

Monthly Superintendent's Report
Status of
Hampton Elementary School District

Reported by:
Dr. Frank Olah
June 24, 2020

Written 6/17/20

General Comments and Reflections:

In very general terms, anything that is contained in my report this month will most likely change within hours of it being sent out to all of you as members of the Hampton Board of Education. This reality stems from the number of directives, assumptions and changes in both the directives and assumptions being sent to my office from the State of Connecticut, the CSDE and the Commissioner's office as well as all of the discussions I have had with my fellow superintendents.

With all of that said, I can report on the following actions we have discussed and are presenting to you at this BoE meeting.

A. We have formed an HES Reopening Discussion Group with its first meeting set for July 7, 2020 on Zoom at 6:00 pm. This group is made up of representatives from the town, BoE, parents, teachers, health room, and administrators. The purpose is to review various aspects of the reopening process and assist you as a BoE and the administration to make effective decisions based on the discussions presented during these meetings. At this time, there are two scheduled discussions. The second will be held on July 14 with a report to be developed for your BoE meeting at the end of July.

B. The administration has developed a questionnaire that was sent to all parents on 6/16/20 for their opinions concerning the reopening of school. A copy is attached to this report. We will be presenting the results of the survey at the first discussion group with a copy sent to BoE members

C. We have purchased a new front load washer and dryer for the kitchen in order to wash all bedding used by our Pre-K class for their nap times as well as washing of all plush toys used by both Pre-K and K students. These will be washed daily.

D. A plan has been developed to sanitize the entire school each evening and do all of the washing cited above. We anticipate a temporary position of three hours to accomplish this sanitizing activity. This idea is also presented at the end of this report for your review.

E. A plan has been discussed in collaboration with EastConn to have our three HES buses sanitized before each HES run with a bus monitor on board to scan student temperatures before they enter the bus and supervise where each student sits and how they enter and exit the bus according to the current CDC guidelines. No finalized plan is in place at this time.

F. Revised classroom seating and schedules are being developed but as of the writing of this report are not finalized

G. We are working with EastConn Food Service to determine how we will be serving our student lunches to keep social distancing. The current idea is to purchase a rolling tray carrier to transport the food trays to each classroom.

As you might expect, these are the plans we think will be required but we have no idea yet what will be actually “required” by the Governor. We are trying to be proactive as much as we can.

Special Education:

Dr. Benson-Clark is investigating the effectiveness of the on-line special education interventions for students receiving speech, physical and occupational therapies. All scheduled PPTs have been held and all records are updated.

Our Birth to School efforts are also moving along with one student needing to continue services at the writing of this report.

Other Academic:

As mentioned above, we have created a parent survey to get a feeling for the impact of distance learning on our students as seen through the eyes of their parents. From anecdotal evidence, it is our general opinion that the younger the students, the less impactful the on line learning has been. With that in mind, we are increasing our ability to address student learning with increasing co-teaching time and the use of SRBI the first 90 days of the 2020-2021 academic year. Once we have clear direction from the state, we will finalize the scheduling to reflect this need.

Superintendent’s Hours:

Dr. Olah’s hours will be 95% from home and can be reached via his email: folah@hamptonschool.org.

NOTE: The school building will be closed to visitors for the month of July since each week many of the office/administration will be on vacation. With the staff much reduced, this closing for visitors reflects our concerns about staff safety issues. The school office will be operational to accept mail and shipments only. Email and phone calls will be answered.

HES
The Little Powerhouse

Addendum: Survey and possible Covid positions

HAMPTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT/GUARDIAN SURVEY ON REOPENING OF H.E.S. FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

To begin planning and preparing for the return to school for the 2020-2021 school year, Hampton Elementary School, we are looking to get parent feedback.

Please take a few minutes to complete this anonymous survey to help our work group make informed decisions as we move forward together. It is important to keep in mind that there are no firm plans in place or specific directives from the State of Connecticut. Any decisions about the reopening of school must be consistent with the directives we receive from public health officials, CT. State Department of Education, and the State of Connecticut.

This is an official survey created by Hampton Elementary School for its use only. None of these answers will be shared with any other town or state agencies or boards. A report will be developed from all parent responses.

Please complete by June 30, 2020

What best describes your comfort level, at this point, with having your student(s) return to school for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, reopening school with all health and safety guidelines strictly in place, with our TYPICAL WEEKLY SCHEDULE and school year calendar?

Very comfortable

2

3

4

5 Very Uncomfortable

What best describes your comfort level, at this point, with having your student(s) return to school for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, reopening school with all health and safety guidelines strictly in place, with a HYBRID SCHEDULE that might include every other day and/or shortened days with supplemental online learning?

