

# ***SOUTHINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT***

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Office of the Superintendent

August 12, 2020

Good afternoon SPS Families and Staff,

I hope this finds you all well and safe. I am writing today with a brief update about the planning process for reopening Southington Schools this fall.

The effects of the Tropical Storm interfered with the efforts to provide an update last week. The District experienced power outages and network disruptions as did most of us in the community. Consequently, it seemed prudent not to send important information out and wait until this week to do so.

Attached you will find the District's Learning Plan 2.0 for reopening schools. There is a good deal of specific information included that we hope provides answers to some of the questions posed. This continues to be a working document. As new information and guidance from the State becomes available, it will be necessary to adjust the plan accordingly. Also, addenda or appendices will be added for the following four areas; 1) Nursing and School Health protocols; 2) Special Education services; 3) Preschool services; and 4) Cleaning and Custodial protocols. Specific information regarding individual school schedules and routines will be disseminated directly from the schools.

It is important to remember that this pandemic is still a Public Health Emergency. As such, we continue to rely on the guidance and direction of the medical professionals and public health professionals. The State Department of Public Health has been providing much needed guidance on the criteria for school reopening and on when to shift from in-person to hybrid and/or online learning. Also, DPH has recently provided guidance on criteria to address cases in schools in which an individual has been exposed potentially to a confirmed case of the virus. We anticipate additional guidance from DPH to continue and they are participating in weekly webinars with local school officials, sponsored by the State Department of Education.

The second version of the school learning option survey will be sent out by the end of this week with a response date by the middle of next week. The format will be similar to the last survey. It will ask families to commit to their child's learning option to start the school year, either in-person or online/remote and the transportation questions will be included once again. Individual schools will follow up with families. At the present time, the plan still calls for a full in-person option for grades K-8 with a hybrid model for the high school. As noted above, conditions and circumstances are changing at a rapid pace. If it becomes necessary to change the basic model and to move to a full hybrid K-12 to open school, we will be prepared to do so.

Information on the four items noted above will be disseminated in the coming week. Families and staff will continue to receive updates regarding new information, guidance, or changes on a regular basis. Please know that our first priority always is the health and safety of our students, families, and staff.

Respectfully,

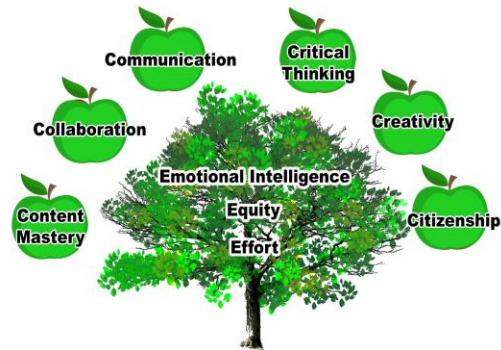


Timothy F. Connellan, Superintendent



*A graduate of the Southington Public Schools will be college or career ready and prepared for life beyond by mastering the knowledge and demonstrating the skills to communicate effectively, think creatively and critically, and contribute to the global community.*

## Southington Public Schools Vision of a Graduate



# Southington Public Schools 2020-2021 Learning Plan for Students and Families

Iteration 2.0

August 14, 2020

Timothy Connellan, Superintendent of Schools

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*The following plan was developed in collaboration with many surrounding school districts. Special thanks to Wallingford, Cheshire, Meriden, Berlin and Glastonbury school districts specifically for sharing and permission to use text and information within each of their plans where outcomes aligned with intentions of the Southington Public Schools.*




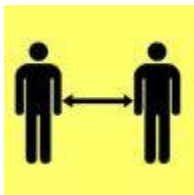

*True partnerships have emerged during these trying times!*

## DAILY OPERATIONS

- Approximately 2 weeks prior to the first day, each school will post, on its respective website, detailed information regarding arrival and dismissal procedures as well as daily building procedures to be followed such as procedures for hallway travel, lunchrooms, etc.
- Mockup images of classroom layouts and setup will also be shared at that time.

Procedures will vary slightly given the ages of students as well as the size, layout and vintage of each school and its surrounding property.

The district expectations below will be followed across schools.

