

Spring In-Person Learning Orientation



Morey Elementary School
March 24, 2021





Welcome!!!



***We can't wait to welcome
your children back to the
Morey School!***

State Regulations about Elementary Schools

While continuing to allow all families the option of full-time remote learning for the remainder of this year, the Commissioner of DESE released the following timeline for returning students to full-time in-person learning:

Elementary school phase (grades K-5): Districts and schools are required to shift their learning model for elementary school grade levels to full-time, in-person instruction five days per week effective Monday, April 5, 2021. Pre-K students in Miss Chris' class will remain remote until further notice.



Morey In-Person Expansion

Thank you to all of the families who answered our Dojo messages and phone calls home!

We have about 300 students returning in person and 150 students remaining remote at this time.

5 days of in-person learning for any family who wants it

Transportation for students who live beyond a 2 mile radius from the school

Maintain 6 feet of social distancing when possible with a minimum of 3 feet

No changes to class lists--keep the same teacher

- **May 3rd** - Date families may select in-person from remote learning for grades K-4
- **May 24th** - Date families may select in-person from remote learning for grades K-4



How will this work?

Concurrent Teaching

For our students who have been remote all year...

- Classroom teachers will be teaching all of their students at the same time with some students in-person and some students remote through Zoom or Google Meets.
- Teachers have a Webcam and tripod to connect remote students with the classroom.
- Please be patient the first few days as we take everything we have been learning in professional development and put it into practice.
- Remote learners could be given an asynchronous activity the morning of April 5th to allow for the transition to new classrooms for the in person students.
- Things will be different for everyone. Remote learning will look different because the teacher will also be teaching students in person. In person learning will look different due to the safety protocols.



Operations - Social Distancing

Guidance on In-Person Learning and Student Learning Time Requirements (March 9, 2021, Page 3)

“Since June 2020, DESE guidance has consistently noted that three feet in classrooms is a safe standard for physical distancing when masks are worn and other mitigation strategies are in place based on guidelines from WHO and American Academy of Pediatrics.”

“...While districts should space students further than three feet when feasible, evidence demonstrates that the additional risk reduction associated with six feet as opposed to three feet is low – when masks are worn and other and other mitigation strategies are in place.”

DESE’s approach to physical distancing was endorsed last summer by the Governor’s COVID Command Medical Advisory board, the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and medical experts from Mass General Brigham.

Numerous studies endorse that there are no significant increases in risk when masks are worn by both parties when spaced 1, 3, and 6 feet apart.



Safety Measures in Place

Safety has always been our primary concern.

In-person classrooms are set up with student work spaces six feet apart. (The state and CDC allow us to go to 3 feet, but we don't have to as of today's enrollment numbers.)





Safety Measures in Place

- In all of our concurrent classrooms (with students working in person and remotely), 8-14 students will be in each classroom space.
- Hallways are marked with 6 foot markers.
- Schedules have been set up so different grade levels will be transitioning at different times.





Safety Measures in Place

- All rooms utilized have working windows (except for Rms. 109 and 111)
- Air purifiers in every room used by children
- HVAC system has been inspected and is running correctly and have the high grade (MERV 13) filters
- PPE: hand sanitizer, disinfectant in each classroom, disinfectant fogging schedule, gloves, gowns, masks and face shields available for staff who need to be within 6 feet of your child (for diapering as an example)



Covid Exposure Plan

A Parent's Role:

YOU are our first line of defense!

- If your student is showing symptoms they should remain home and get tested
- If negative, please call the school nurse for next steps.
- If positive student should remain home until cleared by the Lowell Health Department.

Students showing symptoms at school:

- Wait in an isolated space away from others
- Parents called to pick student up
- Health Department will notify parents of positive cases in which their student had close contact



Family Responsibilities for In-Person Learning

How can I help as a parent?

- Maintain typical routines for school days, such as early bedtimes and wake up times to be at school on time.
- Make sure that we have accurate phone numbers and email addresses for you and anyone allowed to pick up your child from school.
- Send your child to school each day wearing a clean mask. Send a second mask in their backpack.
- We will provide bottled water with both meals, but please send your child with a water bottle marked with his or her name to use throughout the day.
- Students are welcome to bring their own hand sanitizer and individual pack of tissues.
- Reach out to us with any questions. We are here to help you!



