

FAIRHAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Back to School 2020-2021

Submitted: August 12, 2020



Our Top Priority

**The Safety of Children and Educators
is
OUR TOP PRIORITY.**



Children need social interaction to learn and thrive.

Establishing connections and relationships with both teachers and fellow students is important to having a productive learning environment.

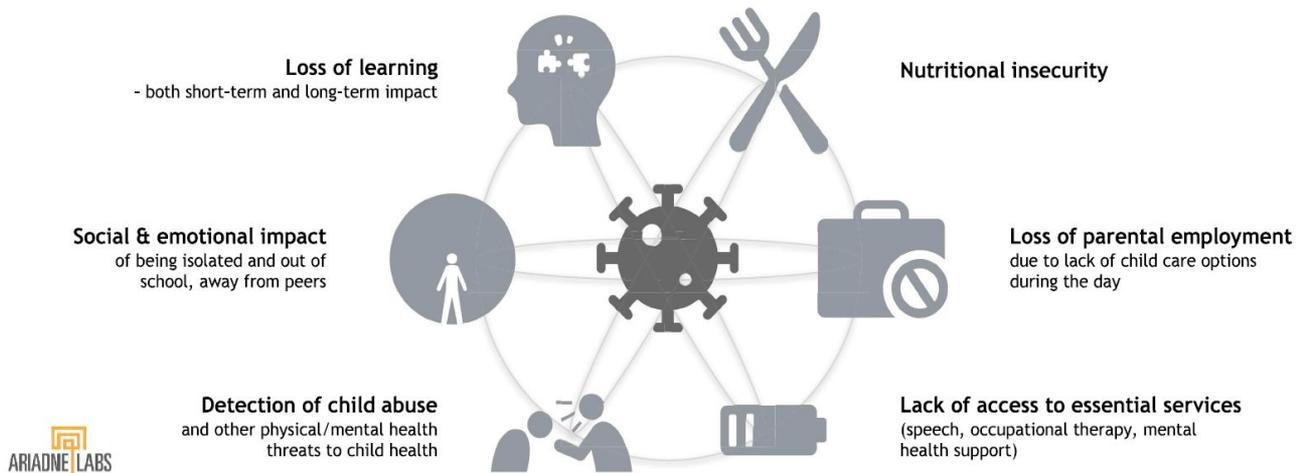


Global View of Risk

This Global View of Risk reiterates our goal to get as many students back to school as possible – safely.

A Global View of Risk

The decisions around the return to school must reflect a global view of risk. We must balance the risks of COVID-19 infection with in-school learning, with other significant risks to the overall health and well-being of our kids when they are out of school:



Keeping children and adults in schools protected and safe.

Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance June 25, 2020

Our Goal for this Fall – Pages 3-4

Emerging implications from the medical literature – Page 7

Health and Safety requirements and related guidance for in person learning – Pages 8-11



Keeping children and adults in schools protected and safe.

American Academy of Pediatrics

DESE Doctors on Back to School in MASS – July 24, 2020

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHiEThCMROc>

School Reopening Readiness Guide – July 24, 2020
Parabola Project

We must begin this plan with the term –
SAFELY.

We have decided to base our decision making with six feet of physical distancing between individuals in each classroom.

