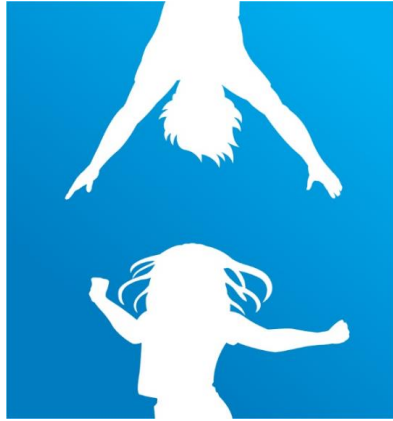


Hamilton County Department of Education
Hamilton County Board of Education Board Meeting - Special Called Session
July 2, 2020 5:30 PM
3074 Hickory Valley Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

I. Roll Call

II. **Approval of the Agenda

III. Presentation of Reopening Plan



HAMILTON
COUNTY
SCHOOLS

School Reopening Task Force

July 2, 2020



Hamilton County Schools
Will Be the **Best** School
District in Tennessee.



SCHOOL REOPENING TASK FORCE

- **Minimizing risks to public health**

- Focus on students, teachers, and employees
- Understand and manage the increased risks for high-risk and immune-compromised teachers and students
- Alignment to state and county health department recommendations, as well as CDC guidance

- **Addressing impacts on student learning and well-being**

- Skill gaps created by uneven remote learning
- Social emotional support

- **Recognizing schools' importance to the community**

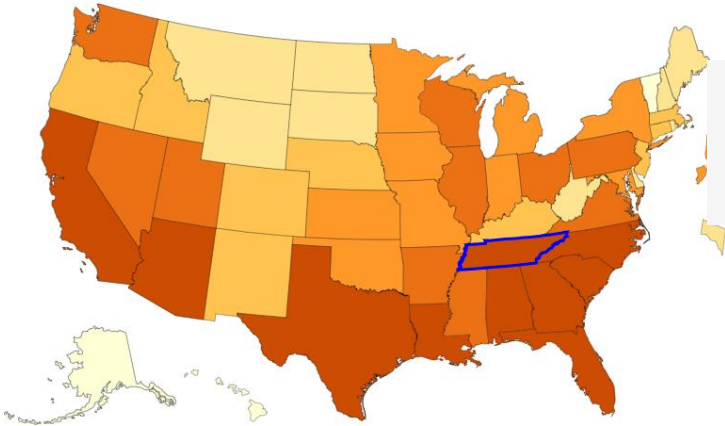
- Safety, stability, food security, and social development

- **Optimizing operational readiness**

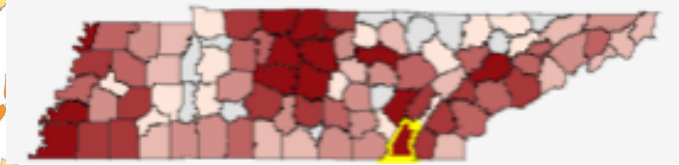
- Effective health and safety measures to mitigate the risk of infection
- Ensuring we are prepared for:
 - Infrastructure needs
 - Budget challenges
 - Aligning supply chain with mitigation needs
 - Building policies and culture to operate safely

COVID-19: Data as of June 30, 2020

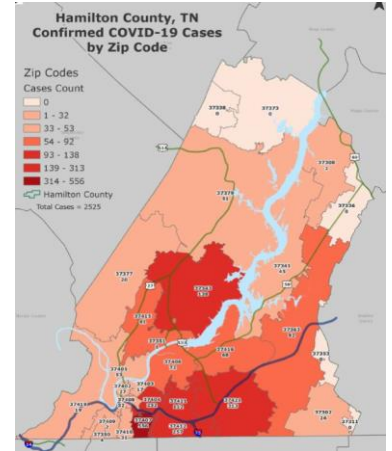
787.5



625



661



UNITED STATES
2,581,229 TOTAL CASES
126,739 TOTAL DEATHS
787.5 Cases per 100,000 People

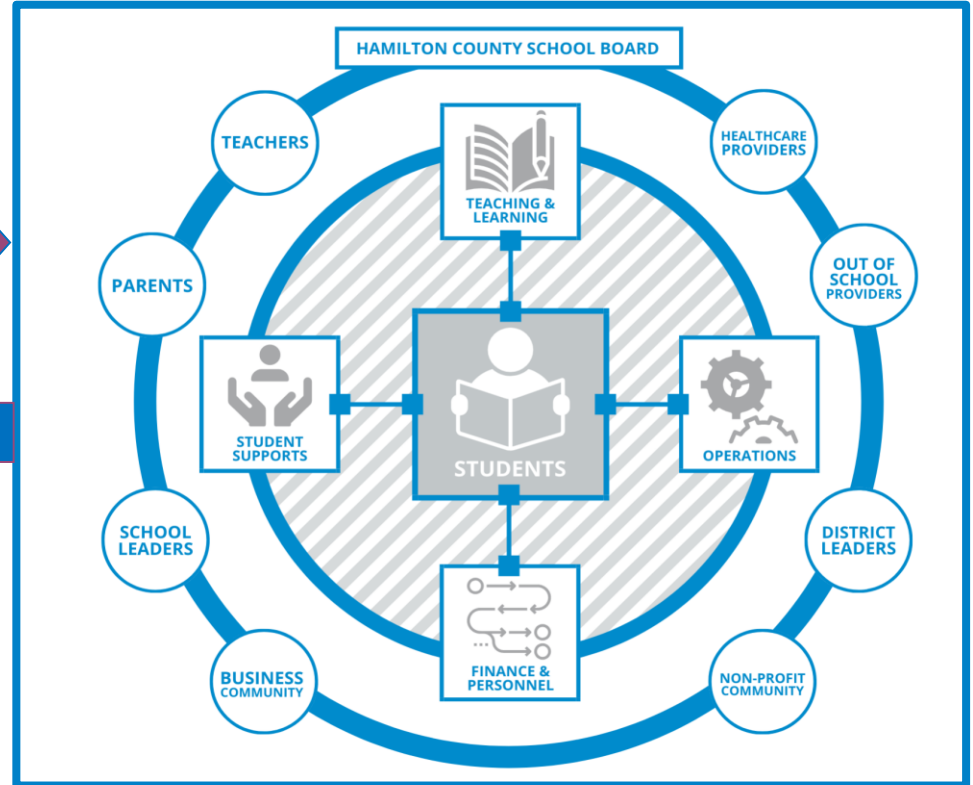
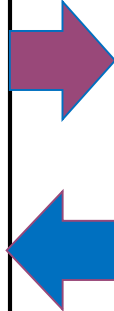
TENNESSEE
42,297 TOTAL CASES
592 TOTAL DEATHS
625 Cases per 100,000 People

