

The background of the slide is a collage of four photographs of students in a classroom. The top-left photo shows a young boy with light hair looking down at a yellow pencil. The top-right photo shows a young girl with dark hair and a green shirt laughing. The bottom-left photo shows a young girl with dark hair wearing large green headphones and a pink shirt. The bottom-right photo shows a young girl with dark hair wearing a red hoodie and black headphones, smiling. The text is overlaid on the top half of the collage.

# Lowell Public Schools

# Maximizing Options for Families:

A Safe School Reopening Plan  
Within the Context of COVID-19

*Information Session Presentation*





# Objectives

- 
- Give participants information about the two options for school reopening - remote learning and in-person learning.
  - Inform participants of the safety and health criteria and measures being used to determine the in-person learning option.
  - Provide participants with details about the process for selecting the learning option that best meets your family's needs.





# Reopening Plan: Prioritizing Safety & Maximizing Options



## Maximizing Options for Families

*A Safe School Reopening Plan for Students within the Context of COVID-19*

*Fall 2020 • Approved August 5, 2020*



- The Lowell Public Schools reopening plan prioritizes the safety of our students and staff and is designed to maximize options for families.
- The plan offers families a choice between remote learning or in-person learning.



# Guiding Principles for Starting the School Year

---

1. Our decisions will be guided by the latest health data and input from public health experts. We will be monitoring the rate of positive cases here in Lowell and statewide.
2. We will maximize options for families and will offer a remote learning option as well as an in-person option as long as health data continue to support physically being in our buildings.
3. We make a commitment to equity, with the belief that a public education is a fundamental civil right. Families and students who have historically been underserved have had a voice in the planning process and will have their needs met.





# Factors Considered in Creating the Reopening Plan

- Positivity rate of COVID-19 below 5% threshold
  - Current rate for Lowell (Aug 5) is 1.13%
- Condition of each building (air quality, windows, classroom size)
- Ability to follow and maintain health and safety guidelines
  - Social distancing
  - Disinfecting and sanitizing requirements
- Family survey input
- Guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
- Guidance from the Reopening Task Force



## Considering Your Options for 2020-2021

- What are your child's individual learning needs? Can those needs be met in either an in-person or remote environment?
- Will your child have adult supervision during the day to support the remote learning process or will your child be in need of childcare?
- Will you need bus transportation to school in order to attend in-person? Bus capacity will be limited and students will not be guaranteed transportation. Families may need to be responsible for transporting their own children to school each day.
- Are there any health concerns for your child or members of your immediate household?





## Two Full-Time Models To Meet the Needs of Students

	Full Remote	Full, In-Person
<b>Classroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:1 devices - every student will receive a device</li> <li>• Set school schedule with clear attendance and participation requirements. Students graded on a typical scale.</li> <li>• Mix of live virtual lessons &amp; independent learning across multiple subject areas</li> <li>• Project-based assessment and secure online testing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Typical schedule and curriculum with slight instructional changes to account for safety/social distancing</li> <li>• Students stay with same cohort/class</li> <li>• Standard assessment &amp; grading</li> <li>• 1:1 devices - every student will receive a device</li> </ul>
<b>Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address hotspots/WiFi access</li> <li>• Coordinate delivery or pickup of supplementary materials (i.e. assistive technology)</li> <li>• Can still participate in sports or extracurriculars if available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social distancing/different interactions</li> <li>• Students and staff must wear PPE (i.e. masks)</li> <li>• More limited transportation than previous years</li> </ul>
<b>Meal Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grab and go meal sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students eat meals in classroom</li> </ul>



# *A Day in the life of an Elementary Student...*

## *In-person First Grade Example*

8:45-8:55	Morning Meeting
8:55-9:15	Phonics
9:15-9:30	Phonics Interactive Read Aloud
9:30-9:45	Shared Reading
9:45-11:00	ELA
11:00-11:30	Writing
11:35-12:15	Lunch/Recess
12:15-12:35	SS/Sci/Math Sprints
12:35-1:25	Specials
1:25-2:25	Math
2:25-2:50	SS/Sci

