

Meridian ReOpening Plan - Fall 2020-2021

Family Information Guide for ReOpening

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Executive Summary of the ReOpening Plan

The district's survey of our community has indicated that our parents desire a choice in whether or not they send their students to school in-person this Fall. Given that, we have agreed that the below plan is our first choice in attempting to reopen schools this Fall. It is of the utmost importance, however, that we communicate that this plan **ONLY** works if there are a significant amount of students who opt for remote learning in the fall.

IF . . . 25% or more of our students opt for Remote Learning our plan would look as follows:

- All students
 - Will wear masks unless outside or eating
 - Refusal to wear a mask in the building will lead to the student being placed into the Remote Learning program
 - We will socially distance to the greatest extent possible meaning dramatically different student groupings, etc.
 - Supplies will be limited to only one person using them as possible
 - PE will take place, BUT while adhering to the same guidelines listed above and without use of locker rooms at the Junior High and High School
 - **There are many more details throughout this document, but the above are the most important and help to articulate what the 'new normal' will look like.**
- Pre-Kindergarten classes - **WILL NOT BE OFFERED THIS YEAR**
- Kindergarten through 5th grade
 - If you **opt for in-person instruction**, the student will receive their education with all of the stipulations above
 - If you **opt for remote instruction**, the following will take place:
 - A teacher dedicated to Remote Learning **ONLY** will serve as your instructor.
 - There may be a limited amount of exposure to 'Specials' (Art, music, PE)
 - You will be given a schedule to follow and attendance in each class is expected at the appointed time.
- 6th through 8th grade
 - If you **opt for in-person instruction**, the student will receive their education with all of the stipulations above
 - JH students will remain in one class as teachers rotate to meet with them to limit their exposure
 - Band and Choir will look significantly different as we attempt to adhere to guidance.
 - If you **opt for remote instruction**, the following will take place:
 - You will be given a schedule to follow and attendance in each class is expected at the appointed time.
- 9th through 12th grade

- If you **opt for in-person instruction**, the student will receive their education with all of the stipulations above
 - Band and Choir will look significantly different as we attempt to adhere to guidance.
- If you **opt for remote instruction**, you will be video conferencing with a course that is in session at a given time. You will have the ability to interact with your teacher and other students.
 - You will be given a schedule to follow and attendance in each class is expected at the appointed time.
- Special populations
 - Any student needing English language learner or special education services will have those services provided to the best ability of the school district regardless of which option is selected

Any student who opts in to Remote Learning will stay in Remote Learning for the entirety of the First Quarter. First quarter ends October 16th.

Next Steps and Deadlines for Parents

By July 17th, we need you to complete the following [form](#).

Starting on July 13th, we will start actively calling parents to encourage them to complete the form or to complete the form over the phone while talking with us.

Failure to complete the form/answer our calls will result in your student being placed in the 'opting in to in-person instruction' for next school year.

Call for Flexibility

As we move forward, it is imperative that parents are aware of two things that necessitate their flexibility.

First, if the response to this formal opt-in vs opt-out is significantly different from the original survey data collected we will not be able to execute this option and the district will pivot.

Second, I find it almost unimaginable that at some point this year we are not ALL remote learning for some period of time as a result of state closure, local closure, local outbreak, or lack of available healthy (or non-quarantined) staff to conduct in-person instruction. The advanced notice for some of these circumstances will be very short. For that, I apologize in advance for any inconvenience.

Guiding Tenets for Decision Making

As noted before, we made this decision with four competing priorities right now. Typically, these things work in relative concert with each other. This puzzle we are trying to put together sees these elements in a sort of competition:

- Student and Staff Safety
- Social-emotional Health of Students and Safety
- Academic Achievement
- Community Support / Function of Society

We attempted to create a plan that *considers* all of the above and to choose the solution that does the least harm and hopefully does some good. To be clear, we understand that this is not a perfect solution. But given the above priorities and considering our mission, vision, values, and a focus on allowing parental choice led us to this option.

What the School Day Will Look Like

For all Students

The intent of the plan is to allow for all students to participate and engage in the same curriculum whether via in-person or remote instruction. Additionally, the hope is to provide the best possible level of social-emotional support for all students. In an effort to do so, it is clear that we had to improve and/or standardize many of our communication processes for all students.