HAMILTON COUNTY
2,525 TOTAL CASES
30 TOTAL DEATHS
661 Cases per 100,000 People

School Reopening Task Force

Reopening Plan

- Health and Safety Plan
- Academic Plan
- Whole Child Support Plan
- Operations Plan
 - Buildings
 - Transportation
 - School Nutrition
 - Extracurricular Activities
 - Childcare
- Communication Plan
- Professional Development, Training, and Reopening Culture Plan



Task Force Roles

Stakeholders' Ranked Priorities

1. Protecting student and staff **health**
1. Supporting students' **social and emotional needs**
1. Having **options** for learning (in-person, remote)
1. Maximizing **in-person learning**
1. Ensuring I have **child care/**
Knowing I have **a place to go** during the day [students]

Task Force Co-Chairs

Description of Co-Chairs' responsibilities: Responsible for organizing the structure and comprehensive development of the District's reopening plan. Leads Task Force meetings, facilitates discussions, and serves as an interface between the School Reopening Taskforce and the District's leadership team for input, recommendations, and critical feedback.

Task Force Members

Description of members' responsibilities: Attend and actively participate in the School Reopening Task Force meetings and subcommittee meetings, where applicable; provide role-aligned insight and expertise to inform Reopening priorities and next steps; gather input and expertise from your sector to guide Task Force work; complete information-gathering and reporting tasks with subcommittees, where necessary.

Task Force Members

Parents:

- **Sarah Marquez Berestecky, Missionary Ridge**
- Rebecca Aslinger, Rock Point
- Cheryl Cambron, CTE/Early College
- Tonia Martin, Harrison Bay
- Lakitta Taylor, MidTown
- Christy Highfill, North River

Teachers:

- Jill Phillips, Harrison Elementary
- Joli Brown, Ooltewah Middle
- Sarah Ginsberg, East Ridge Elementary
- James Cunningham, Clifton Hills Elementary
- Lauren Brock, Soddy Daisy Middle
- Emily McDonald, Red Bank High
- **Ashley Cox, The Howard School**

Principals:

- **Shane Harwood, Signal Mountain Middle High**
- Lakesha Carson, East Lake Academy
- Ruth Pohlman, McConnell Elementary

Community and District Leaders:

- Jenny Hill/Tiffanie Robinson, School Board
- Molly Blankenship, Chattanooga 2.0
- Rachel Gammon, Northside Neighborhood House
- Stacy Johnson, La Paz
- Warren Wells, Unum
- Amanda Johns/Erin Washington, TVA
- Lauren Hawkins, Ham. Co. Health Dept.
- **Dr. Charles Woods, Children's Hospital**
- **Dr. Stephen Adams, Erlanger Medical Center**
- Jeanette Omarkhail, HCEA
- Sheryl Fletcher, HCS School Health
- Garfield Adams, HCS Ex. Ed.
- Robert Sharpe, HCS Learning Community

Students:

- Macy Tidmore, Chair, Student Advisory
- Rowan Perry, Vice Chair, Student Advisory

Task Force Timeline

May 12 - Announce Task Force Formation

- Announce Guiding Principles

May 21 - School Board Update

June 4 - 1st Task Force Meeting

- Project update
- Feedback: Issues, concerns, priorities
- Survey Review

June 11 - Task Force Meeting

- Review Reopening Feedback
- Survey Data Review
- Review Potential Phase 2 Schedules

Establish Subcommittees

June 18 - Task Force Meeting Subcommittee Reports

- School Aged Child Care: Lessons Learning
- Subcommittee Recommendations
 - Operations Plan
 - Academic Plan
 - Support Plan
 - Communication Plan
 - Health & Safety

June 26 - Task Force Small Group Meetings

- Reopening Plan Feedback



Reentry Plan

What the plan is:

- A framework to guide our implementation plans.
- The Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) for HCS.

What the plan is not:

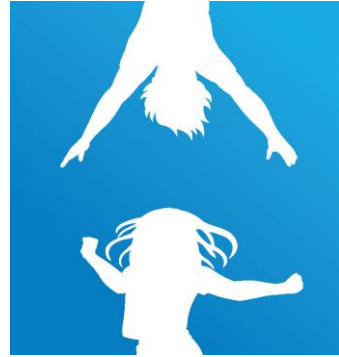
- A “How To” document.
- “Set in stone,” i.e., the plan will require modification as we learn more.
- A school or child-specific operation manual.

HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

REENTRY & CONTINUOUS LEARNING PLAN
2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

School Reopening Task Force

Stakeholder Surveys



Reopening Survey 2.0

The survey items were designed to:

1. Gather initial feedback on the **Phased Approach** to reentry.

a. Do you understand the phased approach?

2. Solicit initial feedback on **Family Options for Learning**.

a. Do you understand the options available to your family?

b. Which option would your family choose if school opened today?

c. By what date would you be able to make a final determination?

3. Seek initial feedback on the **Draft Reentry & Continuous Learning Plan**.

a. Open-ended feedback by category: Health & Safety; Academic; Whole Child Supports; Operations; Communications; Professional Development and Training.

Survey 2.0, Preliminary Results

Again,
Significant
Participation:
20,000+
Individual
Survey
Responses

Comm. Mem.

