



**Flushing Community Schools  
Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan  
Reconfirmation Meeting  
Required Every 30 Days After Initial Plan Approval**

**Agenda:**

- Reconfirm how instruction is going to be delivered during the 20/21 school year
- Public comments from parents and/or guardians on the Extended Learning Plan
- Review weekly 2-way interaction rates

**Reconfirmation Meeting for April, 2021 (April 13, 2021)**

**Reconfirm how instruction (Return to Learn Plan) is going to be delivered during the 20/21 school year:**

(Recommendation: Explain in narrative form any modifications to the original Extended Learning Plan)

We remain in constant communication with the Genesee County Health Department, and they have been fully supportive of the learning plans that we have adopted. We continue to meet extensively with the health department, with our most recent meetings taking place on Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> and Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Our learning plan continues to be supported by the GCHD and follows their guidance.

As a district, we currently have roughly 70% of our students that have elected to attend school in-person under our 4 day a week model (26 In-person instructional hours), and 30% that have continued with our 100% online learning option. Our elementary buildings remain between 18-23% online, our middle school remains roughly 32% online (68% in-person, average class size 18 - 22), with our High School 100% remote learning percentage at 42% (58% in-person, average class size of 15-18). It is important to note that we have not and do not intend to force students back into the school building at any time, if they, or their families are not comfortable with having more students in the building. As you are aware, out of respect for and observance of the recommendation made by Governor Whitmer last Friday, we have given secondary students the option of moving to 100% online learning for the next two weeks. Additionally, our athletic programs are continuing as scheduled at this time, having implemented weekly testing for all of our student athletes in grades 7-12. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> week of testing all of our student athletes, and so far, it has been incredibly well organized and implemented. A major thank you goes out to all of the staff volunteers that have been trained and are carrying our testing and kudos to all of our student athletes for their professional cooperation and adherence.

As you are aware, our K-12 students have been back into the classroom four days a week, M,T,Th, F, since March 8, 2021. During the last three and a half months that we have had students back in the building at least two days a week, it has been incredibly encouraging that we have been able to keep our students and staff members safe and in school by successfully adhering to the necessary mitigation strategies within our school buildings.

If our current 4 day in person learning model is to remain successful, it is important that mitigation strategies, such as mask wearing, social distancing, proper hygiene, and strict cleaning protocols continue to be followed to the greatest extent possible in our buildings. Although all of our buildings currently have less students in them due to the high percentage of 100% online learners, and in most cases, much lower class sizes, 6-feet or more of social distancing is not be as easily achieved under this four day format. It was much easier to do with 8-10 students in class as opposed to 15-20. Despite the larger numbers of students in attendance, podding of students and other strategies will continue to be used to ensure the greatest amount of social distancing possible. Mitigation strategies will continue to be enforced and implemented to maximize safety. **We continue to ask that you do not send any students to school if they or any other family member is symptomatic, awaiting test results, or believe they have been exposed to someone that is Covid positive.** We need everyone's cooperation and strict adherence to these protocols if we are going to be able to successfully maintain this learning model for the remainder of the school year. We have 8 weeks of school left, and are hopeful of being able to keep students physically in school through the end of the school year.

The health department continues to share with us that in order for any of their or our efforts to be as effective as we need them to be, there has to be cooperation from all of our students and families. For the good of all, we are asking all of our families to continue to communicate openly with the school and with the health department, following all quarantine and isolation guidance. I am confident that we can all commit to being as transparent as possible if we have sick children or if we have been exposed so that we can keep the masses as healthy as possible. Quarantining close contacts will remain a mitigation strategy per the health department, although we are encouraged by the absence of any of our students that have been considered close contacts becoming ill. We have quarantined over 1000 students and roughly 35 staff members due to close contact this school year, and so far have been able to keep others from getting sick. The fact that we have been able to keep it from spreading or starting in our buildings remains incredibly positive news. Having to quarantine any staff members or large numbers of students is incredibly taxing on our administrative team, and our teaching staff. Based on ongoing information from and dialogue with the GCHD, there are currently incredibly low numbers of Covid positive Flushing Community School students and our staffing levels continue to be positive, at this point making it possible to sustain a consistent and highly effective in person product four days a week. As we have previously stated, our ability to staff appropriately for in-

person learning is directly related to community spread and correlates with county data. When there have been rising numbers in our county, we have had more staff members impacted and vice/versa. As we have consistently shared, we want to continue to do whatever we can to keep our students and staff members safe while ensuring a highly effective learning environment. While we are committed to continuing our four day in-person model at this time, we remain committed to revisiting this decision daily/weekly as science, data, and guidance evolves, and making any changes necessary as soon as we need to. This has been the case all school year, and will continue to remain the case. Should the data and guidance from the GCHD suggest or dictate a necessary change to our learning plan, we will not hesitate to change it as soon as necessary. We will need your cooperation to be able to maintain this learning plan through the end of school year. Thank you for continuing to do your part, as we are only as strong as our weakest link.