	<p><b>Stay home if feeling ill.</b></p> <p>All staff and students must stay home if they are feeling sick, have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or have had close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19. For additional information, click on the following link : <a href="#">When to Quarantine, What to Do if you are Sick</a></p>
	<p><b>Morning health check by parents required.</b></p> <p>To prevent transmission among the school population, parents are instructed to screen students before leaving for school. Check to ensure temperature is below <b>100.0 degrees Fahrenheit</b> and observe for symptoms associated with COVID 19 outlined by public health officials. For additional information, click on the following link: <a href="#">Symptoms of Covid-19</a></p>
	<p><b>Face coverings or masks required.</b></p> <p><b>Students must wear face coverings or masks that completely cover the nose and mouth while inside the school and on the bus,</b> with exceptions only for those students for whom it is not safe to do so due to medical conditions. <b>“Mask Breaks” will be provided during the day.</b> The district will provide each student with two masks to supplement face coverings or masks provided by parents/families. Parents/families will be responsible for ensuring that students are wearing face coverings or masks when they arrive at their bus stop or are dropped off at school. Schools will have backup disposable masks available for students who forget them. <a href="#">Click here for some child friendly information and a short video explaining face mask use upon return.</a></p>
	<p><b>Social distancing required.</b></p> <p>Students must maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible. Students are expected to practice social distancing when entering and exiting the building, in classrooms, and moving throughout the school by following established routines and procedures.</p>
	<p><b>Frequent hand washing or hand sanitizing expected.</b></p> <p>Students must engage in frequent hand washing or sanitizing upon arrival, before and after meals, after bathroom use, and after coughing or sneezing.</p>

## **Cleaning, Sanitizing, Ventilation, and Staff Protective Equipment**

**Cleaning and Sanitizing.** There will be enhanced cleaning and sanitizing of common high touch surfaces throughout school such as classrooms, bathrooms, etc. Drinking fountains will be closed. Students are asked to bring water bottles from home. Custodial services have been increased to assist with routine sanitization during school hours. All products that will be used for cleaning and sanitizing are safe for students and staff and will eliminate COVID-19 on surfaces.

**Ventilation.** We will increase the circulation of fresh, outside air and air filtration as appropriate for each type/size of school space. We will use the highest filtration levels allowable within our air handlers. This includes the use of increased outside air and filtration for air conditioning in the fall and heating when the weather turns colder.

**Protective Equipment.** Protective equipment provided to teachers and staff include masks (clear masks, when available, will assist our special education and our youngest students). You can also expect that some teachers may choose to use face shields (along with masks). In addition, staff will have access to gloves and hand sanitizer. Wipes will be available to help clean as well.

### **Classrooms**

- All desks facing forward
- Remove extra furniture to allow for distancing whenever possible
- Class size limits
- Hand sanitizer in all classrooms
- Classroom doors will be kept open to minimize touchpoints
- Student supplies will be individualized or bundled whenever possible
- All classrooms will have disinfectant available

### **Hallways**

- Directional signage for foot traffic
- Water fountains will be turned off (students encouraged to bring personal water bottles)

### **Restrooms**

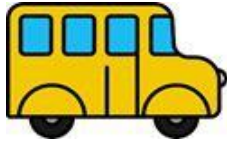
- All sinks will have soap and paper towels
- Hand dryers will be disconnected

### **Food Service**

School meals with limited options will be available for students learning at school. There will also be grab and go meals provided from a designated school site for meal pick up for those learning at home (probably 2-3 times a week as well). More information will follow. In the event of a transition to full remote learning, a meal distribution plan similar to Spring 2020 will be implemented. Specifics on times, days and location will be communicated at that time.

***Specific details relative to lunch procedures in individual schools will be shared prior to the opening of school and posted on each respective school's website.***

# Transportation



## **Students may not change buses.**

Students will be expected to ride the same bus to school in the morning and the same bus to home in the afternoon every day. Face coverings or masks should be in place prior to entering the bus.

The following guidance as provided by the CT State Department of Education will be utilized to determine transportation status the district will operate within contingent upon local health data.



### **Safe Status**

Bus transportation can operate with no restrictions.



### **Low Status**

Bus transportation can operate up to full status with mask requirements and loading and unloading restrictions.