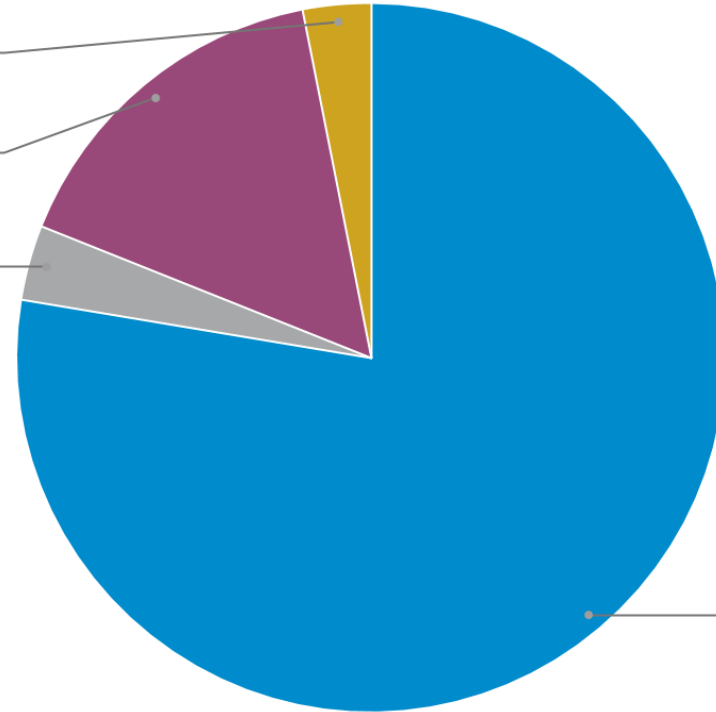
3.1%

HCS Employee

15.9%

HCS Student

3.4%



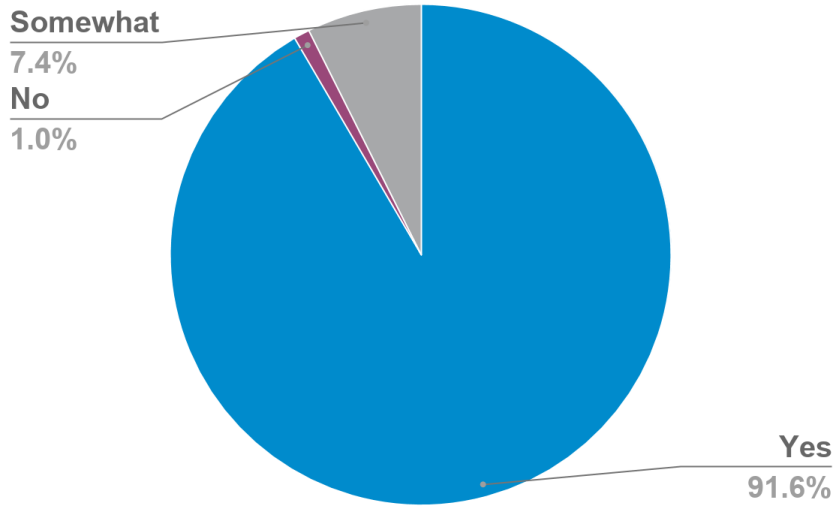
HCS Parent

77.6%

Survey 2.0, Preliminary Results

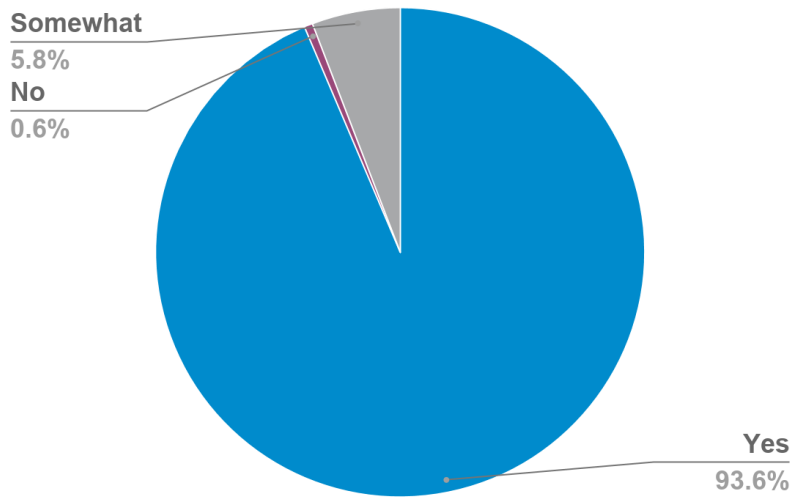
Gather initial feedback on the **Phased Approach** to reentry.

Do you understand the phased approach?



Solicit initial feedback on **Family Options for Learning**.

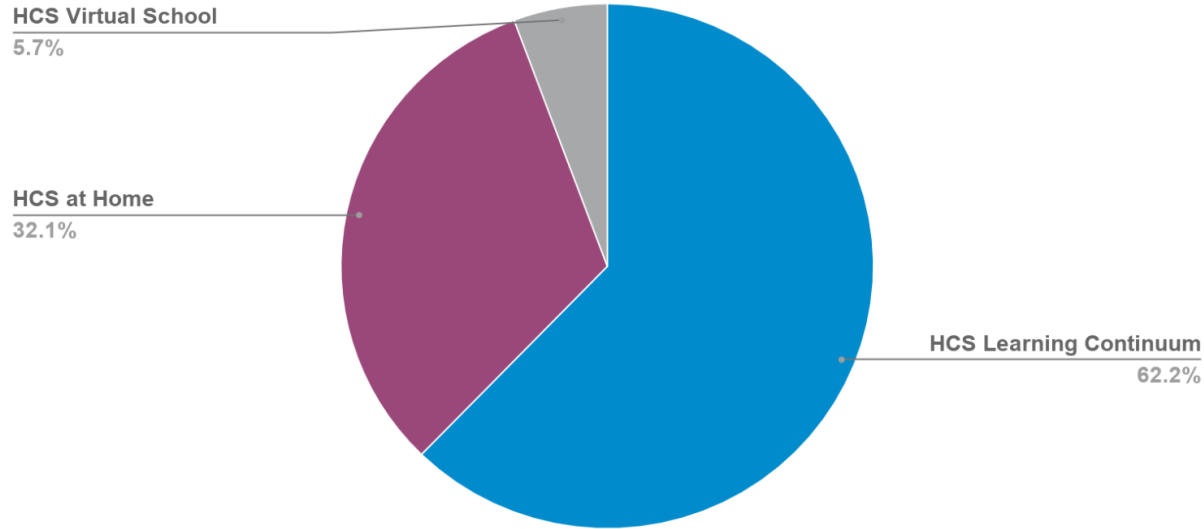
Do you understand the options available to your family?



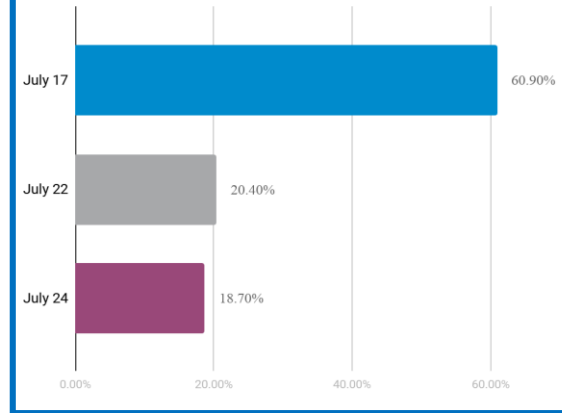
Survey 2.0, Preliminary Results

Solicit initial feedback on Family Options for Learning.

Which option would your family choose if school opened today?



By what date would you be able to make a final determination?