Communication and Instructional Programming

- Google Classroom
 - All classrooms will use Google Classroom.
 - Parent guidance available [here](#) (or [here](#) in Spanish)
- Curriculum
 - All students, remote and in-person, will have the same instructional outcomes and cover the same amount of material.
 - It is important that those people opting out understand that for some elective courses not having access to the appropriate tools, supplies, etc. may limit their ability to complete the exact same projects as those in-class. In those instances, teachers will be asked to create alternative assignments.

- Grading
 - All students, remote and in-person, will have the same grading system.
- Software programs
 - All students, remote and in-person, will have access to the same software programming.
- Flipgrid Teacher Introductions
 - All students, remote and in-person, will be able to virtually meet their teachers/counselor/administrators through a FlipGrid introduction.
 - In-person parent events such as orientation and parent-teacher conferences will be suspended and replaced with virtual events.

Remote Learning

It is vital for parents and students to know that we listened to the feedback on our performance during the 4th quarter of last year and we have changed our protocols and practices accordingly. Below you will find us attempting to explain the changes as we see them organized in a comparison and contrast form to past Spring.

As a side-note, even if you have no intention of opting into remote learning, it is important to understand that there may well be a time during the 2020-2021 school year that ALL students will have a period or periods of Remote Learning.

It is important to reiterate that any student opting for Remote Learning SHALL remain in Remote Learning until the conclusion of the first quarter. A deadline for notification to move from Remote to In-Person at the conclusion of the first quarter will be announced at a later date.

Prior Experience & Expectation

This past Spring, we entered into emergency remote learning due to COVID19 and the requirements of the state closing schools. Teachers changed how they delivered content overnight and tried to extend the learning experience of the current year.

- ***Learning/Communication Platforms:*** Wildly different across the district, within buildings and even within classrooms.
- ***Delivery of Content:*** Varied by grade level and teacher. Largely completed through 3rd party services (i.e. eSpark, ST Math, Khan Academy, iReady)
- ***Grading/Academic Expectations:*** All students were “held harmless” and grades were not to be negatively impacted due to emergency remote learning.
- ***Student Supports:*** Not universally available
- ***Student Device and Access:*** Chromebooks and hot spots were distributed for all who requested access. Students who used district devices were monitored for safety.

New Expectation & Experience

Over the past several months, we have asked your opinion in a variety of ways on a variety of subjects. We have attempted to be thoughtful in our approach and your feedback has certainly guided our efforts. This year, based upon the feedback we received and the work we've done, when students and staff are engaged with Remote Learning, the experience and expectations will be better. The information below provides a snapshot of the efforts made to ensure that students' educational experience is as robust as possible.

- ***Learning/Communication Platforms***
 - In an effort to provide consistency and clarity, Google Classroom will be used as the learning and communication management platform for all students K-12.
 - Faculty and staff will also be available through their Meridian email address.
- ***Delivery of Content***
 - Students will be provided with structured schedules
 - Structured and scheduled engagement in academics
 - Scheduled Zoom/web conferencing with classes with firm expectations
 - New curriculum will continue to be covered
 - Streamed or recorded lessons from teachers to facilitate new learning
- ***Grading/Academic Expectations:***
 - Students will be required to be present and attendance will be recorded through Google classroom
 - Students will be expected to complete assignments and assessments by assigned due dates
 - Grading and feedback on assignments and assessments will be the same/similar to general school expectations
- ***Student Supports:***
 - General “office hours” of availability for faculty and staff
 - Social-emotional supports from school counselors, social workers, staff members, and administrators will be available to support students
- ***Student Device and Access***
 - All students who are in Remote Learning will be required to utilize district provided devices.
 - Students will be monitored for safety

In-Person Learning

There will be many elements to the plan as we begin to introduce it. In this document, we will focus **FIRST** on the impacts that your student can expect when coming to school. Below that, we will talk about other procedural items that we feel are important for you to know, but that may not directly impact your student each day.

Instruction

- Masks will be worn in the classroom environment.
- Instruction will be supported through Google Classroom.
- Social distancing, as possible, will be adhered to in all classrooms. This means no group work.
- Locker rooms will not be accessible during the school day.
- The look and feel of classes such as PE, band, and choir will be significantly different.

Health and Wellness

What you can expect from the district and your school regarding Health Services?