### **Moderate Status**

Bus transportation can operate with seating and spacing restrictions, mask requirements, and loading and unloading restrictions.

## **To begin the school year, Southington will operate on Low Status.**

Where either a vaccine is available or effective treatments for COVID-19 are available, bus transportation can operate as it did prior to the pandemic with no restrictions.

Where there is low transmission risk in the community and some restrictions are in place in schools, buses will be able to operate up to full capacity. Passengers will be required to wear a face mask or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth during transit. The passenger's face covering must be in place prior to boarding the bus and must be kept in place until he/she is completely off the bus. Passengers should load into the bus from the back row to the front (where the first passengers onto the bus sit in the back row) and then unload the bus in a controlled manner upon arrival at the school from front to back by seat. This will reduce the number of people passengers walk by as they get on the bus and will prevent crowding in the center aisle when the bus arrives for unloading.

Passenger density should be significantly reduced when there is moderate spread because schools will be employing hybrid learning when in this status. Bus passengers should be spaced with family members sitting together and non-family members should be spaced 6 feet apart utilizing alternating diagonal seating. Passengers will be required to wear a face mask or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth during transit. The rider's face covering must be in place prior to boarding the bus and must be kept in place until he/she is completely off the bus. Students should load into the bus from the back row to the front (where the first passengers onto the bus sit in the back row) and then unload the bus in a controlled manner upon arrival at the school from front to back by seat. This will reduce the number of people passengers pass by as they get on the bus and will prevent crowding in the center aisle when the bus arrives for unloading.



# Monitoring Health

The following information was provided within Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Connecticut School Districts will guide the district response to presumed or confirmed cases.

The Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and State Department of Public Health (DPH) have collaborated to provide school districts with guidance and protocols for responding to specific COVID-19 scenarios that may occur with school reopening for the 2020–21 school year. Information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) informs the specific scenarios and actions that follow. CDC guidance and public health data are evolving and therefore, this guidance may be updated accordingly.

This guidance addresses issues when a student or staff person has or develops possible signs and symptoms of COVID-19; a diagnosis of COVID-19; or exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19. It describes immediate actions for removing an individual from the school setting and when to return them to school safely. School district leaders are encouraged to use this as a guide, in consultation with public health experts, including school nurses, school medical advisors, local health directors and in consideration of all specific circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Event	Location of Event	Testing Result	Isolation/Quarantine <b>Isolation</b> = when you are experiencing symptoms or have a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 <b>Quarantine</b> = when you have been exposed but you are not experiencing symptoms
<b>Individual has COVID-19 symptoms<sup>1</sup> but has NOT had close contact<sup>4</sup> to a person diagnosed with COVID-19</b>	<p><b>If at home:</b> stay home, notify the school immediately (do not wait until the beginning of the next school day), and get tested.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> students should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, be assessed by the school nurse or school medical advisor (if available), stay in the isolation room (with adult supervision), until picked up to go home, consult a healthcare provider, and get tested. If symptoms arise <b>on the bus</b>, students should remain masked and follow the remaining measures listed above upon arrival to school. They must not be sent home on the bus.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> staff members should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, immediately contact leadership (per district protocols), go home, consult a healthcare provider, and get tested.</p> <p>If a staff or student is ill enough to require transport to a healthcare facility, notify EMS that COVID-19 is a concern.</p>	Individual tests <sup>3</sup> <b>negative</b>	Return to school once there are no symptoms for 24 hours.
		Individual tests <b>positive</b>	<p>Remain home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school immediately, notify personal close contacts, assist the school in contact tracing efforts<sup>4</sup>, and answer phone calls from public health officials/contact tracing staff.</p> <p>Stay in self-isolation<sup>5</sup> for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever<sup>6</sup> (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other COVID-19 symptoms.</p>
		Individual <b>is not tested</b>	<p>Stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms <b>and</b> until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.</p> <p>Can return to school earlier if obtains note from healthcare provider with alternate diagnosis.</p>