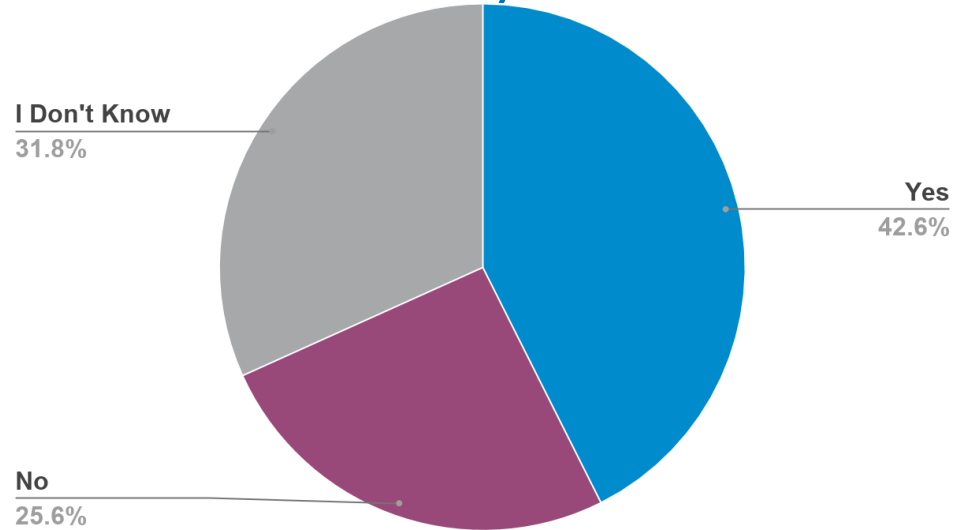


Survey 2.0, Preliminary Results

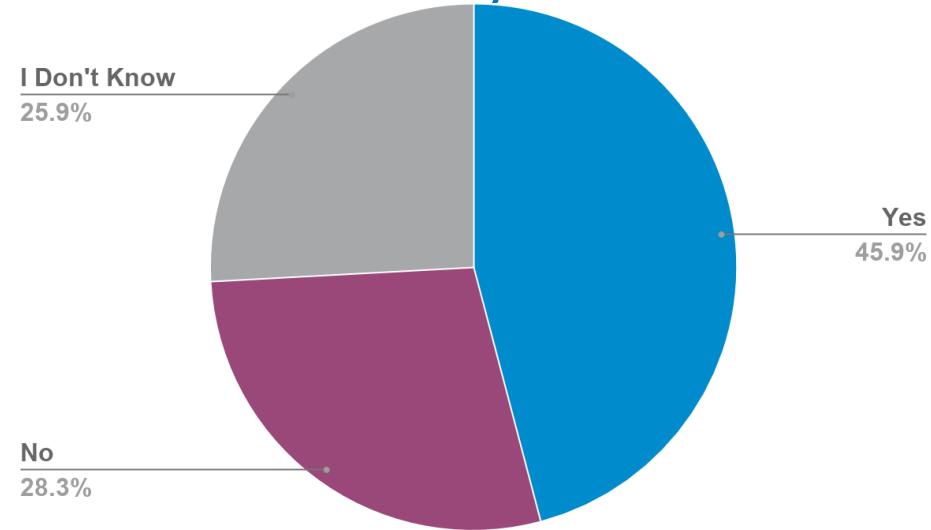
Gauge the number of families and students that **plan to return to school** in person in August.

Would you return to school or send your child back to school in person on August 12, 2020?

Survey 1.0



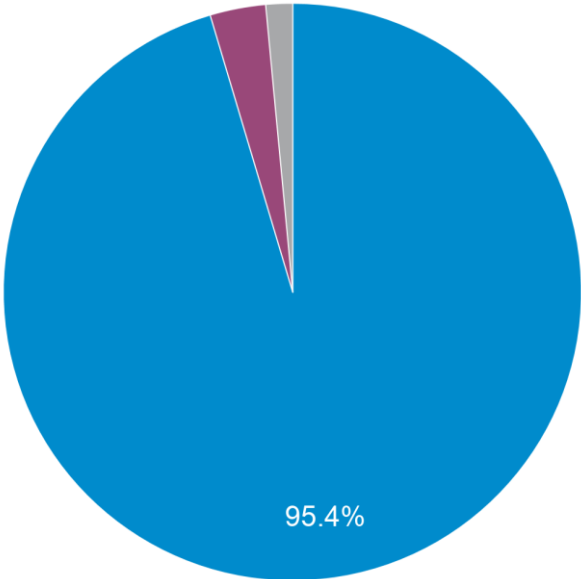
Survey 2.0



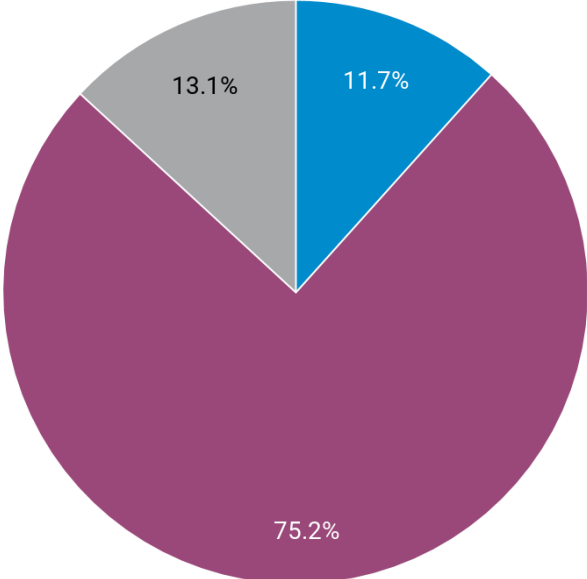
Survey 2.0, Preliminary Results

Would you return to school or send your child back to school in person on August 12, 2020?

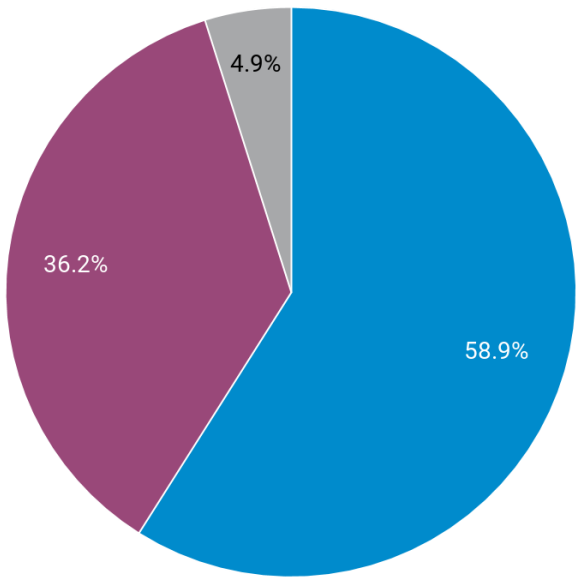
Answered "Yes"