- We will be using three additional Remote Learning preparation days to provide training on health and hygiene to all staff prior to students reporting to school. Teachers will also receive information on how to share their learnings with their students in an age-appropriate manner.
- All students will either self-certify their health (potentially) or be subject to a temperature check before entering district property (including buses).
- All students **MUST** wear masks for in-person schooling except for instances where:
 - Students are outside and can social distance
 - Students are eating or drinking and are social distanced
- Social Distancing will be adhered to whenever possible. It is to be noted that in some classrooms students will have less than six feet between themselves. Also, social distancing will not be able to be accomplished on a school bus.
- Students will not share supplies, as possible.
- Locker Rooms will not be available for students during the traditional school day
- Signage will be posted throughout all buildings to help remind students of appropriate social distancing and hygienic behavior.
- The district will be in continuous contact with the Ogle County Health Department for guidance and reporting purposes.

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Health Services?

- Adherence to all current rules regarding physicals, vaccinations, and exclusions are still in place

- Parents are proactive and thorough in their at-home screening and reporting of symptoms to the school
- Promotion of behaviors listed above and a personal effort to limit unnecessary exposure to the virus
- Understand the necessity of following the exclusion timelines provided below and support district decisions in regards to this cumbersome guidance

Quarantine periods for illness (please see chart below)



School Exclusion Chart - source ISBE IDPH guidance document 6/23/2020	Period
Student tests positive for COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IDPH will clarify whether this period of exclusion starts from the date of the positive test or date of onset of symptoms (for now, we recommend from date of positive test) 	14 days
Student exhibits one (or more) symptoms of COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea • Period of exclusion starts on the date of onset of symptoms 	14 days
Student had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Close contact" means that the student was within 6 feet of a symptomatic person for more than 15 minutes • Period of exclusion starts on the date of the most recent close contact 	14 days
Student had close contact with someone who is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Close contact" means that the student was within 6 feet of a symptomatic person for more than 15 minutes • Period of exclusion starts on the date of the most recent close contact 	14 days
Student has a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 72 hours must elapse from resolution of the fever without fever reducing medication before the student can return to school 	72 hours
Student has a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) and exhibits one or more additional symptoms of COVID-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student must not return to school until 10 days have passed after symptoms first appeared 	10 days
Student has returned from a location with sustained widespread transmission, potentially including areas located within the United States (Travel Warning of Level 3)	14 days

Mental Health and Wellness

What you can expect from the district and your school regarding Health Services?

- Access to counselors and support for both in-person and remote learning students

- As always, MCUSD can serve as a liaison between our students and outside agencies and services we partner with
- Intentional effort at all levels to place a higher priority on student mental and social-emotional health knowing that many students experienced a form of trauma through the COVID-19 shutdown

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Health Services?

- For continued communication with the school if you are noticing issues with your student

Facility and Student Safety

What can you expect from the district and your school regarding Facilities and Student Safety?

- Extra features added to support social distancing including additional bathroom barriers, covered areas to support outside learning, and
- Additional sanitation and cleaning products procured
- Spray bottles of antibacterial spray will be placed in each room
- Creating isolation rooms at each school for symptomatic students
- Repurposing of space to attempt to ensure appropriate distancing and to not exceed capacity limits
- Hand sanitizing stations conveniently located throughout the multiple buildings
- Locker rooms will not be available during the school day

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Facilities and Student Safety?

- Any community event taking place in our buildings will adhere to the same rules established throughout this document including wearing masks, health screenings, and social distancing, as possible.

Food and Nutrition Services

What can you expect from the district and your school regarding Food and Nutrition Services?

- More frequent sanitization
- Social distancing enforced in lunchrooms and lunch lines
- Hand sanitizer stations located near cafeterias
- Staff will wear masks
- Elimination of salad bars and any other services where students serve themselves
- Condiments will be purchased in pre-portioned packages

- Some students will eat in the classroom, outside, or other spaces (MP Room) in order to ensure we do not exceed capacity limits or social distancing protocols
- Menu items may be streamlined in order to create faster moving lines for students

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Food and Nutrition Services?

- Support and reinforcement that students are not to share lunch items
- Use the electronic deposit system whenever possible

Transportation

What can you expect from the district and your school regarding Transportation?