## Monitoring Health cont.

Event	Location of Event	Testing Result	Isolation/Quarantine <b>Isolation</b> = when you are experiencing symptoms or have a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 <b>Quarantine</b> = when you have been exposed but you are not experiencing symptoms
<b>Individual has COVID-19 symptoms<sup>1</sup> AND had close contact<sup>2</sup> to a person diagnosed with COVID-19</b>	<p><b>If at home:</b> stay home, notify the school immediately (do not wait until the beginning of the next school day), and get tested.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> students should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, be assessed by the school nurse or school medical advisor (if available), stay in the isolation room (with adult supervision), until picked up to go home, consult a healthcare provider, and get tested. If symptoms arise <b>on the bus</b>, students should remain masked and follow the remaining measures listed above upon arrival to school. They must not be sent home on the bus.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> staff members should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, immediately contact leadership (per district protocols), go home, consult a healthcare provider, and get tested.</p> <p>If a staff or student is ill enough to require transport to a healthcare facility, notify EMS that COVID-19 is a concern.</p>	Individual tests <b>negative</b>	Stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.
		Individual tests <b>positive</b>	<p>Remain home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, notify personal close contacts, assist public health and the school in contact tracing efforts.</p> <p>Stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.</p>
		Individual <b>is not tested</b>	Stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days since the onset of symptoms and until at least 24 hours have passed with no fever (without fever-reducing medications) and with improvement in other symptoms.

Event	Location of Event	Testing Result	Isolation/Quarantine <b>Isolation</b> = when you are experiencing symptoms or have a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 <b>Quarantine</b> = when you have been exposed but you are not experiencing symptoms
<b>Individual does not have COVID-19 symptoms BUT had close contact<sup>2</sup> to someone diagnosed with COVID-19</b>	<p><b>If at home:</b> stay home, notify the school immediately (do not wait until the beginning of the next school day), and get tested.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> students should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, be assessed by the school nurse or school medical advisor (if available), be picked up to go home, consult a health care provider, and get tested. Students who do not have symptoms may remain in the health room until they are picked up, they do not have to be sent to the isolation room. They must not be sent home on the bus.</p> <p><b>If at school:</b> staff members should remain masked, adhere to strict physical distancing, immediately contact leadership (per district protocols), go home, consult a healthcare provider, and get tested.</p>	Individual tests <b>negative</b>	Remain home in self-quarantine <sup>7</sup> for 14 days from last exposure to the person diagnosed with COVID-19.
		Individual tests <b>positive</b>	<p>Remain home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, notify personal close contacts, assist public health and the school in contact tracing efforts.</p> <p>Stay home until 10 days have passed since date of the positive COVID-19 test.</p>
		Individual <b>is not tested</b>	Remain home in self-quarantine for 14 days from last exposure to the person diagnosed with COVID-19.



## Instructional Models

### **Opting Out**

Students opting out will be assigned to a teacher(s) who may be the same teacher they would be with even if they were attending in person, or to a teacher designated solely to the assignment of teaching remotely. This will vary depending on grade level, certification areas and courses students have selected.

The district will be working to finalize student assignments utilizing data collected from the **August 14<sup>th</sup> Commitment Survey** and through collaboration with the Teacher's Association.

Given the complexity of cohorting, staffing and scheduling it is strongly encouraged that families utilize natural breaks such as school vacations (i.e. winter and spring breaks) or marking periods to opt in or out in order to allow the district appropriate time to process such changes. In the event an immediate change is needed, the district will work closely with families but there may be delays and lag time during such transitions.

Students will be assigned a daily schedule that most closely mirrors the daily in-person learning that accounts for the direct explicit instruction, guided practice and independent learning that would take place during a typical school day.

The schedules developed for each grade level will take the following into account:

- The developmental level of students
- The amount of screen time required of students
- The natural breaks that would occur during a typical, in-person school day including:
  - mask breaks
  - transitions and routines such as passing times, arrival, and dismissal
  - lavatory breaks
  - recess
  - lunch
  - center time

Given the above-mentioned variables, students in the elementary levels will be required to log on for shorter, more frequent lessons totaling a shorter synchronous school day than that of students at the secondary level. Additionally, the district will utilize recorded lessons and asynchronous learning to supplement live instruction.

Early in the academic year, this teaching and learning model will be new for both the student and the teacher. Stumbles, challenges, and adjustments should be anticipated. Teachers will be utilizing new pedagogy (teaching strategies), software and technology and students will be adjusting to digital life and the learning management systems utilized to provide instruction.

