

School District of Lodi

November 9, 2020

Intentional

July 6, 2020	Reopened School Grounds
July 27, 2020	Two In-Person Summer School Course at Primary School
August 19, 2020	Allowed Tennis and Cross Country
September 1, 2020	Allowed Students with Learning Plans to Start In-Person Instruction

Intentional

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| October 2020 | Allowed WIAA contact days for fall and winter sports |
| October 2020 | Started bringing in some students who were not engaging in online instruction |
| October 26, 2020 | Allowed winter co-curriculars to begin with strict safety mitigation requirements |

Mitigation Strategies

Screening of staff & students

Masking required

Social distancing

Handwashing breaks/hand sanitizer

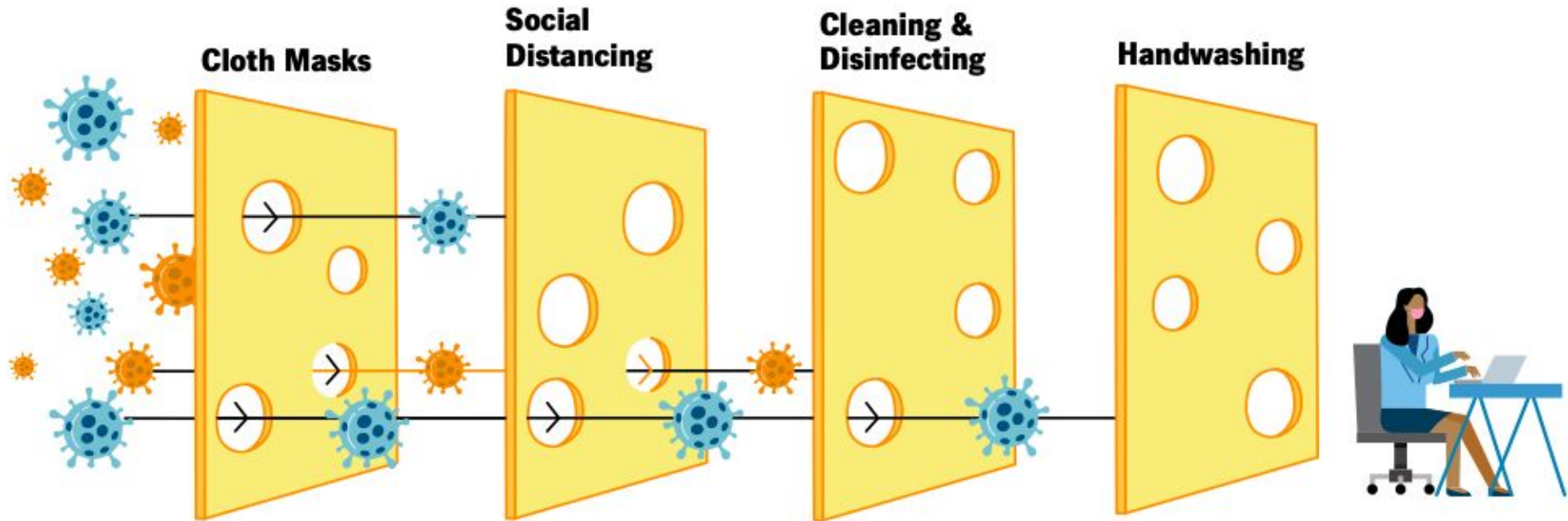
Cleaning/Disinfecting

HVAC

- Running systems longer
- Changing from MERV-8 to MERV 13 Filters
- Explored Ionization and UVC systems

The “Swiss Cheese” Model of COVID-19 Mitigation in School

(courtesy of the Cleveland Clinic)



Resources

Board approved [metrics](#)

New York Times [article](#) and research articles regarding school transmission

1. [COVID-19 Transmission in US Child Care Programs](#) -American Academy of Pediatrics
2. [Evidence and Guidance for In-Person Schooling during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#) Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
3. [What we know about COVID-19 transmission in schools](#) World Health Organization
4. [Surprising Results of Initial Virus Testing in NYC Schools](#) New York Times
5. [Great Barrington Declaration](#)
6. [Statement against Great Barrington Declaration](#)

Summary of Research

Schools not the source of transmission as much as anticipated

Schools are in our communities and we have very high community transmission so our schools will be significantly impacted by this virus

