

# Increasing MS and HS In-Person Instruction

Presentation to the Board of Education

February 10, 2021



# Why start bringing more students back now?

- Even at the beginning of this school year, the district plan was to bring more students back in for in-person instruction as soon as possible.
- Must be a balance between health protocols and instructional needs. Once conditions indicate that more students can come back safely, we need to have a plan to quickly pivot.



# Why start bringing more students back now?

- Positivity rates have been declining across the state and in Nassau County for multiple weeks.
- Vaccinations have begun for educators.
- As the weather improves, more outdoor spaces become available for instructional purposes and lunch.



# Tentative Timeline\*:

- Grade 12, 6 and 8 offered to return to full in-person instruction on or about March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- *Two week review period.*
- Grade 7 and 11 students offered to return to full in-person instruction starting mid-March.
- *Two week review period.*
- Grade 9 and 10 students offered to return to full in-person instruction starting the beginning of April.

\*-tentative timeline is subject to change after each two week review period.



# Plan for bringing more students back for in-person instruction:

- In this scenario, parents of students in grades 6-12 will be able to opt for in-person instruction or remote instruction for their children. The Hybrid model will be eliminated for those grades.
- No changes to class schedules will be required. Students who choose to remain on remote instruction will continue to participate in all classes virtually.
- District will still be using two of the required NYS protocols- Face coverings and physical partitions. Desk shields will be installed on every desk.
- Desks will not be 6 feet apart, but will be separated by the greatest distance possible in each room (no less than traditional spacing of 2-3 feet).



# Plan for bringing more students back for in-person instruction:

- Lunch desks will be separated by 6 feet of social distancing. This will require additional lunch locations, which could impact Physical Education classes and Instrumental Music classes.
- Outdoor spaces could be used for additional lunch areas. We may have to explore open campus for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- All teachers will seat students in alphabetical order to try and limit the number of students impacted by positive cases.
- Parents who are uncomfortable with the structure can have their children move to remote instruction.



# Plan for bringing more students back for in-person instruction:

- Since students will be closer than 6 feet, this may lead to additional students being quarantined when there is a positive case. Quarantined students will participate remotely until their quarantine is complete.
- Contact tracing may take longer, which could lead to additional building closures while contact tracing occurs.
- District will continue to provide weekly, voluntary COVID19 testing for those who want to be tested.



Questions?