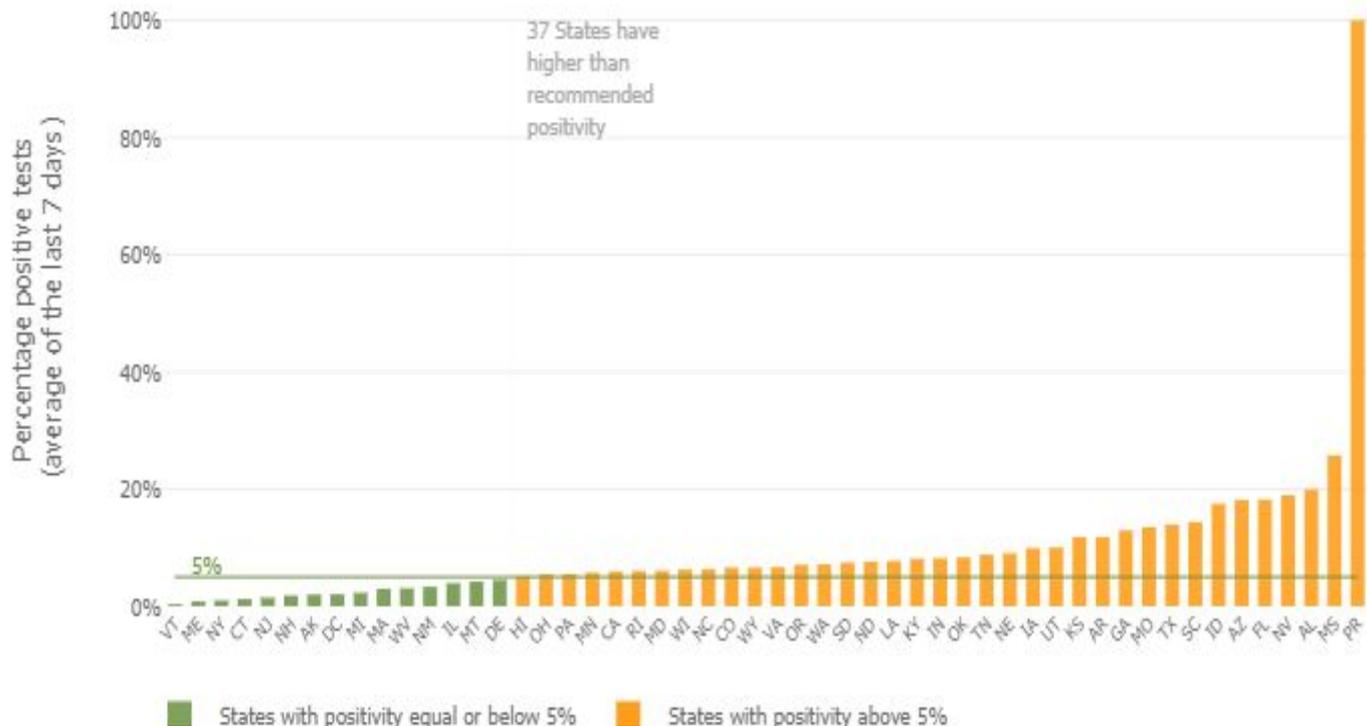


Decisions made regarding the reopening of school

These need to be guided by facts, science, and data and in the context of Massachusetts, and Fairhaven in particular.



Massachusetts Percentage vs. National Percentage



‘The facts don’t support it’: Baker rejects idea that all Mass. schools should be remote this fall

By [Felicia Gans](#) Globe Staff, Updated August 7, 2020, 3:09 p.m.

“And what I’m saying is if you look at the data across most communities in Massachusetts, there’s plenty of opportunity there based on the science and what we know for them to consider reopening in some way in person.”

“To say everybody should go remote,” he added, “I mean first of all, the facts don’t support it, the data doesn’t support it, and the science doesn’t support it.”