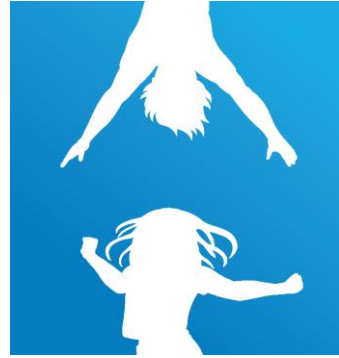
Answered "No"



Answered "I Don't Know"

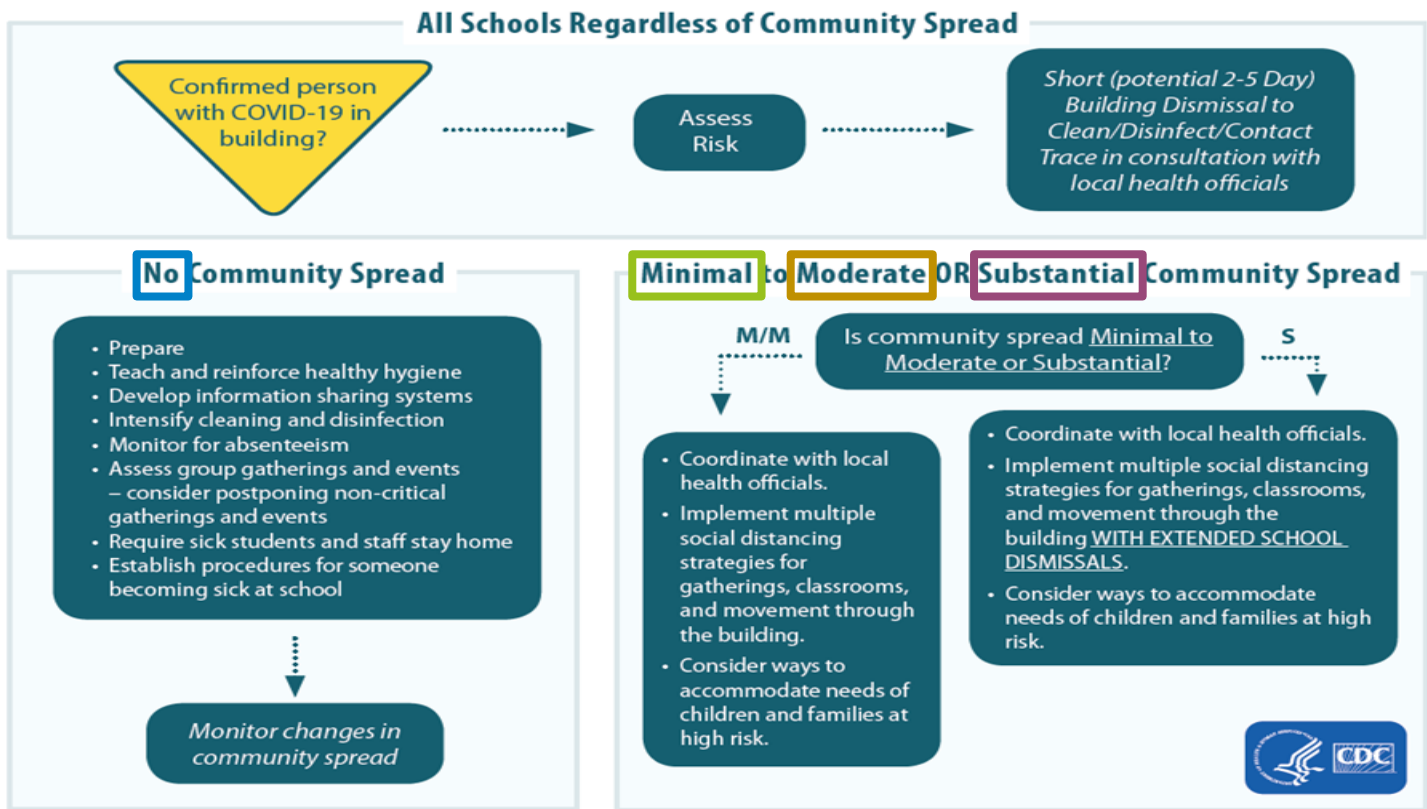


Phases and Gating Criteria



Guidance for Baseline Phases

School Decision Tree



Phases

PHASE 1

Risk of spreading of COVID-19 is significant.
Requires Significant Mitigation.

Remote Learning

All schools are closed.

PHASE 2

Risk of spreading COVID-19 is moderate but increasing.
Requires Moderate Mitigation.

Hybrid Learning

Reduced days on campus at all schools.

PHASE 3

Risk of spreading COVID-19 is minimal.
Requires Minimal Mitigation.

School Specific

Schools are open, some campuses hybrid or remote learning.

PHASE 4

No risk of community transmission of COVID-19.
Requires little to no Mitigation.

On Campus

All schools are open.

Baseline Reopening Phases

Phase 1: Risk of spreading of COVID-19 is significant. *Requires Significant Mitigation.*

All schools are closed. Students not physically attending school and are completing coursework through remote learning. HCS is prepared to support students' well-being and academic development remotely for an extended period of time.

Phase 2: Risk of spreading COVID-19 is moderate but increasing. *Requires Moderate Mitigation.*

Reduced on-campus hours for all schools, with two days per week of face-to-face instruction for each student. Students will work remotely the remaining three days of the week, resulting in a hybrid learning model. Short-term closure procedures (remote learning) will occur for COVID-19 affected buildings. Phase 2 health and safety guidelines are in place.

