



School Committee Meeting – 12/21/2020

Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee Report
on MOA for Reopening of Schools 2020-2021

Updated MOA for Reopening Schools for 2020-2021

- Presentation Overview
 - Focus
 - Process
 - Students
 - Safety Protocols
 - Timelines
 - Resources

Updated MOA - Focus

- Students
 - Learning
 - Social/Emotional Health
 - Elementary Learners
 - Secondary Learners
- Safety
 - Teachers
 - Staff
 - Students
 - Families
 - Community
- Resources/Regulations
 - DESE Regulations
 - Space in Hingham School Buildings
 - Staffing
 - Budgets

Updated MOA - Process

- October 19th SC Meeting Presentation
 - Planning for K-2 – on or about January 4th
 - K 5 partial days per week
 - Gr 1 & 2 to 5 full days (6 feet to 3 feet distancing)
 - Subject to Health Metrics and Collective Bargaining
 - Transportation, Space, Addition of Remote Teacher
- Negotiations with HEA
 - 9 Meetings – Oct. 27 to Dec. 17
 - 55 Hours
 - 13 People
 - 2 SC Members
 - 4 HPS Staff
 - 6 HEA Teachers
 - 2 Representatives
- Health Metrics monitored by COVID Response Team
 - Hingham went from Green to Yellow
 - < 2% (10/20) to 5.25% (12/9)
 - Average daily incident rate 9.9 (10/20) to 31.2 (12/9)

Updated MOA – Process continued

- Other districts
 - Timing for more in-person learning
 - Pausing for more in-person learning
 - Transitioning to Remote-only instruction
- CDC and State Guidance
 - Close contact changes
 - Color coding changed
- Balancing of All Issues
 - Listening
 - Understanding Multiple Issues
 - Collaborative conversations
 - Balanced outcomes in the best interest of children

Updated MOA – St. Jeromes

- St. Jeromes School Secured
 - Foster Challenges
 - 8 classrooms at Foster deemed less than ideal for students
 - Lack of direct outside air for proper ventilation.
 - Cafeteria, Gym, Multi-Purpose room, etc. used for classrooms.
 - St. Jeromes Opportunity
 - Provides 9 classrooms, gym and break-out spaces
 - “Foster North” a short drive from Foster
 - Furniture and furnishings in place
 - Good condition
 - Contract signed 12/15 BoS and 12/16 SC
 - Keys picked up and HPS staff started preparing the building 12/17

Updated MOA – Students

Elementary

- Kindergarten
 - January 11th – 5 days a week In-Person, 4 hours/day
 - 5-6 feet apart
 - New desks to replace tables
 - Remote only students to have Hingham teacher
- Grades 1 and 2
 - January 11th – Wednesdays for Alternating Cohorts In-Person for 4 hours/day – 6 feet distancing
 - February 1st – 5 days a week In-Person, 4 hours per day -- 3-6 feet distancing WITH health metrics at Grey or Green for 3 consecutive weeks AND no in-school transmission
- Grades 3-5
 - February 1st – Wednesdays for Alternating Cohorts In-Person for 4 hours/day – 6 feet distancing WITH health metrics at Grey or Green for 3 consecutive weeks AND no in-school transmission
 - March 1st – 5 days a week In-Person, 4 hours per day -- 3-6 feet distancing WITH health metrics at Grey or Green for 3 consecutive weeks AND no in-school transmission

Updated MOA – Students continued

- February 1st – full opening
 - Deep cleaning
 - Furniture/Building Set-up
 - St. Jeromes furniture
 - HPS furniture and teaching materials
 - iconography covered
 - Install Technology compatible with HPS
 - Foster Teachers in Gr. 1 and 2
 - Pack and move classroom materials
 - Set-up new classrooms
 - Continue instruction prior to move
 - Administrative staff in-place
 - Principal on-site – Dr. Austin/Dr. LaBillois
 - Nurse
 - Custodian
 - Office Support
 - Specialist/Special Education Services scheduled

Updated MOA – Students

Secondary – MS and HS

- January 11th - Principals, in collaboration with teachers, to identify “high risk” students:
 - special education students,
 - students on 504 plans
 - homeless
 - foster students
 - ELL
 - students whose grades have dropped by a full letter grade or more between terms
 - students who have identified social emotional concerns
- For return to in-person learning on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.
- Class size and school enrollment to maintain 6-feet of physical distancing.