A most difficult challenge of remote learning is the cycle of feedback and exchange of ideas between the teacher and student. Virtual learning will pose challenges in reviewing student work in real time, asking and answering questions, assessment, and on the spot remediation or enrichment that might occur if attending in person. Staff working with remote learners will be designating specific times to address this challenge beyond the live synchronous instruction that will occur.

## **Opting Out cont.**

Occasionally the district will utilize, where available, vetted and culled recorded lessons such as mini-lessons provided by Teacher's College of Columbia, Ready Classroom or Illustrative Math lessons, or various other professionally recorded content instruction to supplement the live instruction provided to your child. This medium of instruction is not intended to supplant the actual teaching and learning process that will occur with the teacher on that given day but rather to supplement it. Although the instruction from the source or vendor may be pre-recorded, it will be streamed during the scheduled synchronous learning time assigned to students as staff may pause and ask questions during lessons, answer questions posed by students in chat tools, or simply promote collaboration and discourse amongst students in the classroom or at home.

For students opting out, all current Board of Education policies and regulation still have the full force and expectation of adherence as if attending in person including the opportunity to participate in athletics and extracurricular clubs and activities.

### **Further, the following norms and expectations will apply to students engaged in Voluntary Remote Learning:**

- Students are still enrolled in Southington Public Schools and are expected to adhere to all district policies and guidelines.
- Students will participate in a mix of live Google Meets (synchronous learning) and previously recorded sessions with learning activities (asynchronous learning).
- Students will be required to use an assigned, district-issued device for distance learning purposes. Tech support will not be provided for personal devices.
- Students must actively engage in remote learning sessions per the schedules, signing on, being present and participating in synchronous learning during the designated times.
- Students are required to attend the distance learning classes per the district's attendance policy and are required to be on camera during live sessions.
- Students will use the norms for online learning during all live instructional sessions.
- Students will communicate with their teachers and peers via email, chat and Google Meet using their Southington Public Schools account.

Additionally, the following information and expectations regarding the Opt Out Remote Learning Option excerpted from the State of Connecticut's **Adapt, Advance and Achieve** guidance document (Addendum 1) should be understood:

### **Temporary Nature of the Remote Learning Programming**

Should public health data support a changed approach, the policy directives from CSDE related to the provision of this option may change to determine there is no longer a need for this temporary option. It is important to notify families that the school district's remote learning programming is temporary, and it may not be available the full year

### **Assessments**

Students participating in remote learning programming will be expected to access statewide assessments in-person unless the assessments are available remotely. Other optional district assessments that are not mandated by federal or state laws/regulations are subject to local decision, depending upon whether those assessments are available online and can be administered remotely.

Below are **samples** of what Voluntary Distance Learning schedules could look like across grade levels.

**R=Recorded      S=Synchronous      A=Asynchronous**

<b>Student Schedule K-2</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Time Allocated</b>	<b>Type of Learning</b>
9:05-9:10	School-wide Message - Attendance	5	R
9:10-9:25	Morning Meeting (SEL Focus)	15	S
9:25-9:50	<b>Reading</b>	25	S
9:50-10:20	<b>Phonics</b>	30	A/S
10:20-10:40	<b>Writing</b>	20	S
10:40-11:10	<b>Break/lunch</b>	30	OFF CAMERA
11:10-11:55	<b>Mathematics</b>	45	S
11:55-12:25	Flex Time (small group/one to one instruction)	30	A/S
12:25-12:45	<b>Social Studies/Science</b>	20	A/S
12:45-12:55	Closing Circle (SEL Focus)	10	S
12:55-1:35	Specials (Art, Music, PE)	40	A

Student Schedule Grades 3-5			
Time	Subject	Time Allocated	Type of Learning
8:55 - 9:00	School-wide Message - Attendance	5	R
9:05 - 9:20	Morning Meeting (SEL Focus)	15	S
9:20-10:20	<b>English Language Arts</b>	60	S
10:20-10:40	Flex Time (small group/one to one instruction)	30	A/S
10:40-11:10	<b>Break/Lunch</b>	30	OFF CAMERA
11:10-11:55	<b>Math</b>	45	S
11:55-12:25	Flex Time (small group/one to one instruction)	30	A/S
12:25-1:00	<b>SS/Science</b>	40	A/S
1:00-1:15	Closing Circle (SEL Focus)	10	S
1:15-2:00-	Specials (Art, Music, Spanish, Comp. Science, PE)	45	A