## *Full Remote 1st Grade Example*

Time	Regular Work Day
9:00-9:30	Morning Meeting with Homeroom Teacher
9:30-10:20	Specials
10:20-11:50	Math Block - Independent and small group instruction
11:50-12:10	Recess
12:10-12:35	Lunch
12:35-2:30	ELA Block to include Literacy Instruction and Reading, Writing, Phonics/Word Work – Independent and small group instruction
2:30-3:00	Science or Social Studies





# *A Day in the life of a Middle School Student...*

## ***In-Person*** ***5th Grade Example***

7:30-8:00	Students Arrive
8:00-8:55	Morning HR
9:00-10:05	ELA
10:05-10:20	Mask Break
10:20-11:25	Math
11:25-12:00	WIN
12:00-12:30	Lunch
12:30-1:15	AA
1:15-1:30	Mask Break
1:30-2:00	Science
2:00-2:30	SS
2:30-2:50	Mask Break

## ***Full Remote*** ***5th Grade Example***

8:00-9:00	ELA content
9:00-10:00	Math content
10:00-11:00	Elective
11:00-11:30	Lunch
11:30-12:30	Science Content
12:30-1:30	Social Studies
1:30-2:00	Progress Monitoring



# *A Day in the life of a High School Student...*

## *In-Person 9th Grade Example*

7:40	Entry	ADV
7:55	ADV/Breakfast	ADV
8:15	P1	Algebra
9:05	P2	Science
9:55	P3	Health
10:45	4A/L1	Social Studies
11:10	4B	Social Studies
11:35	5A/L2	Spanish
12:00	5B	Spanish
12:25	6A/L3	Lunch
12:50	6B	English
1:15	L4	English
1:40	P7	Seminar
2:30	Dismissal	Home

## *Full Remote 9th Grade Example*

8:00-8:55	ELA
8:55-9:50	Math
9:50-10:45	Elective
10:45-10:55	Break
10:55-11:50	Elective
11:50-12:45	Science
12:45-1:00	Break
1:00-1:55	Social Studies
1:55-2:15	Advisory



# Learning Management System (LMS)

- ❑ Learning Management System (LMS) - Provides schools and districts with classroom and student management resources, customized support, and an array of K-12 courses aligned to the Massachusetts Framework Standards.
- ❑ Teacher Training & Professional Development - Professional development consisting of webinars, consultation sessions, and additional support materials and resources. LPS teacher training dates and topics flexible to meet the needs of districts and schools
- ❑ Client Hosted Model - Courses taught by Lowell Public School teachers, modeled after in-person FLIPPED instructional model.





# Learning Management System (LMS)

- ❑ Courses may be customized to meet the needs of the District, teachers and students. Content may be added to existing course content by teachers. Existing content may also be moved to align with scope and sequence of District curriculum maps. Grades will be determined by teachers.
- ❑ Technical Support - LMS offers technical support to assist students with login issues, platform related functionality, technical questions relating to finding a course, and/or help with submitting assignments and provides districts access to a support team to assist with questions and provide technical support for teachers and administrators.





# How to Select Your School Placement

- If a family would like in-person instruction on campus, they need to opt-in through an application.
  - The application will be available on the LPS website and will be emailed to you.
  - The application period will be August 19 - August 27, 2020.
  - If more families opt-in than there are available seats (based on revised capacity numbers due to social distancing and health and safety protocols), a lottery will be held to determine who will be able to attend school in-person. A student's place in the lottery will be determined by a weighting system.
  - Families opting for in-person instruction will be notified about their placement for the 2020-2021 school year beginning on September 4.
- Families wishing to participate in remote learning do not need to fill out an application.