Updated MOA – Safety Protocols

- January 11th date based on 10-days incubation period after New Year's Day to help community identify cases following vacation period
- Grades 1-5 full-week in-person dependent on Grey or Green Community rates for 3 weeks WITH no in school transmission
- Phase-in approach considers additional bodies in buildings
- Elementary classrooms equipped with Air Purifiers
- Hingham School Nurses to implement additional programs:
 - Weekly Testing provided to elementary staff starting week of January 4th to establish program
 - Additional Contact Tracing support to verify HPS cases

Updated MOA – Additional Items

- HPS and HEA will meet at least twice per month to continue collaboration and address issues and opportunities
- The COVID-19 Exposure Procedure will be reviewed at each COVID Response Team meeting for accuracy to current CDC, DPH and Hingham DPB guidelines.

Updated MOA - Timelines

Date	Action	Dependent on
December 17 th	St. Jeromes secured	
Week of January 4 th	Elem. Teacher Testing begins	
	Air Purifiers installed	
January 11 th	Kindergarten in 5-days/week	
	Gr. 1 and 2 Alt.Cohorts Wednesdays	
	MS and HS 'high risk' students more in-person	
February 1st	"Foster North" opens	Hingham in Grey/Green (1 st week Jan. 11 th)
	Gr. 1 and 2 5-days/week	Hingham in Grey/Green (1 st week Jan. 11 th)
	Gr. 3-5 Alt. Cohorts Wednesdays	Hingham in Grey/Green (1 st week Jan. 11 th)
March 1st	Gr. 3-5 5-days/week	Hingham in Grey/Green

Updated MOA - Resources

- [“Why three feet of social distancing should be enough in schools”](#) **Washington Post, November 12, 2020** – “A recent evaluation of [172 studies from 16 countries](#) found a significant reduction in risk with distancing of at least three feet, but no additional benefit at six feet *so long as baseline risk is low enough*. There is no question risk is higher at close range, but where community spread is low, three feet of physical distancing should suffice.”
- [“South Hadley schools back to remote learning”](#) **Daily Hampshire Gazette, December 13, 2020** – “Local public schools will return to remote learning indefinitely “due to the high number of district staff needing to quarantine,” interim Superintendent Diana Bonneville announced Saturday.”
- [“Braintree pauses school reopening plans due to COVID-19 increase”](#) **Patriot Ledger, December 15, 2020** – “A jump in the number of COVID-19 cases in the past week has prompted the school committee to put plans to expand class time for students on hold.”
- [Brookline Health Department Orders New Rules For Private Schools](#), **Brookline Patch, December 17, 2020** – “Effective Friday, private schools in Brookline will be required to adhere to an updated set of COVID-19 standards.”
- [Hingham Cares](#) for social-emotional support programs. Recently received federal Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant through the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for \$125,000. Series posted on their Facebook page “Wellness Wednesdays.”

Updated MOA – Resources continued

- [“This Awful Year in 6 Words”](#) – EdWeek, December 17, 2020 – “How would you summarize 2020—the most infuriating, frightening, depressing year in recent memory—if you had only six words to do it?” That’s what we invited our readers—and our staff—to do.
- I can’t hear you. You’re muted!
- Worst year in history. Corona sucks.
- Everyone is at the breaking point.
- Bars are Open. Schools are closed.
- **Inequities, antiracism, SEL, resilience, mask up.**
- No one in my family died.
- Hello class, can everyone hear me?
- Sad, depressing, weird, house bound. Strange.
- So many losses, but we’re surviving.
- **Grace and patience while we pivot.**
- We must do better next time.
- The superintendent cried during my interview.
- First year teacher: crying and trying.
- I have no motivation for anything.
- **Spinning plates while on a rollercoaster.**
- Hardest year of teaching so far.
- I’m sure I have no idea.
- One exhausting Zoom meeting after another.
- Unpredictable, violated, angry, dismal, shocking, progress.
- **8:58 wake up. 9:00 meeting. Made it.**
- Challenging, resilience, experimentation, learning, grace, community.
- My students need more of me.
- **Unimaginable blessings among completely unexpected challenges.**
- Happiness, hysteria, helplessness, hostility, humility, hope.
- We’re doing the best we can.

Updated MOA