Procedures & Expectations

- Children will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms to avoid large gatherings and cross contamination. When the weather is nice, students may also eat outside on the grass.
- All bathrooms and common areas will be disinfected regularly.
- All classrooms will be “fogged” every night to thoroughly disinfect everything.
- Students will have time to play outside and enjoy a mask break twice each day while remaining socially distant.
- NO visitors will be allowed into the building, due to COVID, unless scheduled. NO field trips or in person meetings or conferences will be held.



Recess Protocols



- Recess is an important more social, less structured part of the school day for children.
- Teachers will bring students outside for recess (weather permitting) daily.
- Children will remain six feet apart and can remove their masks
- Games that include physical touch (like tag) will be replaced with games that can be played with sufficient space (such as switch or Simon says)
- Students will be able to use equipment. Any used equipment will be disinfected between student use.
- Children will wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before and after recess. “Wash, Play, Wash!”



Masks



- All children and adults will wear masks at all times during the school day.
- Please make sure your child has a mask that fully covers his or her nose and mouth, is secured behind his or her ears, and does NOT have a vent.
- Pack an extra mask if your child won't want to wear a child-size surgical mask.
- Wash masks daily please.
- As part of the daily schedule, all children will have regular mask breaks.



Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

- Arrival: 7:30-7:45 Dismissal: 1:40-1:50
- Arrival and Dismissal Rules:
 - Wear a mask
 - Don't leave the car until a Morey adult is there.
 - Don't be within 6 feet of people you don't live with
 - Use only the sidewalk next to the school. Don't drop off on the other side of Wilder Street.
- Due to Covid, we will not be able to bring children into the building early as we have in the past. When children arrive, they will enter the building, sanitize hands and walk directly to their classrooms. School staff will be in the hallways to direct them.
- Arrival and dismissal may take longer than usual to ensure social distancing. Thank you for being patient as we work to keep everyone safe.



Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

ARRIVAL: 7:30-7:45

PreK: Morey Street--Back Door

LEAP and Walkers (On foot/no car): FRONT DOOR

Car Drop-Offs: Wilder Street Door

Buses: Morey Street--Back Door

- Only children can enter the building
- Must have a mask on
- Must sanitize hands upon entry
- Must maintain 6 feet of distance upon entry
- We must maintain our distance from your cars, etc.



Arrival and Dismissal Procedures

DISMISSAL 1:40-1:50

PreK: Morey Street--Back Door

Kindergarten: "Art Door" on Wilder Street

Grade 1: "Grade 1" Door on Wilder Street

Grades 2-4: Front of building

Buses: Morey Street--Back Door

- Maintain social distancing and be patient
- Must have a mask on
- Sanitize hands upon exit



Attendance & Contact Information

If students are in-person students, they should be in-person to be considered present and if they are remote they should be online.

Please call the office to report absences and send in doctor's notes to excuse absences. Due to COVID rules, we can only dismiss students when you send in a note. We cannot dismiss students after 1:20pm to insure the safety of all students.

Morey School Phone: 978-937-7662

Morey School Fax: 978-937-7663

Principal: Kate McLaughlin kmclaughlin@lowell.k12.ma.us

Asst. Principal: Keliann Woodlock kwoodlock@lowell.k12.ma.us

Social Worker: Tara Gabriel tgabriel@lowell.k12.ma.us

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Lisa Crowley



Communication



Students will continue using Seesaw or Google Classroom.

Teachers will communicate through the **Classdojo** app, their email and by school phone.

Devices (with the cord), hotspots (with the cord) and supplies should be packed up and come back to school with your child.

Your child will usually keep their devices at school unless the teacher deems they are needed at home that night or if we need to close the building.



Operations - Pool Testing

- Pool testing will continue to make our schools safer
- Currently have students and staff at every grade level participating in the program.
- Consent is needed
(Consent form located on the LPS website:
<https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=4570>)
- Open to every student and staff but voluntary to participate





LARGE FRONT



*We look forward to seeing
you on April 5th between
7:30-7:45am!*