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DCRSD Update 07.24.2020

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>
To: Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>

Fri, Jul 24, 2020 at 4:53 PM

All,

I am writing share a number of items and our timeline for recommendations on the reopening of the Dudley-Charlton Regional Schools.

This past Wednesday, the DCRSD School Committee received a progress report of the Reopening Committee's work. This was not a detailed plan or recommended model for reopening. The Reopening Committee has been working on overarching items that will be instrumental and part of the recommendations to include; operations and resources, social emotional well-being and instruction.

With that said, I take full responsibility for not anticipating the need to increase the attendance capacity for the meeting as I am aware that folks attempted to hear the presentation but could not. The meeting is posted on our website at <https://www.dcrsd.org/about-dcrsd/school-committee/school-committee-meeting-recordings> Simply click the DCRSD Vimeo box and it will bring you to the meeting. Note that all School Committee meetings are recorded and posted at this location on our website. We have increased capacity to 1,000 and are working on a live stream for viewing future meetings.

As a district we are required to develop three plans for reopening. One plan is full, in-person using all of the guidance that has been provided and will be provided prior to opening. Next is a hybrid model with a mix of in-person instruction and remote learning and lastly, we need to develop a plan for full remote learning.

As the 22-member Reopening Committee continues to work on the overarching, big picture pieces of reopening the Dudley-Charlton RSD administrative team focuses on all of the logistical, building specific details of the three required plans of in-person, hybrid or remote. With that said, I want to provide you with our ideal timeline of the work and work ahead to arrive at a recommended model for reopening. Note that this timeline is subject to change.

1. **This week, Monday July 20th through Friday July 24th** the administrative team met face-to-face, adhering to mitigating protocols, to work through all of the details and preliminary planning of an in-person, hybrid and remote learning plan. This continues to be a huge task as it involves reinventing everything we know about our schools.
2. **Wednesday, July 22nd** the Reopening Committee provided a progress report to the DCRD School Committee on the work of their subgroups. This was an oral presentation that did not provide details or recommendations for the three reopening models.
3. **Monday, July 27th** a draft preliminary plan will be shared via email with the School Committee, Reopening Committee, DCTA, health agents and all staff.
4. **Tuesday, July 28th** the Reopening Committee and administrative team will meet to review the preliminary plan for reopening.
5. **Wednesday, July 29th and Thursday, July 30th**, building principals will schedule video conferencing meetings with their respective staff to review the preliminary plan for reopening and solicit grade level/building specific feedback.
6. **Friday, July 31st** a preliminary plan for reopening will be submitted to DESE as required. This submission is general in nature, it is not a detailed or commitment to a model for reopening.
7. **Monday, August 3rd** the preliminary plan will be distributed to DCRSD families.

8. **Tuesday, August 4th** 2020 a DCRSD community video conferencing presentation will take place to review the plan and provide an opportunity for feedback via a survey.
9. **Wednesday, August 5th** a draft Comprehensive Plan for reopening will be presented to the DCRSD School Committee.
10. **Thursday, August 6th** the video recording of the DCRSD School Committee will be posted on our website.
11. **Friday, August 7th** a final review of the draft Comprehensive Plan will be completed.
12. **Monday, August 10th** a DCRSD Comprehensive Plan for reopening will be submitted to DESE and distributed to all DCRSD staff and families.

It is extremely important that everyone accepts that a submitted Comprehensive Plan is a guide that is subject to change in the remaining days of summer and for the start of the next school year. We continue to receive rolling guidance that gets added to the process of all of our planning and we do not see an end to the rolling guidance. Additionally, the Governor and state agencies could change any plans for reopening after our plan is submitted.

In conclusion, our number one goal is to ensure the health and safety of students and staff. We must establish expectations and protocols that meet and exceed the requirements written in state and state agency guidance documents.

I must share that this work has been the most difficult for us as educators but we believe in the work we do and we know that we will need your help with any recommendation to reopen. We continue to appreciate your patience and we know that everyone wants to know. We are getting there.

Have a great weekend, respectfully

Steven M. Lamarche

Superintendent of Schools