- More frequent sanitization and use of an electrostatic sprayer to disinfect the bus between rides
- Employee exiting the bus to screen students (take their temperature) before entering the bus
 - Students with a fever of over 100.3 will not be permitted to enter the bus.
 - If a student is not allowed to enter the bus, immediate phone calls will be placed to the student's parents
- Masks **must** be worn on the bus
- Social distancing will be impossible on a crowded bus, but we will not exceed 50 total people on any bus to limit close proximity contact to the best of our ability
- Hand sanitizer will be available on the bus

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Transportation?

- Do not send students to the bus stop if you know they are symptomatic in any way to prevent the bus moving on from a student
- Patience as we attempt to create and navigate routes with a 50 person maximum
- Expect delays in arrival times as we will need to stagger exits to the bus

Technology

What you can expect from the district and your school regarding Technology?

- All students will be provided with a device for them to use
 - Remote students will be expected to complete work on their issued ChromeBook
 - In-person students will have their own device to manage and ensure is charged, etc. to prevent multiple people handling the same device

- The district will still provide web filtering and monitoring systems for all devices

What do we hope we can expect from our families regarding Technology Services?

- Support and reinforce appropriate use of technology with your students
- Proactively communicate any and all issues including issues with internet connectivity

Calendar Change

- [ISBE's guidance](#) allows for 5 additional days to plan for the reopening of schools. Meridian plans to add three days of preparation to the beginning of the calendar year and two days after the conclusion of the first quarter to evaluate our effectiveness. The alterations to the calendar would be as follows:
 - August 13,14, and 17th would be Remote Learning Planning Days
 - October 19th and 20th would be Remote Learning Planning Days

Extra-Curricular Activities

- All decisions for IHSA participation will be governed by the [guidance](#) they have provided.
- All non-IHSA extra-curricular activities will be governed by the guidance provided by ISBE and (as appropriate) by the guidance provided above.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- Who has been consulted in the creation of the reopening plan?
 - Students and parents have been surveyed multiple times to help inform the creation of the plan.
 - Principals led the communication exchange with staff to ensure that all voices were heard
 - Attorneys have (and still are) reviewing the plan for any legal issues
 - Board of Education has held multiple open meetings to discuss the reopening options
- Did the district adhere to the guidance as provided by the Illinois State Board of Education, Illinois High School Athletic Association, and the Illinois Department of Public Health in the creation of the plan?
 - Yes
- Are there any current COVID-19 testing protocols for students or staff?
 - No, at this time there are no testing protocols
- If someone in the school community tests positive for COVID-19, what will be the next required steps?
 - The Ogle County Health Department will be contacted and anyone that was determined to be in close proximity of the student/staff member will not be able to attend school for 14 days as a result of a quarantine designation.
 - The school community will be notified of the positive test via an all email or all call.
- Will there be standard return-to-school policies and procedures for students and staff who are presumed positive or diagnosed with COVID-19?
 - Yes, the chart in the document above can be used as a quick reference.
- What will the protocol be for an asymptomatic student with a confirmed positive COVID-19 result in their household?
 - The student will be assumed to have been in close contact with an infected person and would need to perform a 14 day quarantine.
- What are the financial impacts of attempting to hold school this year?
 - The current estimate is over \$600,000 in one-time expenses in order to operate this year without considering any necessary personnel additions.
- Will students and staff members be required to wear masks?
 - Yes.
- Will schools have to provide student masks?
 - No, but we will have extra on hand to support a student who forgets, loses, or destroys their mask.
- Will schools have any authority to not allow students into school without a mask?
 - Students who do not comply with wearing a mask will be placed into our Remote Learning program.