Baseline Reopening Phases

Phase 3: Risk of spreading COVID-19 is minimal. *Requires Minimal Mitigation.*

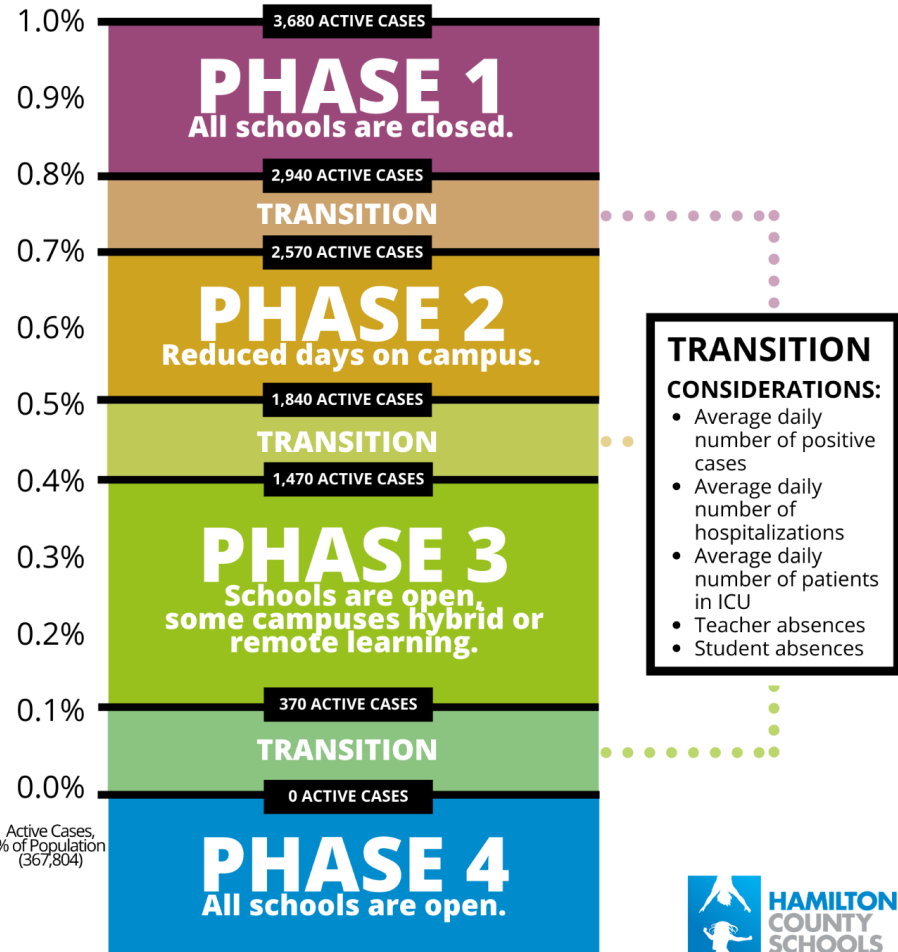
Schools are open; however, short-term closure procedures will occur for COVID-19 affected buildings. These short-term closures may be followed by reopening with reduced on-campus hours (moving between remote and hybrid learning). Phase 3 health and safety guidelines are in place.

Phase 4: No risk of community transmission of COVID-19. *Requires little to no Mitigation.*

All schools are open. Curriculum delivered on campus via face-to-face instruction, with blended learning strategies that integrate digital resources. HCS will monitor and be prepared to react to identification of COVID-19 positive tests that affect staff members or students. Additional health and safety guidelines may be enacted in consultation with the Health Department.

PROPOSED HCS GATING CRITERIA

PHASE THRESHOLDS & CONSIDERATIONS



Gating Criteria

- HCS will communicate **Phase and Transition status** based on public health data.
- The key criterion is the number of **active cases as a % of total residents** in Hamilton County.
 - Hamilton County Health Department defines “active cases” and publicly reports this data daily.
- HCS will notify families and staff if there is a change in status.
- Operational details for each phase is contained in **HCS Reentry & Continuous Learning Plan**.

Hamilton County COVID-19 Data

Hamilton County Coronavirus (COVID-19) Current Case Information July 1, 2020

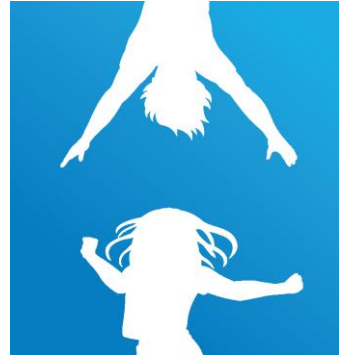
Case Status / Estado del caso	Cases / Casos	%
Number of Cases / Número de casos	2,643	100%
Recovered / Recuperados	1,535	58%
Deaths / Muertes	30	1%
Number of Active Cases / Número de casos activos	1,078	41%
Epi-linked Cases / Casos relacionados epidemiológicamente	1,051	40%

<p>July 1: Status - Phase 3 COVID-19 Infection Rate - 0.29% 1078 Active Cases</p>	<p>Increasing Trends</p>	<p>Transition from Phase 3</p>	<p>Transition from Phase 2</p>	<p>Movement to Phase 1</p>
<p>2 day increase of 176 active cases.</p>	<p>% of active cases relative to Hamilton County Population of ~367,804</p>	<p>COVID spread is between 0.4% to 0.5% in the community. More than ~1500 but less than 1800 active cases.</p>	<p>COVID Spread between 0.7% to 0.8% in the community. More than ~2500 but less than 2900 active cases.</p>	<p>COVID Spread greater than 0.8% in the community. More than ~2900 active cases.</p>
<p><i>0 schools closed to due to infections.</i></p>	<p>School Closure</p>	<p>Monitoring school closures during a 2-week period due to infections.</p>	<p>Monitoring school closures during a 2-week period due to infections.</p>	<p>Move based on school closures during a 2-week period due to infections.</p>
<p>3 week decreasing trend of daily positive cases. Trending up this week.</p>	<p>Secondary Trends for decisions</p>			
<p>1 week decreasing trend of hospitalizations. Trending up this week.</p>	<p>Positive Cases</p>	<p>Average daily number of positive cases increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of positive cases increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of positive cases increasing.</p>
<p>2 week decreasing trend of ICU Patients. Trending up this week.</p>	<p>Hospitalizations</p>	<p>Average daily number of hospitalizations increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of hospitalizations increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of hospitalizations increasing.</p>
<p><i>N/A Teachers absent.</i></p>	<p>ICU Patients</p>	<p>Average daily number of patients in ICU increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of patients in ICU increasing.</p>	<p>Average daily number of patients in ICU increasing.</p>
<p><i>N/A Students absent.</i></p>	<p>Teacher Absences</p>	<p>Teacher absences increasing.</p>	<p>Teacher absences increasing.</p>	<p>Teacher absences increasing.</p>
	<p>Student Absences</p>	<p>Student absences increasing.</p>	<p>Student absences increasing.</p>	<p>Student absences increasing.</p>



**SCHOOL REOPENING
TASK FORCE**

Academic Plan



Hamilton County Schools

Expects Excellence



Every student deserves access to an **excellent teacher**.



Every teacher deserves access to an **excellent leader**.