Student Schedule Grades 6-12			
Time	Subject	Time Allocated	Type of Learning
8:05-8:13	School message	8	Recorded
8:15-9:03	<b>Period 1</b>	48	S
9:05-9:51	<b>Period 2</b>	46	S
9:53-10:39	<b>Period 3</b>	46	S
10:41-11:27	<b>Period 4</b>	46	S
10:41-11:27	<b>Grade 6 Break/Lunch</b>		Off camera
11:29-12:15	<b>Period 5</b>	46	S
11:29-12:15	<b>Grade 8 Break/Lunch</b>		Off camera
12:17-1:03	<b>Period 6</b>	46	S
12:17-1:03	<b>Grade 7 Break/Lunch</b>		Off camera
1:05-1:51	<b>Period 7</b>	46	S
1:53-2:40	<b>Period 8</b>	47	S

*In addition to the synchronous instruction provided, students in grades 6-12 may be expected to complete and submit assignments outside of class time in accordance with timelines established by teachers.*

## Attending

For families planning on attending, continuous collaboration with state and local health officials regarding local health data along with County Data utilizing the matrix below will guide decision-making regarding which of the following models will be employed at any given time.

Leading Indicator	LOW Favors more In-Person Learning	MODERATE Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	HIGH Favors moving to Remote Learning
<b>Number of new cases of COVID-19</b> (7 day rolling average of new cases per 100,000 population per day)	< 10 new cases per 100,000 population	10 to < 25 new cases per 100,000 population	25+ new cases per 100,000 population

Secondary Indicators	LOW Favors more In-Person Learning	MODERATE Favors moving to Hybrid Learning	HIGH Favors moving to Remote Learning
<b>Percent positivity rate</b> (# of positive tests/ # of total tests, 7-day rolling avg.)	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending down to flat	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending flat to upward	<b>Direction of Change:</b> Secondary Indicators trending upward
<b>Number of new COVID-19 hospitalizations per 100,000 population</b> (7-day rolling avg.)	<b>Speed of Change:</b> No statistically significant changes to Secondary Indicators	<b>Speed of Change:</b> Any statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators	<b>Speed of Change:</b> Consistent, statistically significant changes upward to Secondary Indicators
<b>COVID-like and Influenza-like Illness (CLI and ILI) Syndromic Surveillance</b>			

## Learning Models

### Full In-Person

Students will follow the typical daily schedule established for each of their levels with all necessary safety and health protocols in place.

#### Cohorting at the Elementary Level

- Students will be placed in a classroom cohort.
- Specials (art, music library-media) will be in the classroom.
- PE- outside when possible or in gym.
- Instrumental music lessons- in band room by classroom cohort.
- Tiered interventions and supports will be provided following social distancing guidelines. This may be in the form of push-in or pull-out support, keeping cohorts in mind



**Lunch** will be in the classroom or in a setting where at least 6 ft. distancing is available.

**Recess-** children will have recess with their classroom cohort. (Further information regarding recess procedures will be forthcoming)

### **Bathroom Facilities**

- Students will distance in the multi-stall bathrooms.
- Students will be trained on how to minimize contact on surfaces when using any bathroom.
- Cohorts will use the same bathroom.
- Scheduled bathroom breaks will be made by classroom cohorts.
- Bathrooms will maintain increased cleaning and sanitization schedules

### **Hallway Traffic**

Flow of traffic will be one-way when possible and consistent with signage.

### **Cohorting at Middle Level**

#### **Classrooms:**

- Desks/students will all face in the same direction.
- Desks will be placed six feet apart where feasible. If teacher removes mask during instruction, he/she will need to increase distance beyond six feet.
- Classroom doors remain in locked position but remain open.
- Teachers will rotate to the students instead of the students moving for all Team classes including language arts, math, science, social studies, and world language (if possible).