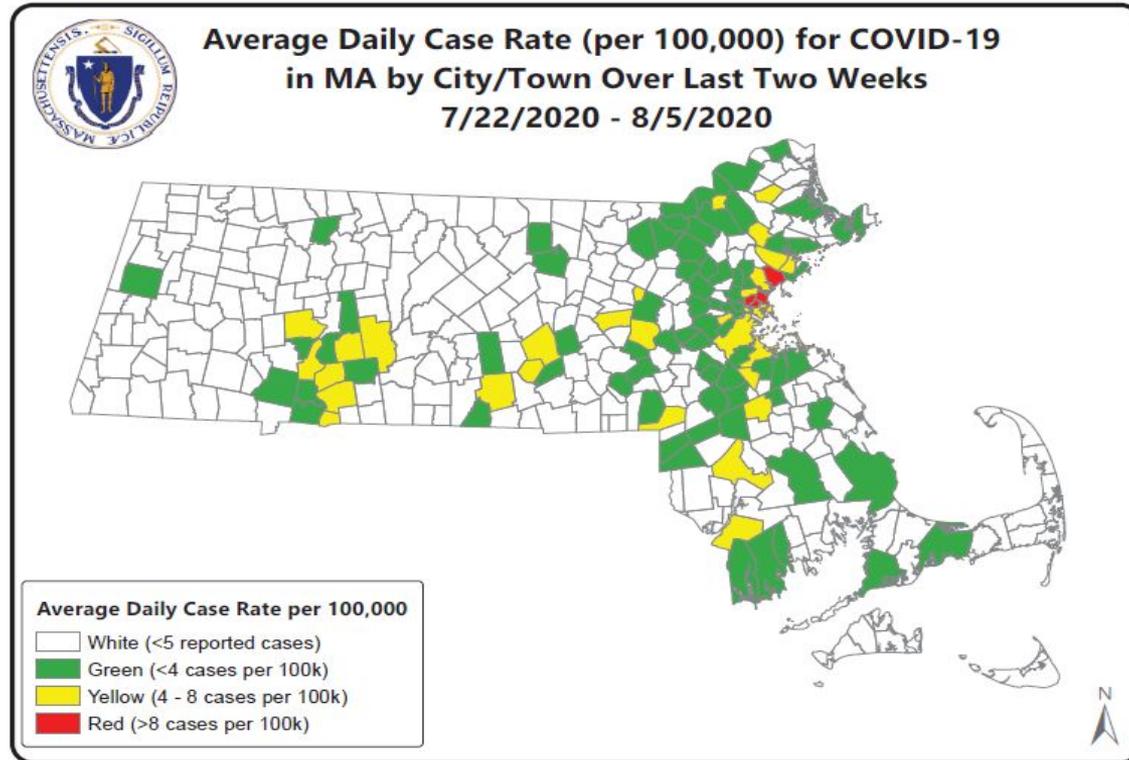
DPH Metric

With new color-coded metric from COVID Command, DESE is issuing additional guidance for selecting a learning model

New color-coded metric*	DESE expectation for learning model
RED Average daily cases per 100,000 is greater than 8	Remote
YELLOW Average daily cases per 100,000 is between 4 - 8	Hybrid OR Remote (if extenuating circumstances)
GREEN Average daily cases per 100,000 is less than 4	Full-time in-person OR Hybrid (if extenuating circumstances)
UNSHADED Fewer than 5 total cases over the past 14 days. Generally, this is for communities with small populations and very few cases.	

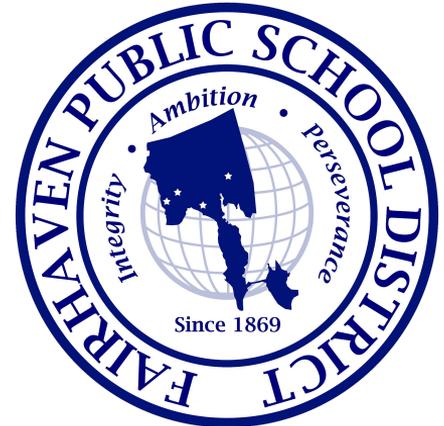
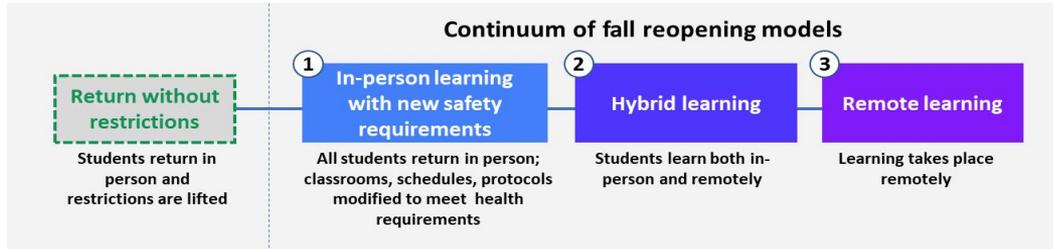
**Measured as a 14-day rolling average and will be reported weekly as part of the online DPH dashboard*

Fairhaven Daily Transmission Rate



Two-Step Process for District Fall Reopening Plans July 15, 2020

We have developed a detailed school reopening plan that prioritizes safety for teachers and students while allowing us to begin the school year with a modified in-person and hybrid learning model of learning.



FEASIBILITY STUDY

This “Feasibility Study” is ongoing and relies on a combination of strategies, including key health and safety measures as a self evident prerequisite.

Our *feasibility study* process is based upon our:

- Educational Program(s)
- Financial Resources
- Classroom and facility configuration models
- Family surveys and input



Educational Program – PRIMARY GRADES 1–2

Financial Resources

SCHOOL	STAFF CATEGORY	FTE	SALARY
EAST	FIRST GRADE TEACHERS	3	
EAST	SECOND GRADE TEACHERS	3	
	<i>TOTAL EAST PRIMARY TEACHERS</i>	6	459,726

Projected Class Size

<u>School</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Grade 1</u>	<u>Grade 2</u>
East Fairhaven Elementary School	20/23	12,13,13	15,15,15

East Fairhaven School Grade Two

- Grade Two at EFS had a projected enrollment of 45 students for the 2020 – 2021 school year.
- Two different surveys received 40 and 43 responses respectively.
- Those surveys indicated that 3 and 9 students did not intend on returning to school.
- Seven students did not provide a response, so we must assume that they are all returning to school when we make our projections.
- We begin by planning on 36 students returning to school in Grade Two.
- 36 students divided by 2 classrooms equal classrooms of 18 students.
- In an A – B Hybrid Plan those two classrooms divided by an A and a B Cohort would mean that 9 students would be in each cohort.
- We have determined that our plan will keep 6 feet of distance between individuals in each classroom. This equates to no more than 12 students per classroom.