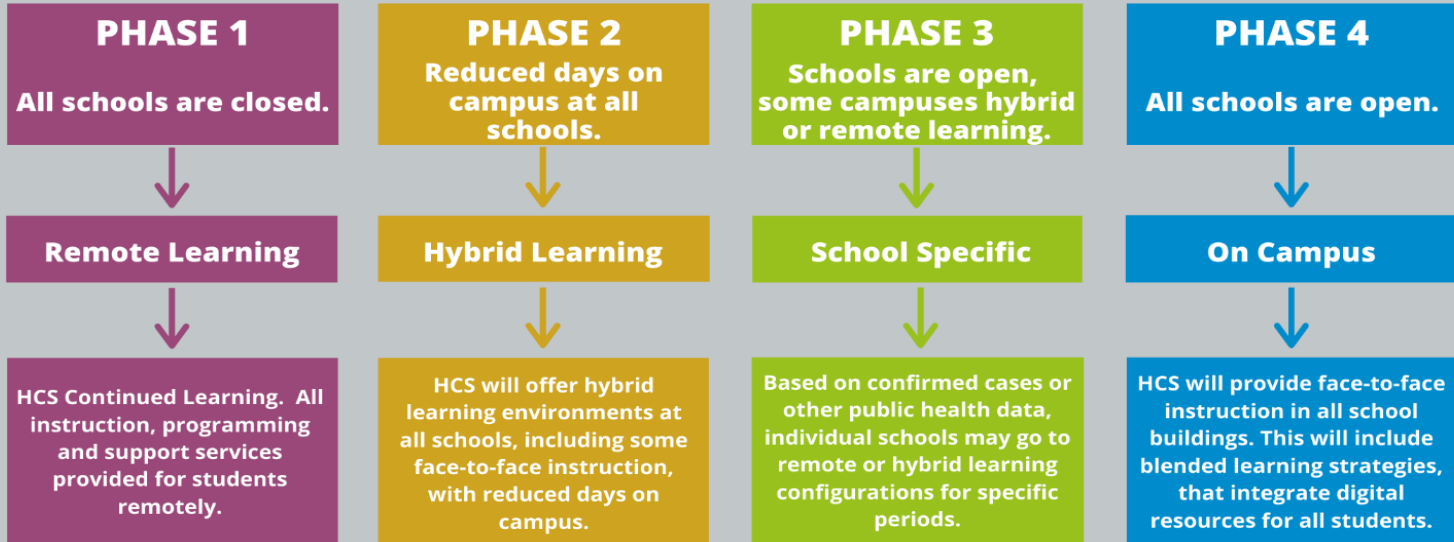
Every school deserves access to **excellent resources** to meet the diverse needs of students.

Academic Plan



FAMILY OPTIONS FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

OPTION 1: HCS Learning Continuum Plan



OPTION 2: HCSatHome Program

All HCS families have the option to choose our HCSatHome remote learning program with their base school for the full semester, regardless of what phase the district is in for face-to-face instruction. Families must register ahead of each semester for the 2020-2021 school year.

OPTION 3: Hamilton County Virtual School

This program requires enrolling at Hamilton County Virtual School as your child's base school. The programming is self-directed and self-paced, with more reliance on families for curriculum support and engagement. This school supports students in grades K-12.

Academic Plan

PHASE 2

Reduced days on campus at all schools.

Student Cohort A

Monday



Tuesday



Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



Student Cohort B



HCS at Home



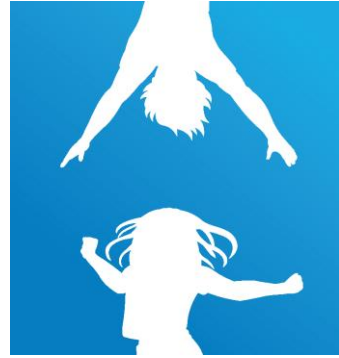
Enhanced
Disinfecting
Between Cohorts



- *Why* HCS at Home:
 - **Provides families an options** for remote learning connected to their base school.
 - **Minimize disruption** to staffing, funding, and scheduling at the school level.
- HCS at Home is likely to attract **~30%** of students across all schools.
 - In Phases 3 and 4: Between 60 - 80% of students on campus, in physical classrooms.
 - In Phase 2 (50% Schedule): Between 30 - 40% of students on campus, in classrooms.
- Students receiving Exceptional Education services and English Language Learners will have **additional supports** during Phase 2 to meet statutory requirements.
- HCS at Home **Sign-up** - **Wednesday, July 8 - Wednesday, July 22**
 - Semester-Long Commitment
- District-wide minimum **expectations** for HCS At Home
 - HCS at Home Handbook and Orientation



Whole Child Support Plan



Whole Child Support Plan

Goal: Respond to individual student needs, so every child can perform at high levels and access a full range of social, emotional, and academic supports.

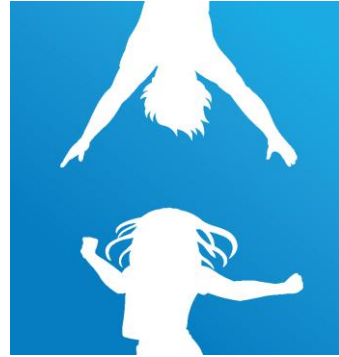
- Counseling and Social Emotional Learning
 - Collaborate and lead the efforts of **connecting with all students** while intentionally focusing on unreachable students.
- English Language Learners
 - Provide English Language Learners **opportunities** to develop English language proficiency to support **academic success**.
- Exceptional Education
 - Work with parents and students to provide **exceptional education supports** to students via multiple communication methods.
- Social Work and Attendance
 - Identify student needs, services in place, and **gaps needing closure**.
 - Ensure a tiered attendance plan is implemented to support students.



**SCHOOL REOPENING
TASK FORCE**

Operations Plan

School Buildings, Transportation, School Nutrition,
Extracurricular Activities, and Childcare



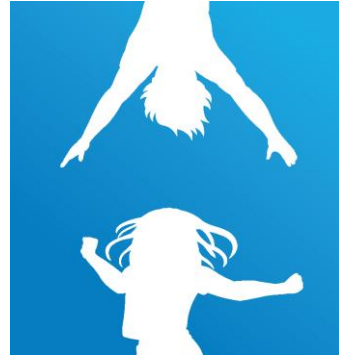
Operations Plan

Goal: Provide guidance and understanding of operational plans in each reopening phase.

- School Buildings - Guidance for **building entry** and **staff protections**.
- Transportation - **Expectations for students and drivers** for bus transportation, including mandatory face coverings for all students, drivers, and assistants.
- School Nutrition - Plan for safely providing **meals** for employees and students.
- Extracurricular Activities - **Guidance** for extracurricular opportunities, including:
 - NFHS Guidance for a Return to High School Marching Band.
 - NFHS Guidance for Return to High School Athletics and Activities.
- Childcare - Adapt to **support parents and teachers**.



Communications Plan



Communications Plan

Goal: Effectively communicate the processes and procedures developed by the Task Force to safely open schools for students and staff.

- Objectives

- Reach all **staff members** with the plan for reopening schools by July 17.
- Reach **all parents** with the plan for reopening schools before the end of July.
- Ensure the **community** is aware of the plan to reopen safely for students and staff in August.

