

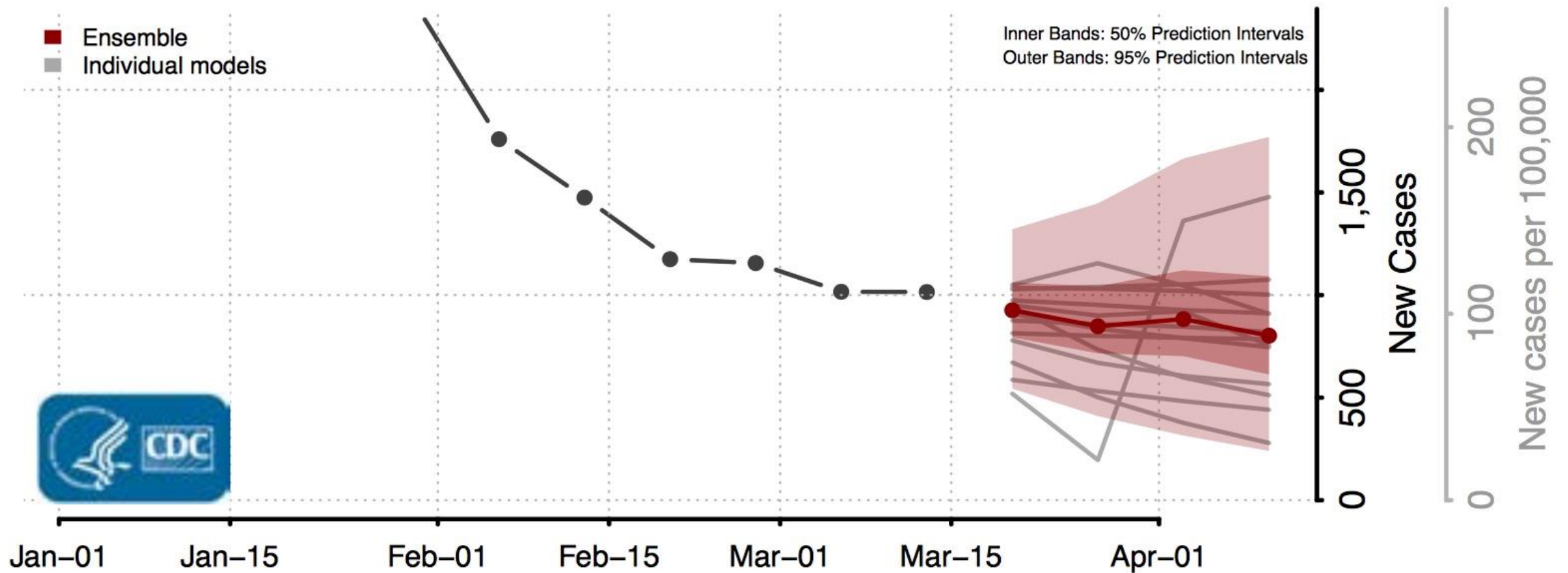
# **Opening Schools in Recovery of Education**

Montgomery County Board of Education

March 23, 2021

# County Metrics

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/coronavirus/dashboard/>



## CDC COVID-19 New Case Forecast for Montgomery County

This graph represents the number of new cases per 100,000 forecasted by 30 groups and compiled by the CDC

# Revised CDC Guidance on Physical Distancing (as of Friday, March 19)

- In elementary schools, CDC recommends all students remain **at least 3 feet apart** in classrooms where mask use is universal — regardless of whether community transmission is low, moderate, substantial, or high.
- Middle school students and high school students should be **at least 6 feet apart** in communities where transmission is high, if cohorting is not possible. This recommendation is because COVID-19 transmission dynamics are different in older students.
- SECONDARY: CDC continues to recommend **at least 6 feet** of distance:
  - Between adults in the school building and between adults and students.
  - In common areas, such as school lobbies and auditoriums.
  - When masks cannot be worn, such as when eating.
  - During activities when increased exhalation occurs, such as singing, band practice, sports.
  - In community settings outside of the classroom.