- Do attendance/ truancy policies need to be modified for students who are covid positive and in isolation at home/hospital for extended periods?
 - The district has discretion in how they enforce and report truancy issues. COVID-19 related absences will not trigger a truancy referral.
- Will the public school be responsible for providing remote instruction if they are voluntarily kept home?
 - The current intent of the district is to provide instruction for those students who choose to stay at home.
- We can safely assume that there will be some parents who will refuse to send their students to school in the fall. As such, will districts be allowed by the state to run both in-school and remote programs? If so, are there budgetary, contractual, legal, policy, and staffing considerations that demand time and attention?
 - Yes, the plan is to run (essentially) two schools simultaneously - in-person and remote instruction
- What will school districts' responsibilities be for providing internet access and devices?
 - All students will have a device provided to them this year. Internet access will not be provided for students unless ALL students are moved to remote learning.
- Will isolation rooms be needed in nursing offices for students or staff with fevers?
 - Yes, we are working on finding space in each building, including looking at outdoor pop-up tents to serve this purpose.
- Will school facilities be reopened to public use on evenings and weekends? If so, what safety requirements will need to be put in place?
 - Yes, but all operational guidelines that are in place for school to operate are to be followed.
- Does the school plan on performing a temperature scan prior to students boarding a school bus or entering a building. If so, who is going to do this?
 - The current plan is YES, but it may change. At this point, the screening will be completed by a trained employee. For bus screenings, the driver WILL NOT be the person screening for temperatures.
- As the fall brings illnesses such as the flu, respiratory infections, and whooping cough, will modifications be required to medical exclusion policies?
 - At this point there are no changes to state-level exclusion policies.
- How do we socially distance on our buses?
 - The bus limit is 50 riders. Social distancing **cannot** be adhered to with that level of capacity.
- What will be the cleaning protocols for buses? How frequently will this need to occur?
 - Buses will be cleaned with a disinfecting electrostatic sprayer daily.
- How will school arrival/dismissal look?
 - Arrival and dismissal procedures will be created at the building level and shared with parents
- Will attendance be taken daily for Remote Learning?
 - Yes, attendance will be taken via Google form and students (particularly 6-12) will follow a time-based schedule.
- Can we hold music classes inside given what we know?

- Music, Choir, and Band will look substantially different this year. We are still working on modifying the curriculum in order to accommodate the guidelines published by ISBE and the IDPH.
- Will students be able to change for PE or do we need to pivot to something else?
 - At this point, we will not be accessing locker rooms during the school-day and thus, students will not need to change for PE.
- Can students get mask breaks during the day?
 - Yes, but they should be taken when outdoors and sufficiently spaced.
- How will the implementation of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for special education students be met in a virtual, hybrid, or partial-day academic program?
 - We will find a way to meet the needs of all students with an IEP. Students with an IEP who opt for remote learning should re-convene a meeting to address how the needs can be best met.
- What protocols will be required for athletic events and facilities to be maintained and cleaned due to the coronavirus (including surface areas, turf fields, sports equipment, etc.)?
 - The district will follow all guidelines as provided by our governing agencies.
- Will any changes be required as we implement school emergency drills?
 - Yes, new guidance will be provided to teachers to train their students
- Will students be able to eat in the cafeteria?
 - Up to 50 students can gather in any one place, but the cafeteria will also be socially distanced, as possible. Some students will eat in other locations including the classroom.
- How will we socially distance during passing periods (in hallways)?
 - Individual traffic flow plans will be created at each building.
- Will guest speakers, parents, etc be allowed in the building?
 - At this point, we will only be admitting necessary staff and personnel. This includes not hosting events such as Parent Teacher Conferences, Meet the Teacher Night, etc. These events will be replaced with virtual or digital supplements.
- What professional development needs will school districts have to assist their teachers' enhancement of virtual instructional practices?
 - The district will be taking advantage of the five Remote Learning planning days in order to provide all necessary support to teachers to ensure the greatest probability of success.
- How will school districts assess, grade, and provide feedback to students?
 - The traditional grading system will be used for all students to start the 2020-2021 school year.