# Building Capacity for In-Person Learning

	Bailey	Cardinal	Greenhalge	Laura Lee	Lincoln	Adie Day	McAuliffe	McAvinne	Moody	Morey	Murkland	Paw. Memorial	Reilly	Shaughnessy	Washington	Bartlett	Pyne/Arts	Stem	Butler	Daley	Leblanc	RIVERSIDE BRIDGE	Robinson	Stoklosa	Sullivan	Wang	Career Academy	Lowell High & EA
<b>FACILITY</b>																												
Windows which open	102	111	168	55	141	n/a	136	140	148	117	150	195	416	108	124	337	237	265	120	238	81	24	140	55	410	444	68	1270
Windows which do not open	62	9	1	2	33	n/a	70	0	0	0	52	0	0	14	0	19	8	15	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	250
Classroom Filters in Building	21	0	34	0	28	n/a	30	40	0	0	32	42	27	24	0	43	32	42	30	60	0	0	30	8	48	50	0	0
Classroom Filters remaining to be changed	0	0	34	0	4	n/a	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	0
<b>SAFETY EQUIPMENT</b>																												
# of foggers needed for start of school (to be procured)	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1
Foggers on hand now	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5
# of handwashing stations needed for start of school	63	14	62	6	55		55	55	14	43	50	75	37	53	15	54	81	37	34	76	13	8	58	26	41	53	8	228
# of hand sanitizing stations now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
# of hand sanitizing stations (to be procured)	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Air purifiers needed for start of school	24	9	30	6	31	14	34	44	16	32	29	39	30	26	26	34	42	55	28	26	11	8	47	46	43	43	11	202
Air purifiers on hand now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dividers/barriers planned for front desk(to be procured)	18	18	18	5	18	5	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	5	18	18	18	18	5	66
Dividers/barriers emplaced now	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>BUILDING SUPPLIES</b>																												
Hand Sanitizer (Gallons)	52	19	65	13	67	30	74	95	35	69	63	84	65	56	56	74	91	119	61	56	24	17	102	100	93	93	24	302
Hand Sanitizer (on hand)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	136
Soap Dispensers In Place	59	11	52	6	27		31	49	10	36	45	20	32	39	11	40	66	15	28	57	9	8	35	21	32	31	8	194
Soap Dispensers to be procured	4	3	10	0	28	0	24	6	4	7	5	55	5	14	4	14	15	22	6	19	4	0	23	5	9	22	0	34
Waste disposal Medium																												
<b>SAFETY MESSAGING</b>																												
Social Distancing Signs																												
Markings for Desk Spacing																												
Bathroom Signage																												
Elevator Signage																												

*\*Revised as of 8/10/20*





# Building Capacity for In-Person Learning

	Bailey	Cardinal	Greenhalge	Laura Lee	Lincoln	Adie Day	McAuliffe	McAvinnue	Moody	Morey	Murkland	Paw. Memorial	Reilly	Shaughnessy	Washington	Bartlett	Pyne/Arts	Stem	Butler	Daley	Leblanc	BRIDGE	Riverside	Robinson	Stoklosa	Sullivan	Wang	Career Academy	Lowell High & EA	
MA DEPARTMENT PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION																														
Lowell- August 5, 2020- Percent Positivity (Last 14 days)	1.13																													
STAFFING CONSIDERATIONS																														
positive/negative impact on seats (10AUG)	---																													
CAMPUS SEATS																														
																			1 student per 72sqft minimum											
Campus Seats Available Per Square Footage	267	58	294	24	340	x	300	375	165	312	303	387	297	285	231	352	352	531	272	370	TBD	56	483	384	377	380	77	2158		
Possible Additional campus seats available w/ UnConv	60	2	60	0	60	x	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	TBD	0	9	60	60	60	10	250		
2019/2020 Enrollment	481	119	496	26	504	55	505	488	237	507	496	504	494	486	254	486	519	845	566	690	30	46	665	670	682	710	62	3003		
Current seats available (all above considered- 8/10/2020)	120	30	120	20	120	x	120	120	60	140	125	125	125	125	100	140	150	200	150	150	x	40	150	150	150	150	40	500		
Current seats available (all above considered- 8/17/2020)																														
GOAL- approximate campus seats for start of school																														
	Notes: 10AUG- recommend relocating Day School due to current size of classroom spaces; Robinson- Interior Rooms 117, 118, and 119 taken off-line- will not be used at opening.																													