Classroom and Facility Configuration

This Model would allow a Hybrid Learning Model for Grades One through Five.

Room Number	6ft: Number of Students	Number of Students
139 Grade One	12	8
141 Grade One	12	9
143 Grade Two	12	9
144 Grade Two	12	9
143	12	
140	12	

Grade One 2 Classrooms

Grade Two 2 Classrooms

Room Number	6ft: Number of Students	Number of Students
231 Grade Three	12	7
233 Grade Three	12	8
235 Grade Three	12	8
239 Grade Four	12	10
241 Grade Four	12	11
243 Grade Four	12	11
240 Grade Five	12	10
242 Grade Five	12	10
244 Grade Five	12	10
230	12	
232	12	
234	12	

Classroom and Facility Configuration

This Model would allow an In-Person Learning Model for Grades One and Two and a Hybrid Model for Grades Three, Four, and Five.

In-Person Model Grades 1 – 2 Hybrid Model Grades 3 – 5

Room Number	6ft. Number of Students	Number of Students
139 Grade One	12	11
141 Grade One	12	11
143 Grade One	12	11
144 Grade Two	12	9
142 Grade Two	12	9
140 Grade Two	12	9

Grade One 3 Classrooms
Grade Two 4 Classrooms
Grade Three 3 Classrooms
Grade Four 3 Classrooms
Grade Five 3 Classrooms

Room Number	6ft. Number of Students	Number of Students
231 Grade Three	12	9
233 Grade Three	12	9
235 Grade Three	12	9
239 Grade Four	12	10
241 Grade Four	12	11
243 Grade Four	12	11
240 Grade Five	12	10
242 Grade Five	12	10
244 Grade Five	12	10
230 Grade Two	12	9
232	12	
234	12	

Educational Program INTERMEDIATE LEVEL GRADE 6

Financial Resources

SCHOOL	STAFF CATEGORY	FTE	SALARY
EHMS	GRADE 6 ELA VACANCY	1	55,750
	JUNE 17, 2020 BUDGET REDUCTION (ONE FTE FROM EACH CORE CONTENT AREA)	4	275,724
	NEEDED FTE NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT GRADE 6 INTERMEDIATE FULL IN-SCHOOL RETURN FOR EHMS	3	167,250
	<i>TOTAL INTERMEDIATE TEACHERS</i>	8	498,724

Projected Class Size

Intermediate Grade 6	Enrollment	Sections	Class Sizes
	153	8	19.12/9/10

EHMS Grade 6

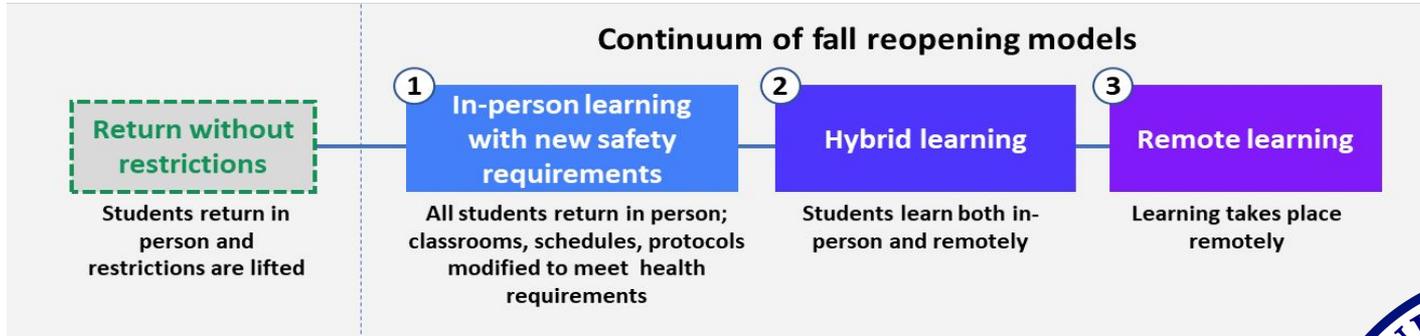
- Grade Six at EHMS had a projected enrollment of **162** students for the 2020 – 2021 school year.
- Those surveys indicated that **14** and **9** students did not intend on returning to school.
- We begin by planning on **33** students returning to school in Grade One.
- **153** students divided by 8 classrooms equal classrooms of 19 students.
- In an A – B Hybrid Plan those **two** classrooms divided by an A and a B Cohort would mean that 9 and 10 students would be in each cohort.
- We have determined that our plan will keep 6 feet of distance between individuals in each classroom. This equates to no more than 12 students per classroom.
- This Hybrid Plan meets our safety threshold.

