

Scenario #3

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K-5 move to 4 days per week

GMS/GHS move to 5 days per week

w/dismissal at 1:00 each day

Beginning April 26, 2021

Overview of How it Would Work

K-5:

- We would need to plan to move K-5 SCHOOLS to fully remote learning for the week of April 12 - 16th to allow furniture moves to begin. Furniture moves will take place during that week and the week of April vacation (4/19-4/23). We would then request 3 days of time for K-8 staff to get into their classrooms to set them up for learning, and provide collaborative planning time for teachers to best “launch” a new phase of learning in what amounts to new classrooms. Those three days would be April 26, 27 and 28. K-8 Students would then return for 1 full day on Thursday, April 29, one remote day on Friday, April 30 and then we would move to full 4 day per week instructional schedules on Monday, May 3 for the remainder of the 2021-21 school year.
- In this scenario we would look to bring back students in grades K-5 for 4 day per week instruction beginning April 29, 2021 and continuing through the remainder of the school year for the following weeks
 - April 26 - April 30 (-2 days Cohort A, -1 day Cohort B)
 - May 3 - May 7 (+2 days both Cohort A & B)
 - May 10 - May 14 (+2 days both Cohort A & B)
 - May 17 - May 21 (+2 days both Cohort A & B)
 - May 24 - May 28 (+2 days both Cohort A & B)
 - June 1 - June 4 (+2 days Cohort A, +1 day Cohort B)
 - June 7 - June 10 (+1day Cohort A, +2 days Cohort B)

This would increase instructional time for Grades K-5 Cohort A by 9 full days between now and the end of the school year and Cohort B by 10 days. At an average of 5 instructional hours per full school day, that would mean an increase of approximately 45 hours of face to face instruction time for Cohort A students and 50 hours for Cohort B students.

GMS/GHS:

- In this scenario we would look to bring back students in grades 6-12 for 5 day per week instruction. However, to avoid difficulties with cafeteria coverage we would dismiss students at 1:00 each day and provide them a bagged lunch on their way to home. This schedule would begin on April 29, 2021 and would continue through the remainder of the school year for the following weeks
 - April 26 - April 30 (-1 days both Cohort A&B)
 - May 3 - May 7 (+3 days both Cohort A&B)
 - May 10 - May 14 (+3 days both Cohort A&B)
 - May 17 - May 21 (+3 days both Cohort A&B)
 - May 24 - May 28 (+3 days both Cohort A&B)
 - June 1 - June 4 (+2 days both Cohort A&B)
 - June 7 - June 10 (+2 days both Cohort A+B)

This would increase instructional time for both Cohort A & B by 17 days. At an average of 4 instructional hours per day (dismissing at 1:00), that would mean an increase of approximately 68 hours of face to face instruction time for 6-12 students.

- Similarly to K-5 above, we would move GMS/GHS to fully remote instruction for the week of April 12 - 16th to move furniture. We would also request 3 days of time for teachers to prep classrooms on April 26, 27 & 28 before beginning with the full implementation of 5 days per week with 1:00 dismissals on April 29, 2021.

Identified Unintended Consequences

Note: In this and in each of the 3 scenarios, we are going to assume that one unintended consequence of another change or transition in a year full of them will be on the Social/Emotional needs of our staff and students.

K-5 list would be same as scenarios #1 and #2.

GMS/GHS list:

- Increased costs for transportation due to starting dismissal earlier for grades 6-8 and adding an additional day for transportation needs on Fridays.
- GMS/GHS teacher prep time would be provided using the additional 1 hour, 5 days per week from 1:00 dismissal to 2:00 p.m. We would need to move some IEP, 504, RTI meetings, back into the “regular school day”. This would increase “interruptions” to the student’s face to face instructional time with teachers. The other option is to move these meetings back to before/after school times. This would increase overall responsibilities and work hours for teachers.

- More parents would need to transport their own children to and from school each day. Particularly difficult may be the 1:00 daily dismissal for this reason.
- The current GHS schedule was created to maximize spaces in existing conditions. To combine cohorts now would mean that 9 rooms would be over capacity. In order to adjust this, we would need to impact the schedules of every child in the middle of a semester. Additionally, if we made this change and additional families wished to move to remote instruction, our current online courseware is based on semesters...this would be done in the middle of a semester, putting these students at a significant disadvantage.

OTHER?

- CTE IMPACTS at GHS???

Identified Positive Results

K-5 List would be the same as Scenario #1 & #2

GMS/GHS List:

- Increased face to face instructional time across grades 6-12.
- Consistent daily schedule
- Removes issues associated with trying to feed 600+ students at GMS and 870+ students at GHS with limited space at 6ft distancing rules.
- 6-12 teachers would only have to focus on in person instruction or remote instruction if they or their students have to quarantine. No more cohorts.
- Most students want more socialization and in school time. This would provide that.
- Allows us to practice on a shorter time scale what school will likely be like in the Fall of 2021 to assist in working out yet unidentified “kinks” in the system.

OTHER?

Proposed Next Steps in Implementation (if we were to move forward):

1. Schedule a Special Meeting of the School Committee to approve changing current 6 ft. physical distancing requirements K-12 to 3 ft guidelines for K-12 - April 1, 2021
2. Publicly announce plans to Staff on morning of April 2, 2021 via staff meetings.

3. Publicly announce plans to parents on the morning of April 2, 2021 via blog.
4. Survey families of K-12 students to see if more parents can transport students and if any parents will elect fully remote learning as a result of the change. - Week of April 5, 2021
5. Adjust plans as needed based on parent survey results - Week of April 12-16, 2021
6. Move to close all five Schools for face to face instruction to move furniture - Weeks of April 12 -16, & April 19 - 23, 2021
7. Complete classroom set ups & provide teachers time to plan transitions and ensure classrooms are ready to go. April 26, 27 & 28.
8. Open K-12 to 4 days per week of instruction - April 29, 2021