

# *Martha's Vineyard Public Schools*

*Excellence and Equity For All Children*

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July 15, 2020

Dear Families,

I am writing to update you on our progress toward Martha's Vineyard Public School's reopening plan for this fall. The Island-Wide task force has been broken into sub-committees that are working on critical areas that require careful planning. **MVPS will be presenting a final plan during the first week in August.** A list of our sub-committees and their progress is below.

### **Teaching and Learning:**

The Teaching and Learning Sub-Committee is focusing on the most effective mode of delivery in each of the three models. They are focusing on clear expectations for students and staff on work requirements and time on learning. Additionally, they are looking into various instructional platforms with the goal of refining consistency across the Island schools. A primary objective is preparing for a transition from in-person to remote learning with minimal disruption if the change is necessary.

### **Special Education and English Language Learners:**

The goal for the Special Education/English Language Learners subcommittee is to ensure services are effectively provided to ALL students. The Committee will keep in mind students attending private preschools and who may be participating in remote learning.

#### **ELL:**

- To understand how to support all grade levels of ELs in the context of reopening in a face to face, hybrid and remote settings including Newcomers, Foundational ELP levels 1-2, and Transitional ELP levels 3-5.
- To develop a plan for instruction of English Language development in face to face, hybrid and remote settings.
- To support all staff with instruction of ELs, including logistics about space and cleaning protocols for pull out small group instruction. Also, outline professional development, material, technology, and PPE needs.

#### **Special Education:**

- To determine how to best support Students With Disabilities (SWD) in the context of reopening in a face to face, hybrid and remote setting, including students with Mild to moderate disabilities, students with severe disabilities, building based and shared services programs.
- To develop a plan for provision of special education and related services for each model:

in-person, hybrid, and remote settings – as well as special education processes for ensuring FAPE is being met for each SWD (Child Find, Assessment/Eligibility, IEP Plans, etc).

- To support all staff with instruction of SWD including logistics about space and cleaning, for pull out and small group instruction, and essential needs (professional development, materials, technology, and PPE).

### **Social/Emotional Learning:**

The objective of the SEL Sub-Committee is to develop a broad framework that MVPS can use to design, implement, and assess their SEL programming across the three modes of learning: live, remote and hybrid. Furthermore, they will establish a framework that promotes SEL and culturally-responsive programming for students during MVPS reopening phases and beyond, and in response to pandemic effects on students, families and staff.

### **Health and Wellness:**

The Health and Wellness Sub-Committee has created an online training module for staff that includes:

- History of Covid-19
- Signs and Symptoms Adult vs. Child
- Typical vs. Atypical
- Transmission
- How to Apply and Remove Personal Protective Equipment
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Hand Hygiene (washing hands and use of hand sanitizer)

Staff will be required to complete the training prior to the beginning of the school year. Once we get closer to the start of school, each school nurse will provide training where staff can practice with correct utilization of PPE.

School nurses have started to order PPE for the staff and students in their buildings, and many schools have already received some of their orders. This includes:

- Adult masks
- Pediatric masks
- Gloves
- Face Shields
- Protective eyewear
- Gowns
- Hand Sanitizer for all Classrooms

Each nurse is working on a separate section of the MV Public Schools Back To School Document for families. The sections include:

- What Is Covid-19 and how is it Transmitted?
- Social Distancing and Minimizing Transmission
- Personal Protective Equipment Preparedness/Education
- School Safety Protocols
- Guidance for Teachers Sending Students To the Nurse's Office
- When A Student or Staff Member Becomes Sick
- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Protecting Vulnerable Populations

- Water and Ventilation Systems
- Safety Procedures
- Health Communication with Staff and Families
- Transportation

### **Technology:**

The Technology Sub-Committee has reviewed:

- The challenges and successes of the remote learning in the spring
- The number of student devices in schools along with ordering plans
- Purchasing ideas and vendors
- Software for device management and web filtering
- Software for help desk ticketing

The Committee is developing a fall reopening recommendation document for schools. Additionally, the committee will develop guidance around:

- Device sanitation & cleaning solutions
- Charging cart needs
- Shared copiers & scanners
- Professional development for cloud storage, Zoom & Google products
- Insurance for damaged student-loaned devices
- Grant opportunities

### **Food Service:**

Our Food Service Sub-Committee is working on updating safe kitchen protocols. They will also prepare for student breakfast and lunch delivery in all three possible school scenarios – in-person, hybrid, and remote.

### **Transportation:**

The Transportation Sub-Committee is looking at the results of the family survey and preparing for the fall. We will be implementing additional cleaning protocols along with the guidance that the state will provide around safety measures. At this point we know that all riders will be required to wear masks and be socially distanced. The Committee will continue to provide updates as they become available.

All committees are partnering with our Health and Wellness Sub-Committee to ensure all proper safety measures are implemented. The Task Force will complete its work by July 31<sup>st</sup> and submit its plan to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. We will make an official announcement about how schools will reopen during the first week of August. These are most certainly unprecedented, uncertain, and anxiety provoking times. There is much work that needs to be done at both the state and local levels before any plans are finalized. We will make a decision about school reopening that is in the best interest of our school community and aligns with the most current health and safety recommendations.

To improve communication with families, I will be hosting weekly forums for families to hear updates and ask questions. The first forum will be Tuesday afternoon, July 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. The link to the meeting is below and will also be available on the Superintendent's website. We are also fortunate to have additional parents that will be

joining the Task Force to provide valuable input. I have also attached an FAQ document that DESE released that addresses many concerns.

Please stay safe and do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.

Topic: Forum: MVPS Fall Reopening  
Time: Jul 21, 2020 5:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://mvyys.zoom.us/j/84886300052?pwd=dmdwa3BoL2lnYk81UHIZTnRXaEpPQT09>

Meeting ID: 848 8630 0052

Password: 459998

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