



Providence Schools

**PLANNING FOR A SUCCESSFUL
REOPENING**

VIRTUAL TOWN HALL

Reopening for fall: Grades K-8



LEARNING SCENARIOS we may need to shift between

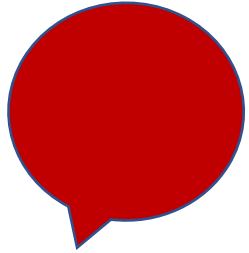


CONSTRAINTS we will face under different public health circumstances.

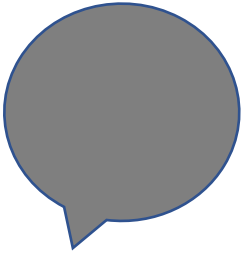


OPTIONS FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING for students in grades K-8

Focus Group Feedback



Students want to have **options** for learning. They want time to **build community** when they return. They need help **understanding the big picture** of COVID-19.



Parents and educators are concerned about **quality of learning, engagement** and **attendance**. If there's a safe option for returning, they'd like to see their students, especially younger ones, **get back into schools**.



Community members **want to help**. They are concerned about the impact of transitions on students **social and emotional wellbeing**. They want innovative ways to **support students in and out of school time**.

Everyone agreed that is *complex* work, but they are committed to being at the table with PPSD.

Throughout the year, our students and schools may have to shift between learning scenarios

More public health restrictions

Fewer public health restrictions

NO IN-PERSON LEARNING

Like in spring 2020, all students learn remotely

RESTRICTED AND/OR PARTIAL IN-PERSON LEARNING

12-15 student groups on buses and in classrooms

25-30 student groups on buses and in classrooms*

● Focus of today's conversation ●

MINIMALLY RESTRICTED IN-PERSON LEARNING

NOTE: Highly unlikely for full 2020-2021 school year

*For the purposes of today's conversation, we are combining RIDE's restrictions partial and full in-person learning. Both scenarios include similarly sized student groups in buses and classrooms.

Several factors, including transportation and facilities, impact scenario planning for reopening

TRANSPORTATION CONSTRAINTS

- PPSD **cannot procure additional buses** nor train additional drivers for 2020-2021.
- Distancing guidelines **reduce bus capacity to ~15%-33%** of current capacity.

DISTANCING AND STUDENT GROUPING CONSTRAINTS

- Guidelines require schools to keep students in **stable groups** that vary in size depending on public health conditions.
- More **difficult to keep stable groups in middle/high** where students rotate classes.

FACILITY CONSTRAINTS

- Difficult to greatly reduce class sizes in existing buildings without **expanding to other locations**.
- Some facilities **may not be able to serve students of all age groups**.

These factors have important implications for how we operate our schools in the fall

TRANSPORTATION CONSTRAINTS

**DISTANCING AND STUDENT
GROUPING CONSTRAINTS**

FACILITY CONSTRAINTS



Key Implications

1. Significant reductions in bus capacity to maintain student safety requires us to consider all options that **reduce number of students riding the bus at any given time.**
2. We will need to plan for **changing public health conditions** which may mean **changes to class size and bus capacity** throughout the year.
3. We will likely need **different solutions for elementary and secondary schools** given traditional scheduling differences.

Given our constraints, we will have to work together to make difficult decisions about how we want our schools to operate this year



Enrollment

Will students enroll in their current schools, or will we have students attend neighborhood schools to help more students attend in-person?



Transportation

Will students take the bus from their regular bus stops, or will we use fewer bus stops to help more students attend in-person?



School Day Schedule

Will we have to adjust school start/end times to accommodate changes to bus routing?



Weekly School Calendar

Will students attend school every day, or will we have students alternate days or weeks?

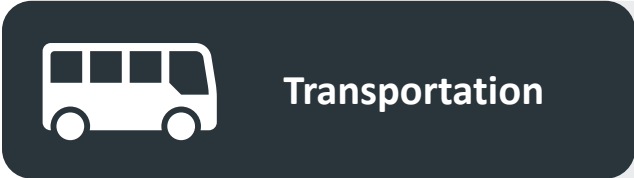
Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, students attended schools of their choice, every day, and our schools operated on two start and end times

During the fall of 2019-2020 school year . . .



Enrollment

Students attended schools beyond their neighborhood school.



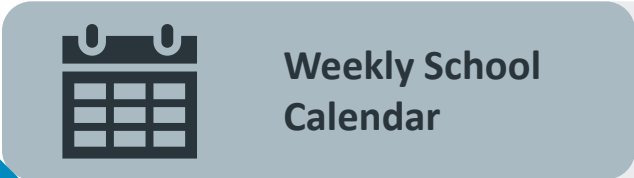
Transportation

Students received yellow bus transportation through grade 8.



School Day Schedule





Schools across the district operated on two start and end times.



Weekly School Calendar

Students attended school each day of the week.

We will have to consider difficult trade-offs; to do so, we need to better understand the impact our potential options have on our students, families, and staff

	OPTION 1	OPTION 2	OPTION 3
	All students attend current school	<p>K-5 Attend neighborhood school*</p> <p>6-8 Attend current school</p>	All students attend neighborhood school*
	Yellow bus only up to grade 6, with fewer bus pickup locations	Regular bus pickup locations	Regular bus pickup locations
	Likely four start/end times (e.g., 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:30)	Three start/end times (e.g., 7:30, 8:30, 9:30)	Two start/end times (e.g., 8:00, 9:00)
	<p>Student Groups of 12-15: Either (a) A/B schedules, with students attending every other day/week, or (b) grades 6-8 attend school virtually, with grades K-5 able to attend in-person each day.</p> <p>Student Groups of 25-30: All students are able attend school in-person each day.</p>		

*Neighborhood enrollment assumes: (1) Students within 1 mile of current school or are enrolled in special programs (special education, dual language, etc.) stay at current school; (2) students outside of 1 mile of current school move to their nearest school; and (3) students assigned to home room based on whether they walk to school.

As we pick an option, we must recognize that changing to neighborhood schools or having fewer bus pickup locations will affect our students and families

How many students would be affected by moving to neighborhood schools?



3,221 students (or 39% of all students) would be assigned to a new school.



2,246 more students would be within walking distance of their school.

How much farther may students walk if we have fewer bus pickup locations?

Regular Pickups

K-5 students walk no more than 0.3 miles to the bus stop.

6-8 students walk no more than 0.45 miles to the bus stop.

Fewer Pickups

Students walk up to 1.0 miles to the bus stop.

What we are hearing...

I am fearful of sending my kids back to school

Virtual/hybrid models should be available to every student

Neighborhood schools help build community.

We have to look at equity across schools.

This is complicated!

We have to start with transportation, then think about scheduling.

Can I opt to have my kids stay at their school if I provide transportation?

Virtual learning is taking a toll on our kids

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Take the Fall Reopening Survey at:

www.providenceschools.org/COVID19