# Revised CDC Guidance on Physical Distancing (as of Friday, March 19) Continued

**Planning in progress** to identify opportunities and options to implement new guidelines

- Focus on elementary school given CDC parameters

## **Considerations**

- Capacity for school bus transportation
- Classes with 3 feet distancing vs lunch with 6 feet distancing
- Adjustments to school staffing

# Division of Food and Nutrition Services

As of Friday, March 12, 2021:

- Division of Food and Nutrition Services has served more than **13 million meals** in the last year

As of March 15, 2021, serving breakfast, lunch, snack, dinner:

- In-school meal service at 208 schools
- Curbside meal service at 25 schools
- 9 bus stop community and school sites
- 2 morning bulk pickup sites

Providing bulk food boxes for spring break

# Vaccine Update as of March 14, 2021

	Total Names submitted by MCPS
<b>MCEA</b>	<b>14,068</b>
<b>SEIU</b>	<b>9,761</b>
<b>MCAAP/ MCBOA</b>	<b>867</b>
<b>Substitute/ TPT</b>	<b>1,800</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26,496</b>

# Vaccination Overall Snapshot

	Names Submitted for Invitation to Receive Vaccine	# Orders Placed	# of vaccinations Given as of 3/16
Johns Hopkins	15,821	15,821	8,408
DHHS*	10,675	10,675	2,196
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,496</b>	<b>26,496</b>	<b>10,604</b>
Employees who vaccinated on their own and reported to MCPS			2,675
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *County invited 4,595 staff to vaccination clinics on March 15. Updated county information expected by the end of this week.</li> <li>• Names submitted for invitation to receive vaccine have been aligned with the in-person phase in process.</li> <li>• We have also included substitute teachers, temporary part-time employees, monitors, and student teachers.</li> </ul>			



# Discussion

# Reflections: March 15, 2021 Return

# **Instructional Models: VIDEO**

# School Highlights

Ms. Tivinia G. Nelson, principal  
Strathmore Elementary School

Dr. Bobbi Jasper, principal  
Sequoyah Elementary School

# Strathmore Elementary School

## Staff Experience:

- Sustaining relationships, routines, rigor
- Shared leadership
- Operationalizing plans
- Leveraging instructional agility
- Maintaining integrity of instructional program
- Elevating co-teaching
- Navigating logistics

## Student Experience:

- Thriving through relationships, routines, rigor
- Maintaining social emotional, behavioral, and cognitive engagement
- Continuing to access powerful first instruction, small group, and individual support
- Utilizing “Be Like Buddy: Strathmore Re-entry” tutorial to reinforce safety expectations

# Sequoyah Elementary School

## Staff Experience

- Teacher driven design for instruction based on maintaining class community and developmental needs of students (face to face or virtual or simultaneous)
- Continued priority on team planning regardless of model
- Practiced routines to consider needed adjustments

## Student Experience

- Maintained routines from virtual learning, providing a "safe" environment by continuing with same teacher or familiar cohort
- Virtual students able to maintain their quality of learning experience
- Rotational use of cafeteria for lunch and use of outdoor space for recess
- Arrival, dismissal, and hallway transitions based on prior year processes
- Student confidence supported by a new generation of PTA members, leaders, and informed parents/guardians

# Our Sequoyah Elementary School Parent/Guardian Community

A new generation of PTA members with a clear mission to ensure that all students are included and family needs are met

- Regularly met with administration through Zoom, emails, phone calls
- Surveyed staff and parents/guardians to determine what was needed to support a successful instructional experience, regardless of setting; recipient of 3 grants (total=\$12,000) ensuring that students, virtual and in-person, have materials and supplies to maximize learning experience
- Publishing monthly newsletters and producing a podcast series with timely information to help ready parents/guardians and children for virtual or in-person experience
- PTA meetings held through Zoom and Facebook live

# Status on Phased-in Return

- The Board of Education has asked MCPS to explore options to accelerate the safe return of students to in-person learning.
- If we see success with the March 15, 2021, student return, we believe that we may combine phases 2.1 and 2.2 to complete the phase-in by April 19, 2021, the first day of the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period.
- Additionally, while we are urging students and staff not to travel, we know some have delayed essential travel.
- To mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 in schools upon return from spring break, we are transitioning Tuesday, April 6, 2021, from an in-person day to a virtual learning day and keeping Wednesday, April 7, 2021, as a virtual day.
- In-person students scheduled to return on April 6, 2021, will return to buildings on Thursday, April 8, 2021.



# Discussion / Action

# **Updates: SAT and Advanced Placement**

# SAT Updates

- National administrations continuing on Saturdays, monthly since September 2020
- **SAT School Day Spring 2021:** Offered to all Grade 11 students, regardless of in-person status
- **April 13** (Primary) and **April 27** (Makeup)
  - Dates set by College Board
  - 200–400 students per high school
- **Updates:**
  - Asynchronous Day for High Schools Tuesday, April 13, 2021, to accommodate testing and distancing
  - No PSAT Grade 10 during April window/reopening,
    - PSAT will be offered to all at no cost in October 2021

# Advanced Placement (AP) Exam Administration

## **NEW FOR 2020–2021:**

- Three testing windows offered by College Board:
  - May 3–17
  - May 18–28
  - June 1–11
- Three formats offered by College Board:
  - In-person paper/pencil
  - In-person digital
  - At-home digital
- Options differ depending on subject and window
- More than 45,000 exams projected in MCPS

