

## The COVID-19 Crisis: Updates on the Return (again) to Yellow

Jonathan Hart, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools May 4, 2021 Board Of Education Meeting

#### Our Talking Points

Current attendance numbers.

Our journey in re-opening more fully.

Metrics that we have used and continue to monitor.





#### Some Numbers

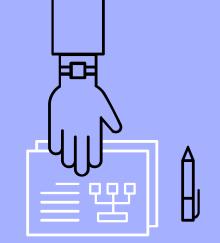
The table below illustrates the **current** number of students who are virtual or in-person (5 days/week).

|         | RMS | HBS | TBS | WHS |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Virtual | 14% | 11% | 9%  | 14% |
| 5 days  | 86% | 89% | 91% | 86% |

The table below illustrates the **February** number of students who were virtual or in-person (4 days/week).

|         | RMS | HBS | TBS | WHS |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Virtual | 16% | 16% | 14% | 17% |
| 4 days  | 75% | 84% | 84% | 80% |

Lower chart may not add to 100%



2. What steps have taken place to expand reopening?



#### Let's Review Reopening Steps

September 1: Began the year fully virtual with the exception of certain programs.

By October 13: All K-8 students back 4 days/week on a hybrid schedule.

November 30: Students with specific IEPs returned 4 days/week.

January 4: All K-5 Resource Room students returned 4 days/week.

January 11: All K-5 In-class Resource students returned 4 days/week.

February 22: All K-5 students returned 4 days/week.

March 1: All 6-8 students returned 4 days/week.

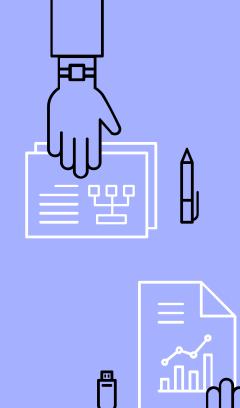
April 26: Wednesdays became in-person (5 days/week).



#### A Return to Yellow (again)

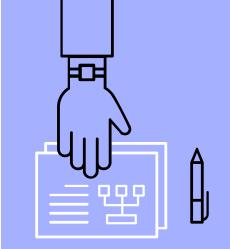
In order to expand reopening further, we waited for a return to yellow and improved case numbers across our region.

This occurred with the activity report dated **April 17** and has remained.



#### Wednesdays Became In-Person Days

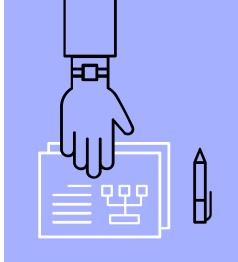
- The transition to in-person Wednesdays has been smooth.
- Some minor within-school scheduling adjustments have been made.
- Staff are reporting that students are happy to be in school more fully.
- We are able to offer athletics on Wednesday afternoons as well.
- Reminder: Wednesdays are now in-person for all students who are attending in-person.



#### Graduation

Governor Murphy announced loosening restrictions:

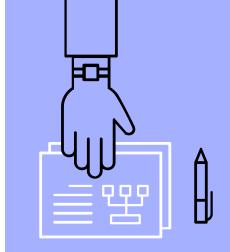
- Outdoor gatherings to 500 persons.
- Outdoor gathering capacity limits for venues with 1,000 fixed seats will be 50%. Attendees must be 6 feet apart.
- Indoor gatherings are at a maximum of 50% or no more than 250 individuals.
- Planning for outdoor graduation.

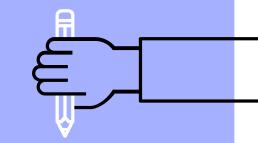


#### The Full-Day Question

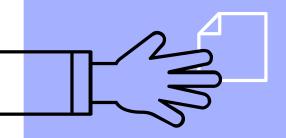
Challenges continue to be:

- Lunch service;
- Social distancing in cafeterias and classrooms where lunch may be served;
- Supervision during lunch periods;
- Impact of a positive COVID case on quarantine - particularly at RMS.
- Impact on fully virtual students.
- Our plans include waiting for Green on the Activity Report.



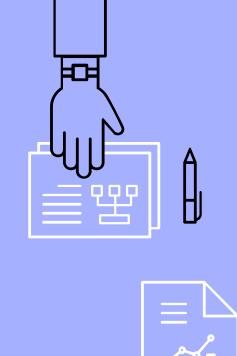


## 3. Metrics and reminders



#### Reminders

- This has been a slow, deliberate expansion process.
- We will use this time in "yellow" to evaluate our efforts, collect data, and make adjustments for student and staff safety.
- The timeline for next phases of reopening are to be determined.
- We do anticipate fall to be "normal" as expressed by the Governor.



#### The Activity Report

- ▶ This is from April 24.
- Displays COVID Activity by region.
- Our region has remained yellow. The rest of the state joined.
- We will monitor this data as the school year comes to a close.

| Nu Jorsey Department of H  | lealth                 | CDS<br>Week         | COVID-19 Activity Level Report<br>New Jersey Department of Health<br>Communicable Disease Service<br>Week ending April 24, 2021 (MMWR week 16) <sup>1</sup> |                        |                         |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------|---------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| COVID-19 Statewide Activity Level Timeline   |                        |                     |   |                        |                         |  |  |  |
| 800<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>14475<br>144755<br>144755<br>144755<br>144755<br>14455555555555555555555555555555555   |                        |                     |   |                        |                         |  |  |  |
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| Low  | Low Mode               |                     | rate High   |                        | Very High               |  |  |  |
|  | Reg                    | Region <sup>2</sup> |   | Current Activity Level |                         |  |  |  |
|  |                        | North               | Northwest   |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
|  |                        | North               | Northeast   |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
|  |                        | Centra              | Central West  |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
|  |                        | Centra              | al East   | t MO                   | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
|  |                        | South               | Southwest   |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
| X  |                        |                     | Southeast   |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
|  |                        |                     | STATEWIDE   |                        | MODERATE                |  |  |  |
| COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI)   |                        |                     |   |                        |                         |  |  |  |
|  | Case Rate <sup>3</sup> | Percent CL          | 1 <sup>4</sup> F  | Percent Positivity⁵    | CALI Score <sup>6</sup> |  |  |  |
| Northwest  | 23.34 O                | 4.14                | 0   | 7.76 O                 | 2                       |  |  |  |
| Northeast  | 23.77 O                | 4.74                | 0   | 7.11 O                 | 2                       |  |  |  |
| Central West   | 16.18 O                | 3.20                | 0   | 5.36 O                 | 2                       |  |  |  |

# THANKS!

### Any questions?