As stated previously, we work very closely with the Genesee County Health Department and despite a large increase in the positivity rate and the positive cases per million in Genesee County over the past month, they remain very supportive and encouraging of our current 4 day in-person plan. The first reason they are so supportive is the fact that they are not seeing widespread infection amongst students in our county. The second reason is that they have seen very little to no known spread of the virus in our buildings. The third reason remains the large percentage of staff members that have been vaccinated. While there are certainly a variety of other factors that they consider, these are the major factors that they have shared with us.

The discipline that it takes to go day to day, week to week, and month to month continues to have a large impact on all of our families. The physical, social-emotional and mental health of all of our students is incredibly important, and we are aware of the toll that this is taking on our kids and on our families. Through the many personal interactions and by having student in our buildings on a regular basis, we are doing everything possible to address students' academic needs as well as their mental and social-emotional needs. We continue to be able to connect struggling students to additional supports, and have continued to make that a priority. We have responded to individual requests for support or help with students, and have tried to keep the communication wide open from our families to our buildings. Again, if there is a need, I encourage anyone listening to please reach out to our buildings, to our teachers, to our principals, and to our support staff, and we will work to continue to address the growing needs of our students. It is important that school officials are aware of your students mental health struggles so that we can be part of the solution, as opposed to being left in the dark.

As we have consistently stated all school year, the decision to modify our learning plan, like all other changes this school year, is based strictly on data, science, and guidance from our local health department. While the health, safety, and education of our children is easily the most passionate topic imaginable for any of us, carrying with it

a wide range of various opinions and perspectives, this learning decision follows the most recent guidance and data from the health department, and is made with an abundance of consideration given to the academic needs and physical, mental, and social-emotional health of our students. We do not make this decision lightly, and we will not make it lightly as we move forward.

As stated last month, it is apparent that this virus may continue to make an impact on our learning plans for the foreseeable future. It is our hope and our intention, should it be supported by the health department, to be able to start the 2021-2022 school year in a more normal fashion, with students in person 5 days a week. That said, those families opting to keep their student 100% online will have the option of a 100% online program for their students next school year, with the ability to share with us their preference later this school year so that we can schedule students and staff members appropriately.

To our parents and students, on behalf of our teaching staff, support staff and school district, we thank you for your ongoing partnership and support of making the most of this school year, and again, we know it has not been easy at all. To our support staff, teachers, and administrators, thank you for continuing to do incredible things for our kids and each other every day so that we can continue to make every day as impactful and as positive as it needs to be.

This evening, I will once again share with you the most recent data reviewed with us by the health department, as well as take you through the data available to us at [www.mistartmap.info](http://www.mistartmap.info), the website used to capture the most recent data available to us. As mandated, I will also briefly share our weekly attendance / two-way interaction rates for the last 4 weeks, which remain strong. We will then open our meeting to any public comments regarding the confirmation of our Extended COVID 19 Learning Plan.

### **Document Public Comments during this portion of meeting: (If applicable)**

### **Review Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates**

#### **March 8 – April 9, 2021      All Students**

**Week 1**      March 8 – March 12 - ECC – 92.79%, Central -93.23%, Elms – 92.78%, Seymour – 95.94%, Springview – 96.19%, Middle School – 95.85%, High School – 98.06%.

**Week 2**      March 15 – March 19 - ECC – 92.98%, Central -92.44%, Elms – 92.76%, Seymour – 94.88%, Springview – 94.83%, Middle School – 91.95%, High School – 96.59%.

**Week 3** March 22 – March 26 - ECC – 91.31%, Central -87.77%, Elms – 89.95%, Seymour – 93.21%, Springview – 91.39%, Middle School – 88.04%, High School – 95.38%.

**Week 4** April 5 – April 9 - ECC – 87.60%, Central -90.06%, Elms – 89.95%, Seymour – 97.63%, Springview – 92.35%, Middle School – 91.34%, High School – 95.62%.