Classroom and Facility Configuration

This Model would allow a Hybrid Learning Model for Grade 6.

Room Number	6ft: Number of Students	Actual Number of Students (Hybrid)
37 Sixth Grade	9	9
38 Sixth Grade	9	9
39 Sixth Grade	9	9
40 Sixth Grade	9	9
41 Sixth Grade	9	9
43 Sixth Grade	15	10
44 Sixth Grade	15	10
45 Sixth Grade	15	10

The Plan



In-Person Learning

The Fairhaven Public School District have identified groups of students to attend school in-person full-time **–following health and safety requirements**. Some students have a particularly high need for in-person instruction in order to progress adequately in their learning.

For this reason, we did prioritize the following student groups for full-time in-person instruction:

- Early Childhood Pre-School
- Substantially Separate Autism and Cognitive Program
- Substantially Separate Behavioral and Social Emotional Program
- Student Services
 - Life Skills 6 – 8
 - Life Skills 9 – 12
- Primary Grades 1 – 2
 - Literacy Program

Hybrid Learning

A hybrid model means that students would alternate between in-person and remote learning. For instance, students switch between in-person and virtual learning on alternating weeks.

Our hybrid learning model, is an A/B cohort model isolates two distinct cohorts of students who attend school in-person on different weeks.

Cohort A would attend school in-person from Monday –Friday of Week 1, while Cohort B learns via virtual learning. In Week 2, Cohort B would attend in-person and Cohort A would engage in virtual learning.

When grouping students into cohorts, we will consider ways to keep families/siblings together.

Our Hybrid Program is being built to expand and contract with both in-person learning and virtual learning components.

For this reason, we did prioritize the following student groups for hybrid instruction:

- Kindergarten
- Intermediate Grade 3-6
- Core Content Areas 7-12
 - Math
 - Social Studies/History
 - Science/Technology/Engineering/Arts/Media

Remote Learning

Parents/caregivers have the option to choose our district's remote learning program for their child's instruction if they prefer - this allows a student to remain enrolled in the Fairhaven Public School District, while receiving Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks delivered by

Massachusetts Certified Teachers remotely.

- Through DESE, the Fairhaven Public School's has established a partnership with TEC Connections Academy Commonwealth Virtual School (TECCA) a virtual vendor and can enroll students in a stand-alone, self-paced Learning Management System (LMS) populated with full K-12 content.
- With this license type, a student takes a "bundle" of core courses delivered live twice a week by a Massachusetts Certified Teacher.
- While this platform would not depend on frequent synchronous live teaching, it does require assigned and targeted educator check-in/support from our district.
- Depending on the number and configuration of participating students, the district hopes to creatively assign Fairhaven staff to monitor attendance and completion of said program.

Remote Learning

This option does not easily lend itself to students moving between in-person, hybrid, and remote throughout the year.

- There may be circumstances in which, after deciding that their children should start the school year learning remotely, parents decide they would like their children to attend school in person.
- There will likely be health and safety considerations that require planning (such as maintaining appropriate distancing in the classroom), and as such, parents/caregivers should anticipate a reasonable waiting period before students are able to change from remote to in-person learning.
- **In order to comply with health and safety requirements, the Fairhaven Public School District shall establish a policy that sets a reasonable transition period, to plan for the transition of a student from remote to in-person learning. This transition will only take place at the end of a semester (January 2021).**

Upcoming Dates

- August 12, 2020 – School Committee Votes on Recommended Plan
- August 13-21, 2020 – District and School Follow Up Communications
- August 19, 2020 – Next School Committee Meeting – Safety Protocols
- August 24, 2020 – Deadline for Family Decisions
- August 28, 2020 – Deadline for “Back to School Resources” page to be updated for 2020-2021
- August 31, 2020 – Start Date for Teaching Faculty
- September 15, 2020 – Start Date for Students (All grades, In person and Virtual depending on Cohort Assignment)

Additional Links + Resources