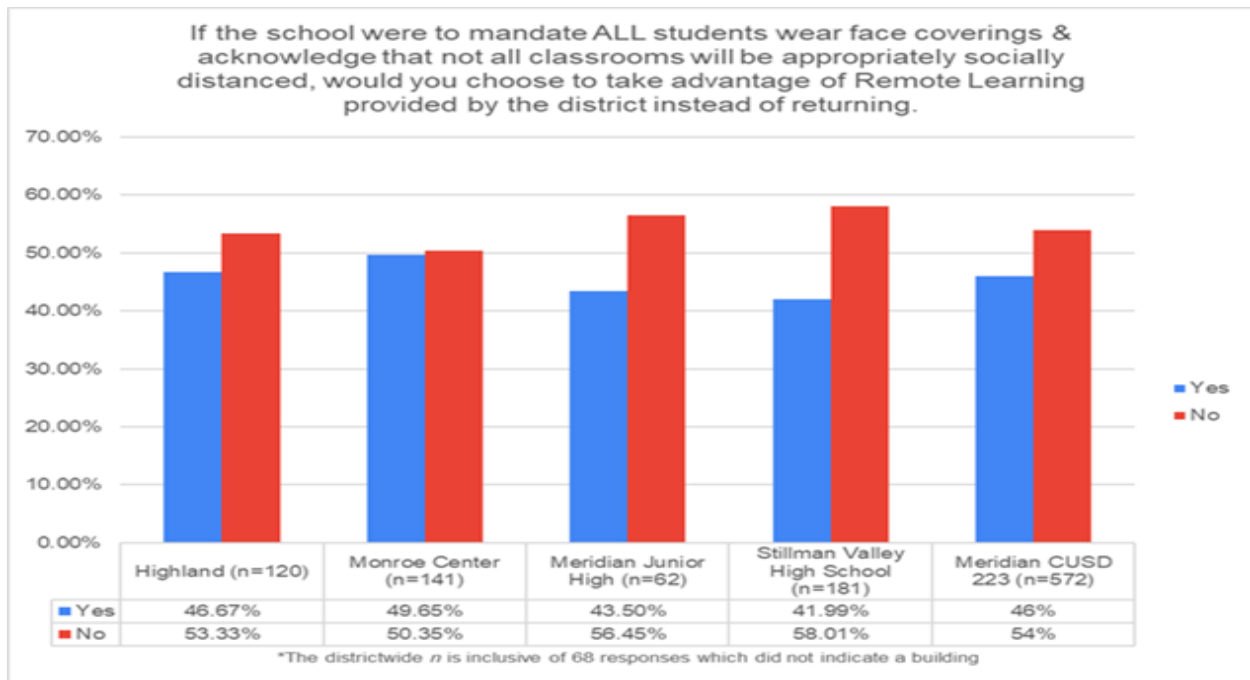
Detailed Recommendation as provided to the Board of Education

Recommendation for School Year 20-21

Board and Leadership Team,

As you know, we have made it a point to make these difficult decisions as collaboratively as possible. We also know that no matter how many times we survey parents and community that we can never get a full glimpse into what everyone is thinking. I do want to note that we have made an intentional effort to reach out to families that are typically underrepresented in surveys by having teachers reach out directly to our ELL, IEP, and otherwise marginalized students.

The data presented below was accurate as of mid-day Wednesday and has not subsequently changed in results and thus we have left this chart in to help guide our decision making. Also, it is of note that the overwhelming majority of people took this survey with the impression that face shields were an acceptable alternative to face masks. As we know, the state has subsequently changed their guidance. Also of note, the question presented below was added subsequent to the initial distribution of the survey as a result of the analysis of the answers being provided by parents.



Given the information above, it is my (PJ) recommendation that at this point we move forward and consider only two potential solutions. I would normally use the term OPTIONS, but since we

used that in the previously published document, I feel it more appropriate to change the vernacular.

SOLUTION ONE

Allow parents to choose between (what was known as Option 1) in-person instruction and (what was known as Option 3) Remote Learning.

Within this solution In-Person instruction would look like:

- Socially distanced classrooms, as possible
- Preventative measures taken to attempt to keep supplies with only one student
- Face coverings (not face shields) worn at all times when inside unless exception as noted by ISBE/IDPH guidance
- Typical instructional practices to take place with the exception of group work, etc.
- The primary platform for organization and communication would be Google classroom

Within this solution Remote Learning instruction would look like:

- Mirror the curriculum of in-person Learning
- The primary platform would be Google classroom

Other Logistics to be mindful of:

- With limited student capacity, assuming parents are true to their survey participation, busing would be possible with current route situations
- Adhering to 50 persons in one space at a given time will provide some lunch complications.
 - Open rooms due to OPT OUTS make this tenable at the K-5 level
 - MJH has a schedule where this works with some students in class eating
 - SVHS is still creating a solution, but it is possible
- Creating quarantine areas at K-5 easy
- K-5 each grade level would have at least (1) Remote Learning specialist as a teacher
- 6-8 - diminished class size would allow for Remote Learning to be built into teachers scheduled as a course
- 9-12 - We would purchase video equipment to allow for live streaming and recording of in-person lessons

Major barriers for us to continue to consider:

- If students with IEPs choose to OPT OUT, preliminary guidance has been to reconvene an IEP meeting and rewrite the IEP to align with the current instructional practices and services.
- Current guidance for related services continues to encourage “telehealth” for both students in the traditional setting and Remote.
- Cost of video equipment
- Ensuring all students have appropriate support and all adults are able to create appropriate barriers
- Equity concerns