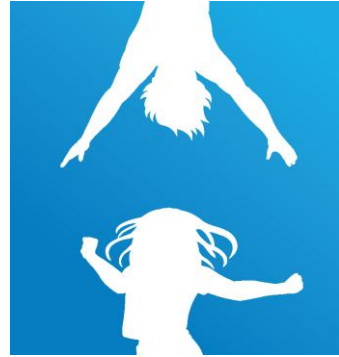
- Strategies

- Weekly Town Hall Meetings.
- Parent University Sessions.
- Communications to students' homes spearheaded by school leaders.
- Regular video updates.
- Intentional communication for Latinx community.



**SCHOOL REOPENING
TASK FORCE**

**Professional Development & Training
Plan**



Professional Development & Training Plan

Goal: Effectively communicate the processes and procedures developed to safely open schools for students and staff.

- Beginning of School:
 - New Teacher orientation
 - Teacher orientation
 - Support Staff orientation
 - Parent orientation
 - Student orientation
- During the School Year:
 - Just in time orientations for movement between Phases
 - New Teacher Support
 - Whole Teacher = Well Teacher



**SCHOOL REOPENING
TASK FORCE**

Health & Safety Plan



Health & Safety Plan

Goal: Focus on the fundamentals of health and safety to assess and mitigate risk in all phases during this upcoming school year.

- **Protect high risk employees:**
 - Administer a COVID-19 return to work questionnaire.
 - Human Resources will work with employees regarding potential reasonable accommodations.
- **Prevention for Students, Staff and Families:**
 - Stay at home when sick or symptomatic.
 - Wearing cloth face coverings in public settings.
 - Reinforce handwashing and use of hand sanitizer.
- **Classroom and School Guidelines**
- **Disinfecting Protocols**

Face Coverings



Phillip Fulmer ✓
@phillipfulmer

Everybody keeps asking me if we're going to be playing football with fans this season. Truth is, Vol fans statewide can help determine that outcome.

From now through kickoff, masks are a must.















Objectives

1. Stay in school **5 days** a week, minimize school closures, avoid moving to Phase 2.
2. Stay in school **2 days** a week, avoid school closures, avoid closing schools.
3. **Minimize** the number of students and staff in a 10 to 14 day quarantine.
 - a. Being a positive case
 - b. Being exposed to a positive case



Face Coverings

- Following TN Department of Health Guidance:
 - Stay at home when sick.
 - Wear cloth face coverings in public settings when around people, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
 - Reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use of hand sanitizer when soap and water are not readily available.

Chance of Transmission	Asymptomatic COVID-19 Carrier	Uninfected Person
VERY HIGH		
HIGH		
MEDIUM		
LOW		
VERY LOW		 6 + feet
VIRTUALLY NONE		

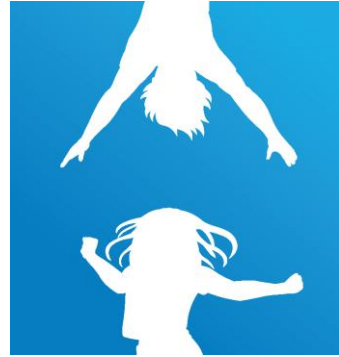
Face Coverings

- Phase 2 and 3: Schools are on a reduced schedule or open with short term closures in some buildings. Risk of spreading COVID-19 is minimal to moderate.
 - **All students and staff are required to wear a face mask except as noted below.** The only exception is unless they are in a well-ventilated space that will accommodate social distancing. A mask will not be required when outdoors or in a large indoor space such as a gymnasium in which social distancing can be maintained.
 - **It is recommended but not required that K-2 students wear masks in the classroom,** as long as they are in a cohort with the same group of students.
 - **Masks are always required when in the building outside the classroom for all students and staff, even for K-2 students.**
 - Each school will provide safe space and time during the school day for students to remove masks.



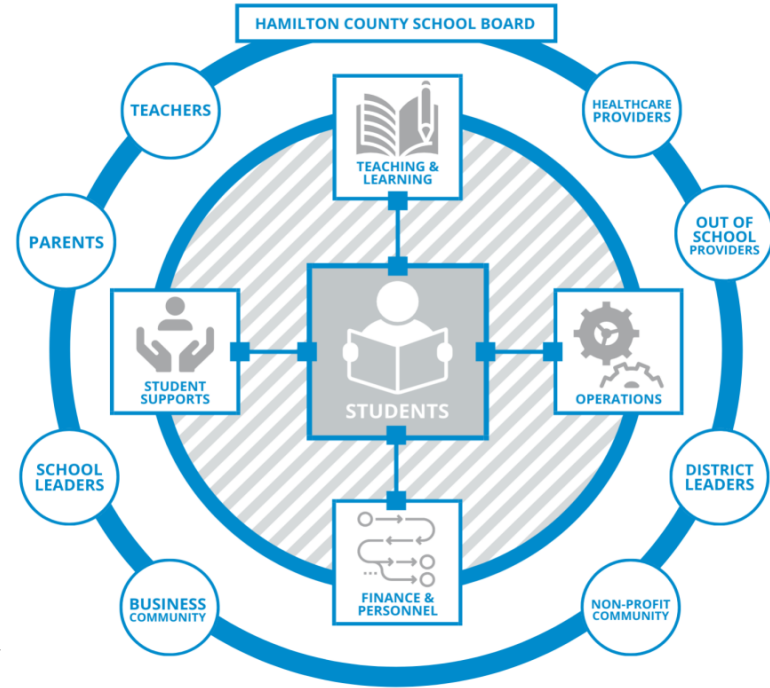
**SCHOOL REOPENING
TASK FORCE**

Next Steps



Stakeholders' Ranked Priorities

- ✓ Protecting student and staff **health**
- ✓ Supporting students' **social and emotional needs**
- ✓ Having **options** for learning (in-person, remote)
- ✓ Maximizing **in-person learning**
- ✓ Ensuring I have **child care/**
Knowing I have a place to go during the day



Next Steps

- Begin **multiple layers** of communications:
 - Update Hamilton County Schools Website in real-time.
 - Send frequent internal and external messages to all stakeholders.
 - Direct communications specifically to HCS parents.
 - Hold Weekly Town Hall Meetings.
 - Conduct Parent University Sessions.
- Continue developing **implementation and operating plans** within departments and schools:
 - Prepare for teachers to return on August 6.
 - Prepare for students to return on August 12.

Next Steps

- Wednesday, July 8 - Wednesday, July 22: **Sign-up** for remote learning options.
- Summer **REACH Program**: Monday, July 13 to Friday, July 31
- Submission of the **Continuous Learning Plan (CLP)** to Tennessee Department of Education: Friday, July 24
 - Approximately **95%** of the Reentry Plan addresses the submission rubric.



Hamilton County Schools
Will Be the **Best** School
District in Tennessee.

IV. Reopening Orientation

V. Adjourn
