HPS Update
For Families

3/9/21
Dr. Linda Dwight
Vision Statement:

The Harvard Public Schools community, dedicated to educational excellence, guides all students to realize their highest potential by balancing academic achievement with personal well-being in the pursuit of individual dreams. The students engage in learning how to access and apply knowledge, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. They develop the confidence and ability to understand diverse perspectives, collaborate, and contribute, to their local, national, and global communities.
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
Learning Model Changes on April 5th

❖ **HES**

Full days, 5 days a week with lunch and mask breaks outside, weather permitting

❖ **TBS**

5 mornings a week with both cohorts, afternoon classes 5 days a week, office hours 4 days a week

Additional changes under consideration for later in the year for middle school and/or high school
- **Middle school phase (grades 6-8):** For middle schools, hybrid and remote learning models will no longer count towards meeting the required student learning time hours as of **Wednesday, April 28, 2021.** As a result, districts and schools will be required to shift their learning model for middle school grade levels to full-time, in-person instruction five days per week, effective **Wednesday, April 28, 2021.**

- **High school phase (grades 9-12):** We will announce the details and timing of the high school phase of the plan in April. Districts will be provided with at least two weeks in advance of the date for high school students to return to full-time, in-person instruction, but should start making such plans now.
Words from Commissioner Riley

❖ “There is no substitute for in-person learning.”
❖ “... a return to in-person school this spring will lay the groundwork for a full-time, in-person return for all grade levels in fall 2021”
Data from the Community

(1 = very uncomfortable, 4 = very comfortable)
HES Parents/Guardians

How comfortable are you with your child attending 5 full days of school starting in April?
137 responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comfort Level</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>19.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>72.3%</td>
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TBS Parents/Guardians

How comfortable are you with your child attending school 5 mornings a week with both cohorts combined?
240 responses

<table>
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<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>6.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11.3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>57.5%</td>
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Bromfield Students

How comfortable are you with attending school 5 mornings a week with both cohorts combined?
226 responses

<table>
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<th>Comfort Level</th>
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<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>10.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>38.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Information on Distancing

Link to information:

Link to physicians’ letter

Even a single untucked surgical mask can block a large percentage of droplets.
Policy Changes/Distancing

Parent/Guardian Responses

(1 = very uncomfortable, 4 = very comfortable)

HES

TBS

To increase in-person learning we will need to reduce our classroom spacing from 6 feet to 3-6 feet. If we continue to maximize spacing where possible, projections would allow all HES to be 4-6 feet.)

To increase in-person learning we will need to reduce our classroom spacing from 6 feet to 3-6 feet. If we continue to maximize spacing where possible, how comfortable are you with this modification?

137 responses

240 responses
Policy Changes/Distancing

Bromfield Student Responses

(1 = very uncomfortable, 4 = very comfortable)

To increase in-person learning we will need to reduce our classroom spacing from 6 feet to 3-6 feet. If we continue to maximize spacing where possible, how comfortable are you with this modification?

230 responses

- 1: 15 (6.5%)
- 2: 42 (18.3%)
- 3: 73 (31.7%)
- 4: 100 (43.5%)
COVID Screening in the Harvard Public Schools

OVERVIEW
- Seven weeks of screening
- 91% of eligible educators/staff, 83% of eligible students screened at least 1x
- Avg. 70% staff/week
- Avg. 74% in-person students/week

RESULTS
- Last four weeks: 0 positives
- Highest # of positives in a week: 3 (week of 1/25)
- COVID-mitigation strategies are working
FUNDING
- Fully funded through remainder of school year
- Individual donations, grants (PTO, HTA), DESE program
- Thank you to Harvard Schools Trust!

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS
- Offering testing to remote students
- Increased Trust membership
- Mentoring other Mass. Districts
- A model for the nation

COVID Screening in the Harvard Public Schools
Concerns/Questions Submitted

- Will the tents go back up?
- Will families be able to switch from hybrid to remote?
- Will there be more contacts identified?
- What are the travel guidelines?
- What are the rules about drinking? Eating?
Looking Towards Summer and Fall

- Planning to offer a Bridges Summer camp for 7 weeks
  - Added academic focus
  - Traditional, fun themes
- Shift in Start Times;
  - Presented to the SC on Monday with a request for endorsement on March 22nd
  - Supported by survey data
- 30 Minutes for TBS, 20 Minutes for HES; [Link]
Break-Out Room Q & A

Please enter the room where your children attend. If you have children at both schools, you may review the video for the other school.