Very comfortable

2

3

4

5 Very Uncomfortable

What best describes your comfort level, at this point, with having your student(s) return to school for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, reopening with ONLY DISTANCE LEARNING at first and then a gradual re-entry, hybrid model based on the directives of public health officials and the state of Connecticut?

Very comfortable

2

3

4

5 Very Uncomfortable

If school reopens with our typical weekly schedule or with a hybrid schedule of in-person and distance learning, how comfortable are you with

your student TAKING A BUS to and from school, with all safety, health, and rigorous disinfection guidelines in place?

Very comfortable

2

3

4

5 Very Uncomfortable

Grade levels of your children attending HES (Check all that apply)

Pre-Kindergarten

Kindergarten

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Grade 4

Grade 5

Grade 6

The impact of distance learning on my child's learning and skills

Positive & effective

Positive but not as effective as expected

Less Positive than hoped for

Not Positive

Should not be continued

At this time, will you be sending your child back to H.E.S. in September, 2020?

Yes

No

Undecided

No - if distance learning is continued to be offered

PRK and K PARENTS ONLY: Knowing how young students interact-will you send your child to HES?

PRE -K YES

PRE-K NO

PRE-Kindergarten MAYBE

Kindergarten YES

Kindergarten NO

Kindergarten MAYBE

Please assess the importance of the following topics associated with HES’s plans for reopening school from your perspective as a parent/caregiver.

	Very Important	Important	Moderately Important	Slightly Important	Not Important
Overall health & safety at H.E.S.					

All students riding our buses will have temperature checks and be assigned specific seats					
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A child driven to HES will have their temperature taken before entering HES					
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Social and emotional well-being needs to be part of the curriculum					
--	--	--	--	--	--

All students will maintain social distancing in their classroom					
---	--	--	--	--	--

A safe / sanitized bus ride to and from school					
--	--	--	--	--	--

All Public Health Mandates are Strictly Enforced at HES					
---	--	--	--	--	--

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A safe / sanitized bus ride to and from school					
--	--	--	--	--	--

All Public Health Mandates are Strictly Enforced at HES					
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From your perspective as a parent/caregiver, check your concerns associated with the H.E.S.'s POTENTIAL plans for reopening school.

	Yes	No	Undecided
All adults must wear facial masks during school hours			
All students grades 1 to 6 should wear facial masks inside HES			
All students grades 1 to 6 should wear facial masks during recess			
Social and emotional well-being needs to be addressed for all students			
All student lunches should be delivered to and eaten by each student in their classroom			

All students should have personal storage bins supplied by HES			
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HES (classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms) will be fully sanitized each evening			
--	--	--	--

	Yes	No	Undecided
All adults must wear facial masks during school hours			

All students grades 1 to 6 should wear facial masks inside HES			
--	--	--	--

All students grades 1 to 6 should wear facial masks during recess			
---	--	--	--

Social and emotional well-being needs to be addressed for all students			
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All student lunches should be delivered to and eaten by each student in their classroom			
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All students should have personal storage bins supplied by HES			
--	--	--	--

HES (classrooms, hallways, and bathrooms) will be fully sanitized each evening			
--	--	--	--

Please assess the importance of the following topics associated with H.E.S.'s plans for reopening school from your perspective as a parent/ caregiver.

	YES	NO	UNDECIDED
HES should offer a choice for a child NOT to attend HES and continue distance learning			

Possible alternate day school attendance will cause child care issues			
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All adults must wear facial masks during school hours			
---	--	--	--

Parents need confidence in HES's ability to implement all Public Health Mandates			
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	YES	NO	UNDECIDED
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---	--	--	--

Parents need confidence in HES's ability to implement all Public Health Mandates			
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Number of children in your household attending HES

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4 or more

ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

Your answer

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Possible new Covid positions:

The administration has been discussing how we will be handling our anticipated reopening of school sometime in September. We anticipate four new positions which include the following:

3 positions of approximately 1.5 hours before school and 1.5 hours after school is dismissed. All school buses will begin their runs from HES morning and afternoon.

These three positions include the sanitizing of one bus, making temperature checks for each student who enters the bus both morning and afternoon, the seating of students in specific seats, monitoring those students to remain in those assigned seats, and to monitor exiting students for social distancing as they exit the bus.

The pay will be negotiated with no added benefits

This position reports to the principal

1 position of three hours from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm to use the sanitizing machine that will sanitize the entire school that will also include the washing and drying of all bedlinens for all Pre-K students, and the washing of all cloth toys used in Pre-K and Kindergarten

Training will be supplied

The pay rate will be negotiated.