*\*Revised as of 8/10/20*



# How to Select Your School Placement

---

## LOTTERY SYSTEM

- A student's place in the lottery will be determined by a weighting system:
  - Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
  - Students identified with a 504 Plan (for learning related accommodations)
  - Students identified for McKinney Vento services
  - Students identified as English Learners (ELs)
  - Students in entry grades of each level (K-2; 5th grade; 9th grade)
  - Families who have more than one child enrolled in Lowell Public Schools
  - Students of Lowell Public Schools personnel







# How to Select Your School Placement

- Window for submitting an application for the in-person learning lottery is August 19-27.
- A student's choice for where to start the school year (remote or in-person) is not locked in for the entire school year. Families will be given the opportunity to select a different option on a quarterly basis.
- A student's place in the lottery will be determined by a weighting system:
  - Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
  - Students identified with a 504 Plan (for learning related accommodations)
  - Students identified for McKinney Vento services
  - Students identified as English Learners (ELs)
  - Students in entry grades of each level (K-2; 5th grade; 9th grade)
  - Families who have more than one child enrolled in Lowell Public Schools
  - Students of Lowell Public Schools personnel





# How to Select Your School Placement

---

## KINDERGARTEN

- Families who registered their child for kindergarten between May 26-June 30 were entered into the kindergarten lottery. Families who secured a seat through the lottery will be eligible to attend that school in the 2021-2022 school year.
- This coming school year (2020-2021), all kindergarten students will be assigned to their neighborhood school - defined as the school which is in walkable distance to the student's home. This assignment will be for one school year only.
- There may be some exceptions (i.e. students who have older siblings in the school for which they secured a seat through the lottery will be eligible to remain in that school for the 2020-21 school year).





# How to Select Your School Placement

---

- Your initial choice for where to start the school year (remote or in-person) is not locked in for the entire school year. Families will be given the opportunity to select a different option on a quarterly basis.
- Any changes to where a student attends school in 2020-2021 is for the 2020-2021 school year only. Students will revert to their 2019-2020 placement, or in the case of an elementary student transitioning to middle school, the middle school they were going to feed into during the 2021-2022 school year.





# Process of Requesting Transportation

- Once transportation capacity numbers have been determined, LPS will begin the process of assigning available seats to students who have selected and been assigned for in-person learning and have indicated they need transportation.
- If students attend a school outside of the walk zone designated by school policy and state law, they may have to choose family-provided transportation or opt to transfer to a school within walkable distance to their home.
- If demand for transportation exceeds the number of available seats, LPS will conduct a lottery for available seats using a weighted formula which accounts for legal rights of protected student populations and equity considerations. Examples of Weighting Considerations:
  - Students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
  - Students identified with a 504 Plan (for learning related accommodations)
  - Students identified for McKinney Vento services
  - Students identified as English Learners (ELs)
  - Students in entry grades of each level (K-2; 5th grade; 9th grade)
  - Families who have more than one child enrolled in Lowell Public Schools
  - Students of Lowell Public Schools personnel





# Community Outreach

---

## Goal

- To ensure that all families have received clear and meaningful communication from the district that informs their school reopening decision

## Outreach Period:

- **August 7-August 27**
  - Informing families of the two options and process for making the selection.
- **September 4-September 17**
  - Informing families of preparing for school reopening within their child's assignment.