Other things to consider

- If a student opts out - would they be able to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics
- How do we determine which teachers are able to OPT IN to Remote Teaching?
 - Doctor’s note
 - Seniority
- What happens if a teacher does not want to return, but is not chosen to be the OPT IN Remote teacher
- Once a student OPTS into Remote Learning, they cannot come back to in-person until the 1st quarter is over at the earliest
- A student can OPT into Remote Learning at any time
- If the demand for Remote Learning intensifies, but is not state-mandated, this plan allows for us to easily meet the growing demand via staff flexibility

Reasons we would need to move to SOLUTION TWO:

- If, when the decision must be made, the distribution of those who OPT OUT is far lower than indicated in surveys, it may become logistically unfeasible to implement SOLUTION ONE

Next steps and timelines:

- July 8th - Release publicly the Solution decided upon
- July 9th - Start a massive endeavor to have parents identify which form of instruction they would choose by July 18th.
- LT will begin to prepare as though this is the option, but mindful it could potentially change if the sample size does not indicate it is feasible for us OR guidance from ISBE, IDPH, OCDPH changes and/or we move back to Phase 3 in Illinois and/or our region
- This includes determining who would be in-person / Remote instructors
- Re-writing / constructing schedules
- Begin process to purchase streaming materials immediately

- Begin process to purchase additional materials necessary to have individual supplies, as appropriate

Alignment to Priorities

Priorities	How they are addressed / considered
Student & Staff Safety	We follow IDPH guidelines with the exception of strict social distancing for in-person instruction and more importantly allow for parent/student choice.
Social-Emotional Health of Students & Staff	This provides students and staff with the greatest potential for social-emotional connection and health. Though it is noted that there may be an increase in anxiety due to potential exposure, this is mitigated by providing the option to OPT OUT.
Academic Achievement	The curriculum may be able to be covered in full and there would be full alignment between in-person and Remote Learning expectations.
Community Support/ Function of Society	This diminishes the load on parents the most, as students would be at school as close to the normal schedule.
Ability to be agile	In this modality, we can easily flip to Remote Learning if necessary and to in-person if we move into Phase 5. This also allows students who are quarantined by ISBE/IDPH to easily transition into Remote Learning

SOLUTION TWO

One day per week in person instruction (What was Option 4)

Within this solution In-Person instruction would look like:

- Socially distanced classrooms, as possible
- Preventative measures taken to ensure supplies stay with one student
- Face coverings (not face shields) worn at all times when inside unless exception as noted by ISBE/IDPH guidance
- Best efforts are made to provide typical instruction and prepare students for Remote Learning on their non-attendance days
 - A focus on core academic instruction, along with social-emotional Learning
- The primary platform would be Google classroom
- Students attend school one day per week, with that schedule staggered from building to building (i.e. Highland M-T, MC T-W, MJHS W-Th, SVHS Th-F)

Within this solution Remote Learning instruction would look like:

- Students will be provided with scheduled, rigorous, and aligned instruction in a Remote setting 3 days per week
 - Students who OPT OUT of in-person instruction will receive Remote Learning that mirrors in-person instruction as closely as possible
- The primary platform would be Google classroom

Other Logistics to be mindful of:

- With limited district demand on a daily basis, we would be able to effectively distribute resources and capacity
- Adhering to 50 persons in one space at a given time will provide some lunch complications.
 - Open rooms due to OPT OUTS make this tenable at the K-5 level
 - MJH has a schedule where this works with some students in class eating
 - SVHS is still creating a solution, but it is possible
- Creating quarantine areas at K-5 easy
- Logistically, in terms of staffing, this option allows for the easiest implementation

Major barriers for us to continue to consider:

- If students with IEPs choose to OPT OUT, preliminary guidance has been to reconvene an IEP meeting and rewrite the IEP to align with the current instructional practices and services.
- Current guidance for related services continues to encourage “telehealth” for both students in the traditional setting and Remote.
- Ensuring all students have appropriate support and all adults are able to create appropriate barriers
 - It can be assumed that students will need support on the day they are not in attendance, but when the teacher is still providing instruction to the other half of the class
- Equity concerns
- There will be major logistical concerns for families
 - Potentially having siblings attending on separate days, therefore losing childcare
 - Difficulty in keeping track of multiple child schedules for Remote Learning
 - General childcare concerns due to students only attending school one day/week

