

# Planning Update

## Tonight's Update

- School Start for Students – September 16<sup>th</sup>
- Implications of Hybrid on Secondary Program
  - Schedule / Safety
- HVAC & Ventilation
- Transportation
- Overall Financial Implications
- Next Steps & Timeline

*Everything is subject to change*



# Planning Update

## Feasibility Study Conclusions to Date:

- The MERSD School Committee has established a six foot social distancing
- Cost of the in-person and/or hybrid models will require an investment of \$1.5 – \$2 million dollars.
- In-person models will require significant investment in additional staffing.
- MERSD cannot accommodate full in-person learning and meet the social distancing and DESE health and safety guidelines.
- MERSD can achieve a K-12 hybrid in-person/remote model that meets the six foot social distancing guideline and DESE health and safety guidelines.
- Implementing the hybrid model at the high school level in manner consistent with DESE safety guidelines does not allow for full access to the current program of studies and requires the implementation of heterogeneous grouping and a modified curriculum at the secondary level to achieve the cohort structure.

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# Planning Update

- Implementing the hybrid model at the high school level in a manner consistent with DESE safety guidelines does not allow for full access to the current program of studies and requires the implementation of heterogeneous grouping and a modified curriculum at the secondary level to achieve the cohort structure. This may result in the need to provide an independent remote learning option that students can access while supervised by classroom teachers.
- In the hybrid model, providing the full high school program of studies to students would require four classroom changes per day and the following cohort levels:
  - Student
    - Cohorts = Grade 9/10 @ 60
    - Cohort = Grades 11/12 up to 125
  - Teachers
    - 60 students per day / 120 students per week
- Implementing the hybrid model at the middle school poses some challenges in terms of minimizing movement and maintaining a low number of student interactions for faculty and staff. Cocooning cohorts to one classroom / one teacher daily does not allow for the full academic program to be delivered. Moving teachers only exposes teachers to 60 students per day / 120 students per week. Creating standalone cohorts (1 teacher / 12 students) would put teachers in the position of supervisor and not allow them to teach their typical course load. This may result in the need to provide an independent remote learning option that students can access while supervised by classroom teachers.
- Survey results show the community has a strong interest in the hybrid model; however, at the high school level access to the full academic program is of equal or greater importance.
- Implementing the hybrid model at the elementary level allows for the full academic program and results in standalone cohorts of (1 teacher / 12 students)

# Projected Costs

	Hybrid	Remote
PPE*	\$350,000	\$350,000
Additional Custodial (Contract)	\$120,000	
Technology	\$254,000	\$254,000
	\$724,000	\$604,000
Additional Staff (2.5) *Estimated Full Prog.	\$225,000	
Replacement Staff / Leaves / Subs	\$300,000	
Paras (2 per building)	\$200,000	
Transportation *	\$200,000	
School /Bus Monitors (5)	\$100,000	
Nurse Assit. Contract (3)	\$100,000	
	<b>\$1,774,000</b>	<b>\$604,000</b>
<i>Grant &amp; FEMA Reimbursement approx. \$500,000</i>		

	Timeline
4-Aug	SC Meeting - Implications of Hybrid Secondary Program & Schedule / Safety GL Transportation Financial
Week of 10-Aug	Continue Plan Development / Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hybrid Structure</li> <li>• Cohort Assignments</li> <li>• Health &amp; Safety Protocols</li> <li>• COVID Identification Response (collaborative w/ towns)</li> <li>• Continued Staffing Assessment</li> </ul> Remote Plan Outline
11-Aug	SC Meeting Implications of Hybrid Elementary Program Schedule More detail on what a hybrid would look like in operation
18-Aug	Determination of Open Model / Plan Submission
31-Aug	Teachers Return to School – Training / Professional Development
1-Sep	SC Meeting
16-Sep	Students Return to School

# Closing in on the Decision

Considerations when choosing how to open school...

- Health & Safety Students & Staff
- Best Interest of Students
- Implementable & Sustainable
- Collaboratively Bargained

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