# Community Outreach

---

## OUTREACH STRATEGIES

### **General online info sessions (large groups, 100-500 participants)**

- Interpretation break-out rooms (upon request)
- Spanish language info session

### **Targeted online sessions (medium groups, 20-50 participants)**

- Sessions held in multiple languages (Spanish, Portuguese, Khmer, Swahili, others upon request)
- Session held to address specific populations (i.e. Special Education, McKinney Vento, English Learner, Pre-school, Kindergarten, High School )

### **Targeted in-person sessions (small groups, 8-10 participants)**

- Small groups requested and convened by community organizations





# Community Outreach

---

## OUTREACH STRATEGIES

### Mass Communication

- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram)
- Connect (phone calls and emails)
- Website
- Informational videos / one-page flyers to educate families on various parts of the reopening plan

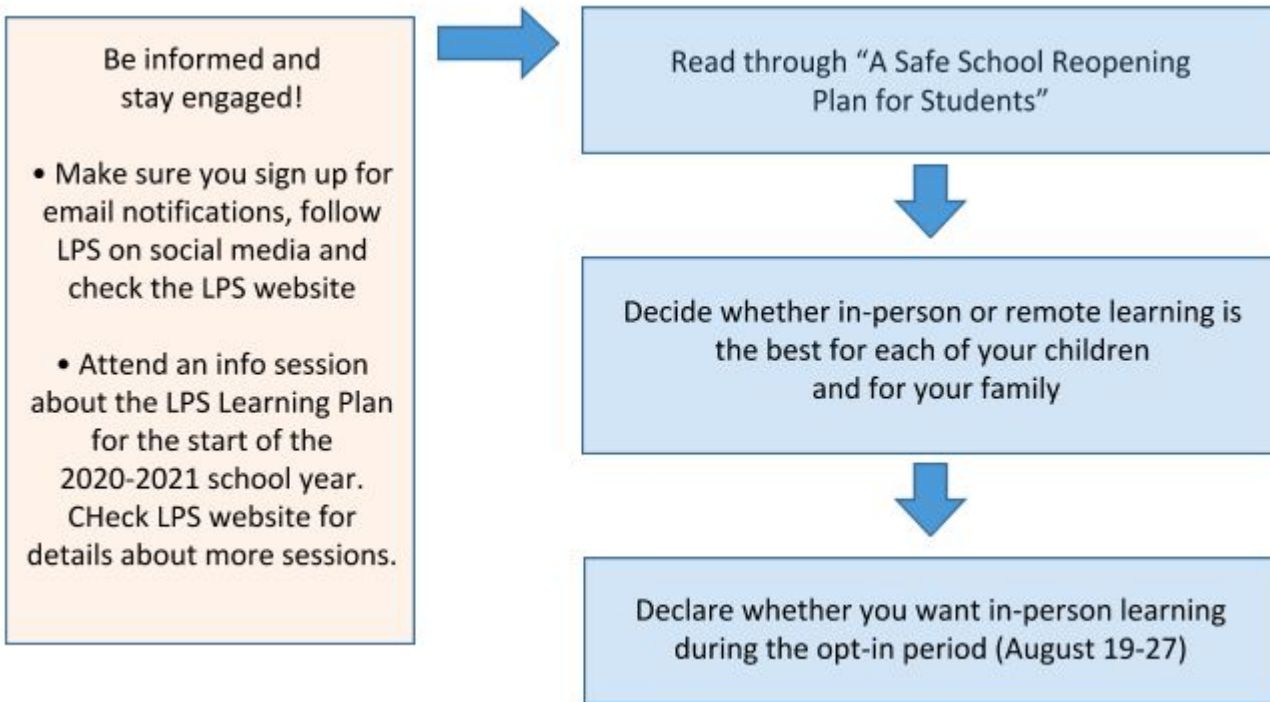
### 1 to 1 Phone Calls

- 15-minute phone calls to reach out to individual families to answer questions and help them understand the process
- Goal to reach 70% of families (approximately 6,500 families and 1,600 hours of calls)





## Considering Your Options for 2020-2021







## Key Dates

- **August 19** - The opt-in form for in-person learning will be made available on this date and sent to families.
- **August 27** - The last date for families to submit the opt-in form for in-person learning.
- **September 4** - Starting on this date, families will be notified of their school placement.
- **September 17** - First day of school





# Questions & Answers

