

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 May, 2021 (May 18, 2021)

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

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, May 12th and Monday, May 17th. Our learning plan continues to be supported by the GCHD and follows their guidance.

As a district, we currently still 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). 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.

With school ending on June 10th for all of our students, it is our intention to keep our current instructional model through the end of this school year. **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 continue to need everyone's cooperation and strict adherence to the stated protocols in order to be as successful in our current model as we need to be.

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.

Quarantining close contacts will remain a mitigation strategy per the health department. The length of a quarantine has recently been adjusted to 10 days, and the measurement used to be considered a close contact has been adjusted from 6 feet to 3 feet in a regular classroom setting. During more strenuous activity, or during lunch, when masks are off, the distance remains 6 feet to be considered a close contact. We remain encouraged by the incredibly low number of our students that have been considered close contacts becoming Covid positive or ill. We have guarantined over 1400 students and roughly 45 staff members due to close contact this school year. While the percentage varies throughout the county, averaging just under 4%, our experience in Flushing Community Schools has been that much less than 1% of those quarantined due to close contact have become positive. 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 through the end of the school year. That said, 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.

Despite an adjustment in the state wide mask ordinance for those fully vaccinated last Friday, guidance concerning schools for those that are fully vaccinated has not been released yet. We anticipate meaningful guidance at some point this week, and will look forward to making necessary adjustments accordingly, once we have the guidance.

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 stated numerous times, it is apparent that this virus may continue to make an impact on our learning plans in the 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 school 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. That process is already underway.

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, 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 specifically regarding the confirmation of our Extended COVID 19 Learning Plan.

Document Public Comments during this portion of meeting: (If applicable) 5 parents shared views on masks and a few asked that students be able to go to school without masks. A few asked that we do our own research as opposed to following guidelines from CDC, MDHHS, and GCHD. Anti-vaccination views were shared and there was an unfounded concern that we would be asking every student to get vaccinated in order to come to school next school year. There were pleas made to the board to represent the views of this group of people that elected the board, and will remember this in the future.

Review Weekly 2-Way Interaction Rates

April 19 - May 14, 2021 All Students

Week 1 April 19 – April 23 - ECC – 88.80%, Central -90.3%, Elms – 89.03%, Seymour – 88.82%, Springview – 87.53%, Middle School – 88.2%, High School – 94.99%.

Week 2 April 26 – April 30 - ECC – 90.5%, Central -90.70%, Elms – 90.99%,

- Seymour 92.52%, Springview 87.59%, Middle School 91.10%, High School 96.75%.
- **Week 3** May 3 May 7 ECC 90.5%, Central -89.66%, Elms 93.59%, Seymour 93.36%, Springview 91.46%, Middle School 90.4%, High School 96.78%.
- **Week 4** May 10 May 14 ECC 91.7%, Central -89.77%, Elms 91.25%, Seymour 92.70%, Springview 93.98%, Middle School 91.55%, High School 97.26%.