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia *"We have intentionally moved beyond the absolutism of case incidence and test positivity thresholds that—although were helpful benchmarks for starting school in late summer (before school experiences could guide decision-making), are no longer the most pressing questions for school leaders."*

Options Moving Forward

1. Continue to follow the metrics approved by the Board in September
2. Look at bringing 4K-2 or 4K-5 back in blended model on December 7, 2020
3. Look at bringing 4K-2 or 4K-5 back in blended model January 19, 2021

Benefits of Staying with Current Online Enhanced Instructional Model

Consistent delivery of instruction

- When staff have been quarantined, been able to teach from home
- When a student is symptomatic or quarantined, able to learn from home
- Don't have classrooms, buildings, or district switching instructional models with little or no warning
- Safest model in regards to COVID-19

Negatives of Staying with Current Online Enhanced Instructional Model

Difficult for students, staff, and parents

- Disruptive to families, especially those with younger children
- Different way to teach, takes much more planning, preparation
- Not as easy to catch when students are struggling to grasp concepts
- Limited interaction with peers
- Numbers are well above metrics, doesn't give much hope to families

Bring back 4K-2 or 4K-5 on December 7

Positives of bringing students back December 7

- Ten (10) days after Thanksgiving Day (so there is time between family get togethers and coming back to school)
- Gives district and families 2 ½ week trial with blended learning
- Sets a date for students/parents/staff to plan for
- Gives students in person interaction with their teacher and other students

Bring back 4K-2 or 4K-5 on December 7

Negatives of bringing students back December 7

- Families will travel on Thanksgiving and there will be a surge in COVID-19 cases
- Only 5 days of in person instruction for students before another break, difficult to establish routines in 5 days
- Some schools who are in-person are going all online between Thanksgiving and winter break.
- Placing date on calendar disregards metrics and high COVID-19 numbers

Questions to Answer if December 7 is Chosen

1. Do COVID-19 numbers in Columbia or Dane County need to come down for this to happen?
2. What could change that would press pause on coming back on December 7?
 - a. Increased positivity rate
 - b. Increased case counts
 - c. Increase COVID cases in staff
 - d. Other

Benefits to Blended Model of Instruction

Some in person instruction for students

- Takes some pressure off families (still difficult)
- Easier to assess student progress and provide interventions for students
- Fewer students in building allow for social distancing
- Limited peer interaction with students in own classroom
- In person education is better than online education

Negative to Blended Model of Instruction

Potential disruptions to educational model

- Students at home will not get live interaction with teacher/staff - what families currently are getting at home would change dramatically.
- Difficult for staff to plan for two types of instruction (in person and at home activities)
- Limited peer contact, in one room all day
- Increased chance of coming in contact with someone with COVID-19 and being quarantined

Bring back 4K-5 in January 19

Positives

- Start is couple of weeks after winter holiday when families will be getting together/travel and COVID-19 are likely to surge, keeps this out of school
- Around semester time, so natural time to start in school year
- Easy to establish routines as no significant schedule breaks after start
- In person instruction better than online instruction

Bring back 4K-5 in January 19

Negatives

- January is two months away and a long time to keep students out of school
- No anticipation that COVID numbers will be better by January
- Will push back MS/HS blended, as will not move entire district at one time
- Does not give you that trial period that starting in December will

Other Considerations

1. If Board decided 4K-2 by December, could look at 3-5 by January 19
2. Recommend that regardless of when we start, that week of January 4-8 be all online education (no in person students in the district) due to holiday gatherings
3. If we decide 4K-5 by December 7, we discuss HS/MS at December meeting. If we decide a January start date for either group, then look at MS/HS at January meeting

Next Steps if Start Date in December

1. Email/video out to families letting them know
2. Video on what to expect in blended learning to families
3. Families will receive a survey indicating their choice for online or blended instruction
4. Families will sign off an agreement to inform school of COVID-19 symptoms, cases, and close contact

Next Steps Continued

5. Gather survey data and reshuffle class lists and determine who will be teaching students who chose to remain online (some students will have new teachers)
6. Continue work with bus company/food service
7. Staff will start to plan for blended instruction
8. Look to add additional staff to help with subbing, contact tracing, and health room
9. Develop plan for building community in new classes

Questions