#### **Hallways:**

Students will walk single file to the right in hallways during arrival and dismissal, passing to and returning from unified arts, and passing to and returning from lunch

#### **Stairwells:**

- Stairs by rooms 111 & 124 will be up only
- Stairs by rooms 117 & 104 will be down only
- Main Staircase single file up or down

#### **Lunch:**

• To achieve the six-foot spacing between students not wearing masks, the cafeteria, library/media center, and the band room shall be used during each lunch wave. Students will remain in cohorts and be seated in this manner. Other feasible locations may also be used.

#### **Bathrooms:**

- Will be assigned by team with increased cleaning and sanitization schedules

## Hybrid

In a hybrid model, the district will divide students into separate cohorts and rotate which students attend in person and which students attend remotely as dictated by the cohort each student is assigned to.

Increased custodial support has been assigned to afterschool and evening crews to allow for a deep cleaning and sanitization throughout after each cohort's attendance.

**Cohorting-** The district is going to begin the cohorting process by assuring that families with multiple students in our elementary and middle schools are grouped in the same cohort. Families with only one child attending in the district in elementary and middle will then be assigned to a cohort with the goal of equal and balanced numbers maintained in each cohort.

### **Special Education and English Learners**

Special consideration, allowing for daily attendance, will be given to students with significant disabilities and language barriers if the district deploys a hybrid model which limits in-person student participation each day.

### **Elementary and Middle**

In a hybrid model, once broken into 2 cohorts with each student's cohort designation communicated by his or her respective school (Cohort A and B), students will attend using the following schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday (Rotating weekly)
<b>In person</b>	Cohort A	Cohort B	Cohort A	Cohort B	Cohort A/B
<b>Remote</b>	Cohort B	Cohort A	Cohort B	Cohort A	Cohort A/B

## **High School**

### **Alternating Days**

<b>start time</b>	7:32
<b>end time</b>	2:15
<b>period length</b>	45
<b>pass time</b>	6

Students with Last Name **A - K** attend SHS in person on Letter Days **A, C, E**  
Students with Last Name **L - Z** attend SHS in person on Letter Days **B, D, F**

## High School Bell Schedule During Hybrid Learning

<i>Period</i>	<i>Times</i>	<i>Minutes</i>
<b>1</b>	<b>7:32 - 8:18</b>	<b>46</b>
passing	8:18 - 8:24	6
<b>2</b>	<b>8:24 - 9:09</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	9:09 - 9:15	6
<b>3</b>	<b>9:15 - 10:00</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	10:00 - 10:06	6
<b>4</b>	<b>10:06 - 10:51</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	10:51 - 10:57	6
<b>5</b>	<b>10:57 - 11:42</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	11:42 - 11:48	6
<b>6</b>	<b>11:48 - 12:33</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	12:33 - 12:39	6
<b>7</b>	<b>12:39 - 1:24</b>	<b>45</b>
passing	1:24 - 1:30	6
<b>8</b>	<b>1:30 - 2:15</b>	
	dismissal	

### Full Remote (All students)

In Full Remote, school buildings will be closed and students will engage in eLearning from home. In this case we expect that grades 6-12 will primarily follow the same schedule they would follow if attending in person with synchronous learning (students logging in to each class at the proper time). Elementary classes would also move to more synchronous learning (logging in as a class together) as well with classrooms schedules communicated by each student's individual teacher.

Schedules may be adjusted contingent on local health data and whether local and state health officials determine it is still safe for staff to report daily to buildings to deliver instruction remotely to students.

In the event it is deemed unsafe to do so, it should also be understood that our teaching staff will be home with children and families quarantining and due to lack of childcare available in such an instance, modifications to the typical daily schedule followed during Full In-Person or Hybrid model will need to be made.

## **Learner Expectations For Students During Full Remote Learning**

- Students will participate in a mix of live Google Meets (synchronous learning) and previously recorded sessions with learning activities (asynchronous learning).
- Students will be required to use an assigned, district-issued device for remote learning purposes. Tech support will not be provided for personal devices.
- Students must actively engage in remote learning sessions per the schedules, signing on, being present and participating in synchronous learning during the designated times.
- Students are required to attend the distance learning classes per the district's attendance policy and are required to be on camera during live sessions.
- Students will use the norms for online learning during all live instructional sessions. To be communicated in upcoming guidance.
- Students will communicate with their teachers and peers via email, chat and Google Meet using their Southington Public Schools account.

