Re-Opening of Schools in the North Penn School District

Options, Questions & Answers
Participants & Introduction

- Dr. Curtis R. Dietrich, North Penn School District Superintendent
- Dr. Todd Bauer, North Penn School District Assistant Superintendent
- Dr. Jenna Rufo, North Penn School District Assistant Superintendent
- NPSD School Community
Agenda

- Objectives and Goals
- Re-Opening Options
- Question & Answers
- Next Steps
How to ask questions

Facebook - Ask your questions in the comments

NPTV YouTube - Ask your question in the chat window

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Objectives

1. To provide a window into the thinking and ideas of NPSD Administration regarding re-opening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year

2. To gather feedback to inform our decisions as we develop structures and systems for the 2020-2021 academic year

3. To discuss what students and staff would need upon a return to school
Re-Opening Guidelines (not requirements)

- **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP)**
  (As of May 24, 2020)

- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

Here we go
New CDC guidelines for reopening schools

- Wear masks over the age of 2
- No sharing of any items or supplies, all belongings in individual cubbies or labeled containers; no sharing electronic devices, toys, games, learning aids
- Desks 6 feet apart, all facing the same way
- Distance on school buses - one child per seat, skip rows
- Install sneeze guards and partitions wherever you cannot space 6ft apart
- One way routes in hallways; tape on sidewalks and walls to assure kids stay 6ft apart
- No communal shared spaces - cafeterias, playgrounds
- Physical barriers or screens between sinks in bathrooms
- Only pre-packages boxes or bags of food instead of cafeteria food; kids eat in classrooms
- No field trips, assemblies, or external organizations in the schools. Limit visitors and volunteers.
- Same children stay with same staff all day, no switching groups or teachers.
- Stagger arrival and departure times for students to limit exposure to crowds of kids.
- If possible, daily health and temperature checks.
- And several rules about cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day and hand washing frequently.
Considerations

- Code versus Guideline
- Guidelines continue to evolve
- School entry (number of students in close proximity, take temperatures/testing)
- Pre-symptomatic / Asymptomatic
- Masks
- Physical Distancing Measures
- Class Changes in Hallways
- Air Flow Within Building
- Barriers such as Sneeze Guards

- Handwashing
- Cleaning/Disinfecting Frequency of Desks/Door Knobs and Availability of Products
- Buses
- Social Emotional Support Students & Staff
- School Calendar
- Staggered Schedules
- Online Learning
- Staff Training and Collaboration
- Toll on Families
- Importance of Social Interaction for Students
Considerations (continued)

- Number of students a teacher sees (e.g. Special Content Area Teachers, Block Scheduling)
- Ability of a student to transition from in-person to online if quarantined or choosing hybrid option (live streaming possibilities)
- Ability to transition from in-person to online if school closed
- Reducing furniture (e.g. tables) in classrooms in order to seat students farther apart
- Special rooms with fixed tables (e.g. science labs) and fixed work stations (e.g. Family Consumer Science, technology labs)
- Lunches
- Recess at elementary
Other Considerations

- Assemblies
- Athletics
- Extra-Curriculars
- School Events (dances, BTS Nights, etc.)
- Home & School Activities
- Community Use of Schools
- Volunteers
Some areas to celebrate:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Very negative</th>
<th>Negative</th>
<th>Neutral</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Very positive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NPSD students have the necessary support systems available to learn at home.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I feel well-informed about the decisions made by the District.</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPSD schools have provided adequate online resources to support learning.</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I understand District plans for the coming weeks.</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPSD students receive enough guidance from teachers to continue their learning</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some areas of concern:

| NPSD students feel that they can learn a lot outside of the classroom. | 32% | 50% | 2% |
| I am concerned about my child’s physical health. | 32% | 57% | 0% |
| Students are regularly connecting with other students. | 33% | 55% | 2% |
| I am concerned about my mental health and well-being (e.g. stress). | 42% | 42% | 1% |
| I am concerned about my child’s mental health and well-being (e.g. stress). | 54% | 36% | 0% |
Themes from Open-Ended

- Overall positive
- Appreciative and understanding of the challenges
- If distance learning continues, more synchronous opportunities
- Concerns about student and staff well-being
In-person Instruction:

NPSD schools are able to reopen in Fall 2020, but only with significant social distancing requirements that include phased or reduced schedules and possible intermittent shutdowns.

There are a number of iterations in this scenario:

- All students each day
- Alternating groups
  - Group A on Monday, Group B on Tuesday...
  - One week in, one week out
- Partial days (am/pm)
Online Learning - some families may not be comfortable sending students to school or prefer the online environment, or if restrictions do not permit opening schools

Synchronous:

- Students are assigned a “bell schedule” and must be logged in for live instruction at a given time.
- This will include some asynchronous components, but there would be live instruction each day.

Asynchronous:

- Time and place are not limitations of the learning experience
- More similar to current structure, office hours and individual support would be available
A Hybrid Approach

- A combination of in-person and online learning
- Students are scheduled to attend school once or twice per week in addition to online learning
- Provides an opportunity for some in-person instruction, but also helps to implement the guidelines
Determining Staffing

- Specific Health Needs of Staff
- Seniority
- Available staff for online learning/in-person learning
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Next Steps

We will:

a. Review the input received today and via google form
   i. Staff
   ii. Families
b. Continue to work with administration
c. Determine how many students/staff will not be returning to in-person under any scenario until a vaccine is developed
d. Establish a deadline by which parents must commit to an available option
e. Make a decision and communicate as soon as possible
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Thank you!
Continue to stay safe, healthy and home!