# Overview: Exam Administration Options

WINDOW	IN-SCHOOL EXAMS		AT-HOME EXAMS
	Traditional Paper and Pencil	Digital	Digital
Administration 1 May 3-17	✓ 34 Exams		
Administration 2 May 18-28	✓ 17 Exams	✓ 17 Exams	✓ 17 Exams
Administration 3 June 1-11	✓ 9 Exams	✓ 25 Exams	✓ 25 Exams

# Overview: Exam Administration Options

WINDOW	IN-SCHOOL EXAMS		AT-HOME EXAMS
	Traditional Paper and Pencil	Digital	Digital
Administration 1 May 3-17	✓ 34 Exams		
Administration 2 May 18-28	✓ 17 Exams	✓ 17 Exams	✓ 17 Exams
Administration 3 June 1-11	✓ 9 Exams	✓ 25 Exams	✓ 25 Exams

# MCPS Approach To AP Exams

- Default to **AT-HOME DIGITAL** for most exams
  - Mirror student experience this year, accommodate physical distancing with 45,000 exams, support logistics during reopening
- Languages and Music are required in-person exams that schools will plan to accommodate
- Prioritize seniors in earlier window
- Students may request in-school if optimal testing environment/technology is needed
- Special education accommodations and other unique situations also may request paper/pencil

# Summer Programs 2021



# Guiding Principles

- Engage in unfinished learning with focus on mathematics and literacy
- Build on summer 2020, with more explicit academic focus with some specials/elective options
- Access for all students, with data-driven, intentional outreach based on student need
- Enhanced services to high poverty schools
- Eliminate barriers, no cost to students
- Support student engagement and wellbeing

# Guiding Principles (continued)

- Offer districtwide, all schools/clusters K–8 and high school local options
- Prioritize in-person experiences in local schools
- Provide all-virtual option K–12 for families who wish to remain 100 percent virtual
- Continue traditional programs such as high school summer school, Extended School Year (ESY), Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO-SAIL), and local school programs (LSPs)
- Gather stakeholder input

# Summary of Summer Programs

## CENTRAL PROGRAMS

- High School Summer School
- MCPS Virtual Summer School (K–8)
- Extended School Year (ESY) (All Levels)
- ELO SAIL (Elementary and Middle Title I Schools)
- Summer UP (Selected Elementary and Middle Schools)
- Special Programs (CTE, Enrichment Programs, Summer RISE, Montgomery Can Code, Camps)

# Summary of Summer Programs (Continued)

## SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS

- Elementary and Middle School Local Programs (Math, Literacy, Specials/Electives) (All non-Title I, non-Summer UP)
- ELO and Summer UP as **the** local program for selected schools
- High School Local Programs (credit and non-credit)
  - Continue local traditions like LSP, access for all students

# Logistics for Students and Parents/Guardians

- High School Summer School Begins June 28, two 3-week sessions
- Elementary and Middle School Programs July 6–30 or July 6–August 6 for Title I and Summer UP
  - Offered in all local schools/clusters
  - Designed for in-person instruction, smaller class sizes, rotations where needed
- 5 days per week
- 4-4.5 hours per day
- Transportation and meals provided
- MCPS Virtual Summer School K–8 for families wishing to remain all-virtual

# Summer School Timeline

What	When
Summer Employment Open for Applicants on MCPS Careers	April 19
Student Registration Begins	May 3
Summer Hiring Begins	May 14
Student Registration Closes	June 11
Last Day of School	June 16
Professional Development/Pre-Service (High School)	June 21–25
High School Summer School Begins	June 28
Professional Development/Pre-Service (All Other Programs)	June 28–July 2
All Other Programs Launch	July 6
Last Day of Summer Programs	August 6

# MCPS Athletics Update

## Fall Season

- Week #4 - successful start
- Opening games last weekend
- Approval from DHHS and OEMHS - waivers secured
- All fall sports moving forward
- NFHS Network - streaming games
- Spectators

## Spring Season

- Registration opened March 22
- Season spans April 17-June 19
- Winter engagement opportunities

## Middle School Athletics

- Registration opened March 16
- 2 windows of engagement:
  - April 20-May 6 (Fall)
  - May 11-27 (Winter and Spring)



# Graduation Updates

In consideration of the following factors:

- Parent/guardian/student/community stakeholder input offered throughout February 2021
- Current indoor/outdoor gathering limits across the D.C./Maryland region
- Dedicated time and effort necessary for focused event planning by schools and MCPS central offices

We are recommending that MCPS move to our Plan B graduation contingency at this time.



# Discussion