complexities
❖ Provide feedback opportunities
❖ Gain understanding and patience

What I do not plan to accomplish:

❖ Provide the detailed plans
❖ Allay all concerns
❖ Share final decisions
❖ Answer all questions
Current Parameters

- State requirement to hand in a plan by July 31st
  - Template yet to be released
  - Guidance on some aspects still to come
- Three components of the plan - full return, hybrid, remote
- 180 days and 900 or 990 hours of instruction
- Remote learning option for families
- Disagreement about local or state final decision
- Wait until early August for “final” decisions
Sub-Committees of the District Task Force

- Teaching and Learning
- Pupil Services/Special Education
- Spaces and Furniture
- Schedule and staffing
- Lunch service
- Safety/cleaning/air quality measures
- Transportation
- Communication
Details of the Planning (a window in)

❖ Teaching and Learning
- Planning for all 3 scenarios of schooling; at least 2 of them will be occurring at the same time
- Staffing considerations for 2 scenarios occurring at the same time
- What happens when families move from one to another?
- Building relationships
- Technology needs and support for teachers, students, and parents
- Staff/student illness
- Substitute teacher considerations
Details of the Planning (a window in)

❖ Air Quality
- air exchange at both schools in different spaces
- air filtration and on-going maintenance and exchange
- fan use and the interference with air-flow
- Heat concerns in classroom with mask wearing
- The use of outdoor space - In all weather -
- Planning for mask breaks
Details of the Planning (a window in)

❖ Lunch Service
- Space and time considerations with attention to allergies, 6 ft requirement, cleaning between and hundreds of students
- students facing in one direction, spaced 6 ft apart
- Staff safety as they interact and supervise students without masks - additional PPE?
- Emotional impact of students returning to a favorite spot and not have the usual freedoms
- How do students enter, get food, find seats, throw out trash, exit, etc. as safely as possible.
Calendar Consideration

Why consider a change?

❖ More time for planning and preparation

❖ More time to track data

❖ Reduce the hottest days for mask wearing
Parent Survey Results and Next Steps?

- 707 (754) students represented out of 1,050
- 67% participation rate

Question:
How likely are you to have your student return to full-time, in-person schooling in the fall?
# Chart of the Data

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<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
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<th>Total Responses</th>
<th>% of enrollment</th>
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Continued Summer Focus

- Vetting and exploring on-line resources and tools
- Preparing lessons with attention to off-line/on-line balance
- Switching to Google Classroom for PreK - 12
- Planning orientation of protocols for students/families
- Creating policies for mask wearing and other protocols
- Creating daily schedules for continuous learning in all three models of schooling
- Evaluating staffing needs
- Planning further communication
Next Updates

❖ Before July 27th - release of the draft plan and school specific public forums to encourage feedback
❖ July 28th at 7 PM
❖ August 11th at 7 PM
❖ August 25th at 7 PM