## **Athletics, Clubs and Extracurricular Activities**

### **Athletics**

Currently the district has not yet determined if middle school, freshmen, and junior varsity athletics will occur for the fall season.

Varsity athletics will follow the linked guidance here provided by the [Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference](#).

### **Clubs & Extracurricular Activities**

It is our goal to have high school clubs run in person when possible with appropriate social distancing protocols and face coverings worn by all participants and facilitators.

If in person is not possible clubs may run remotely at the discretion of the building principal.

Middle school clubs will be run virtually to reduce the intermingling of established cohorts.

## **Before and Aftercare Programming**

If deploying In-Person or Hybrid Models, YMCA programming will be available for our elementary schools before and after school. Their protocols for safety and wellness will be provided to participating families.

# Southington Public Schools

2020



2021

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: SEPT 8

M	T	W	TH	F
<b>AUGUST 2020</b> 0 DAYS				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

<b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b> 17 DAYS				
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	<PD>	23	24	25
28	29	30		

<b>OCTOBER 2020</b> 21 DAYS				
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14*	15	16
19	20*	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

<b>NOVEMBER 2020</b> 16 DAYS				
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18*	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

<b>DECEMBER 2020</b> 17 DAYS				
	1*	2*	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	<23>	24	25
28	29	30	31	

<b>JANUARY 2021</b> 19 DAYS				
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26*	27	28	29

AUG 24-	<b>DRAFT REVISED CALENDAR 8/13/20</b>
AUG 28	Up to 4 virtual Professional Development Days AUG 24 – AUG 28
AUG 31-	In-person Workdays / Professional Development Days Aug 31 – Sept 4
SEPT 4	
SEPT 7	Labor Day
SEPT 8	First Day - Student Orientation Day
SEPT 9	Student Orientation Day
SEPT 10	Student Orientation Day
SEPT 11	FIRST FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
SEPT 22	Professional Development Day – Early Dismissal
OCT 12	School Holiday
OCT 14*	SHS Early Dismissal PSAT Administration
OCT 20*	Elem/Mid School Prof. Dev. - Early Dismissal
NOV 3	Election Day - No School
NOV 11	Veterans Day
NOV 18*	High School Conferences - Early Dismissal
NOV 25-27	Thanksgiving Recess
DEC 1*	Elem/Mid.School Conf./HS PD – Early Dismissal
DEC 2*	Elementary School Conferences - Early Dismissal
DEC 23	Early Dismissal for Students
DEC 24 -	Holiday Recess
JAN 1	(Includes Christmas and New Year's Day)
JAN 18	Martin Luther King Day
JAN 26*	Elem/Mid School Prof. Dev. - Early Dismissal
FEB 12	Professional Development Day - Early Dismissal
FEB 15	Presidents' Day
FEB 16	No School
MAR 2	Professional Development - Early Dismissal
MAR 15-16*	Elementary School Conferences - Early Dismissal
MAR 24	SAT Day Southington High School- Full Day
APR 2	Good Friday
APR 12-16	Spring Break
APR 27	Professional Development – Early Dismissal
MAY 18	Professional Development – Early Dismissal
MAY 31	Memorial Day
JUNE 14	Projected Last Day

= Holiday/School Recess - No School for Students and Staff

PD = Professional Development – No School for Students

<PD> = <PD> Professional Development – Early Dismissal for Students

< > = Early Dismissal for Students

\* = Early Dismissal Only for Designated School

SCHOOL ENDS: JUNE 14

M	T	W	TH	F
18 DAYS <b>FEBRUARY 2021</b>				
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	<PD>
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

23 DAYS <b>MARCH 2021</b>				
1	<PD>	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15*	16*	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

16 DAYS <b>APRIL 2021</b>				
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	<PD>	28	29	30

20 DAYS <b>MAY 2021</b>				
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	<PD>	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

10 DAYS <b>JUNE 2021</b>				
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
<LD>	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

## Projected Last Day ~ JUNE 14

If weather or other emergencies require the closing of school, these days will be made up after the projected last day to June 30<sup>th</sup>. If additional weather-related days are needed beyond these 14 days, we will begin with April 16<sup>th</sup> and move backward.