Other things to consider

- If a student opts out - would they be able to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics
- Similar considerations as option 1 if we have any substantial population of students OPT in to Remote Learning
- Given one day of instruction, there will be considerations regarding contractual prep time for staff
- If the demand for Remote Learning intensifies, but is not state-mandated, this plan allows for us to easily meet the growing demand via staff flexibility
- Given that the general population of students will only attend one day per week, this provides us with the potential opportunity to provide in-person instruction for our high risk population more than one day (IEP, ELL, at-risk)
 - At the 6-12 level, it allows for labs and other facilities to open up on a scheduled basis to allow for students to complete work
- Eliminates need for weekly food distribution as meals can be given to students on their day of attendance

Next steps and timelines:

- July 8th - Release publicly the Solution decided upon
- July 9th - Start a massive endeavor to have parents identify which form of instruction they would choose by July 18th.
- LT will begin to prepare as though this is the option, but mindful it could potentially change if the sample size does not indicate it is feasible for us OR guidance from ISBE, IDPH, OCDPH changes and/or we move back to Phase 3 in Illinois and/or our region
 - This includes determining who would be in-person / Remote instructors

- Re-writing / constructing schedules
- Begin process to purchase streaming materials immediately
- Begin process to purchase additional materials necessary to have individual supplies, as appropriate
- If SOLUTION TWO becomes the selected option after SOLUTION ONE is unsuccessfully attempted, it will become announced and the focus of all work starting July 19

Alignment to Priorities

Priorities	How they are addressed / considered
Student & Staff Safety	We follow IDPH guidelines with the exception of strict social distancing for in-person instruction and allows us to allocate resources in such a way to meet the demand of a near full capacity of face to face instruction
Social-Emotional Health of Students & Staff	Taking into account all of the social-emotional impacts of Remote Learning, along with our capacity to serve students, this option provides us with the ability to connect with the greatest number of students on a consistent basis. It also provides greater assurances in providing weekly meals for our free/reduced population.
Academic Achievement	Meeting once a week and providing structured and rigorous Remote instruction allows for the potential that we cover curriculum with fidelity. Additionally, meeting once per week allows for greater accountability, feedback, and support of student Learning in regards to the Remote instruction.

<p>Community Support/ Function of Society</p>	<p>It adequately addresses all priorities, but does not do a GREAT job at any of them. Furthermore, this will provide a nearly equal amount of stress on parents as Remote Learning.</p>
<p>Ability to be agile</p>	<p>In this modality, we can flip to Remote Learning if necessary and to in-person if we move into Phase 5, with some logistical considerations. This also allows students who are quarantined by ISBE/IDPH to easily transition into Remote Learning</p>

Reasons we would need to move to what was known as option three (Remote Learning):

- Guidance from ISBE, IDPH, OCDPH indicates that in person instruction is no longer safe
- Illinois and/or our region move back to Phase 3 of Re-Opening
- We do not have the number of healthy staff to perform in-person instruction

WHY NOT THE OTHER OPTIONS

- Option One - In-person doing the best we can to adhere to ISBE guidelines
 - Option one as a standalone is all but logistically impossible. If we are unable to meet the logistical demand, then we are essentially operating at Option Two which has moral/ethical/safety/liability issues. Even with Option one as the selection a portion of our population would need and/or state they are medically fragile and need additional options such as Remote.
- Option Two- In-person instruction as though there were no guidance
 - Moral, ethical, health, safety, and liability issues make this a non-starter
- Option Three - Remote Learning
 - Does not meet the demand of the community and does not satisfy many of the priorities well
- Option Four - One day per week in-person instruction and the rest Remote

- While meeting the logistical needs of the district, it places a large burden on the community. Additionally, while meeting the priorities set forth, it meets them all to a very small extent. Said differently, it does everything okay, but nothing excellently.
- Option Five - Staggered or Every Other Day Schedule
 - Allows for some logistical and safety concerns to be alleviated as a result of small capacities in each building. The potential extreme loads on teachers and inability to cover the same amount of curriculum make this less attractive.
- Option Six - K-5 in-person and 6-12 Remote
 - This is possible, but the demand for in-person education for our 6-12 students who would not have that option in this choice makes it relatively unattractive.