

HCS D

Moving Forward

TRANSITION TO INCREASED IN-PERSON STUDENT ATTENDANCE

MARCH 16, 2021

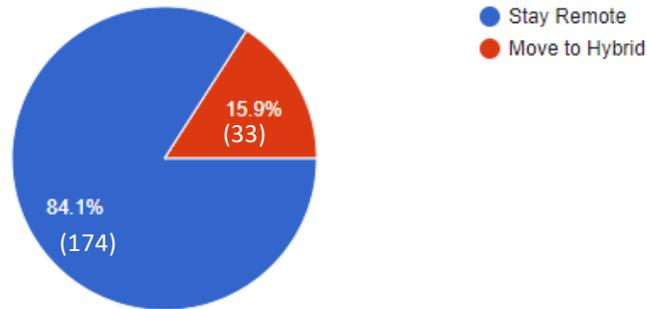
Goal:

Return more students to
in-person attendance
following applicable local
and state guidelines

Current Remote Students

I prefer my child to:

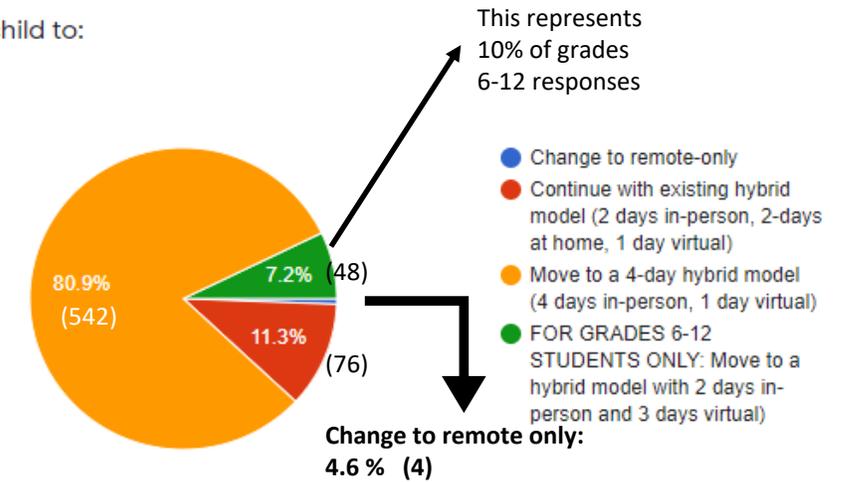
207 responses



Current Hybrid Students

I prefer my child to:

670 responses



Survey Results

Total responses: 877 total responses

Building:

- HES 47.2% (670 responses)
- HMS 25.9% (227 responses)
- HHS 26.9% (236 responses)

Hybrid v. Remote:

- Hybrid: 76.4% (670 responses)
- Remote: 23.6 % (207 responses)

Most recent guidance from Ulster County Department of Health

“Ulster County believes that if the following measures are taken, schools should be able to operate full-time in person 4 or 5 days a week during the balance of this year and continue to keep in-school transmission low like it was in the Fall prior to the holiday season. In the end it is the decision of the local school district to make the decision on how and when to return to full-time in-person school.”

Memo, “Considerations for the Safe Return of Students and Staff to Full-Time In-Person School Learning,” to Ulster County School Superintendents from the Ulster County Department of Health, March 11, 2021.

Most recent guidance from UCDOH

Measures suggested:

Already in place in HCSD

- Tape on floors in hallways, cafeteria, etc. to indicate 6 ft and traffic flow directions.
- Involving stakeholders in the decision process.
- Close communal use shared spaces such as dining halls and playgrounds with shared playground equipment if possible; otherwise, stagger use and clean between use.
- Ensure proper distancing on school buses; wear masks at all times on buses.
- Allow mask breaks as necessary and possible, preferably outdoors.
- Install approved HVAC systems and ensure proper ventilation.
- Continue to offer remote learning and allow parents to opt out of in-person learning.

Currently part of the planning process for 4 days in-person instruction

- Create plans that can be quickly shifted to respond to positivity rates in the community.
- Social distancing of 6 feet is still considered by the CDC and the NYSDOH to be the best measure to reduce virus spread, however, if 6 feet of separation is not attainable, then the **installation of barriers such as sneeze guards and partitions** may be considered, however the separation must be **no less than 3 feet**.

Other important guidance

- As of March 10, 2021, NYSDOH issued guidance stating:
 - “Consistent with recent CDC guidance, asymptomatic individuals who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 do not need to quarantine during the first 3 months after full vaccination . . .” as long as it has been at least two weeks since last vaccination and within 90 days of full vaccination.
- In a memo to Ulster County School Superintendents on February 17, 2021, Dr. Carol Smith of UCDOH defines close contact as:
 - “Persons who were within six feet for ten minutes or more cumulatively over a 24 hour period. It is still considered close contact if masks are worn and barriers are on desks.”
 - “Persons who were indoors with the case in a regular sized classroom when masks were not worn for more than 10 minutes even if greater than 6 feet apart. This situation often occurs at lunch.”
 - “If a school is unable to identify persons sitting within a 6 feet parameter of case on a bus, the entire bus would be subject to quarantine.”

With the change in Ulster County DOH guidance and the results of the parent survey, we have shifted to planning for two learning options:

Option 1

Attend school in-person 4 days a week, K-12 with Wednesday remaining a remote day.

Option 2

Attend school remotely 5 days a week.

Four Days in Person

Impact on student schedules

- **Any student who changes from hybrid to remote or remote to hybrid, will have schedule and teacher changes.**
- **Changes to current hybrid schedules**
 - Grades K-5
 - No change in classroom teacher (as long as they remain in the mode of instruction they have followed all year)
 - Supports offered on “at-home” day (ex. AIS, OT/PT, Speech, etc) schedules will change
 - Grades 6-8
 - Students will see changes to their special area class schedule, only a small number of students will see changes to core classes.
 - Grades 9-12
 - There will be minor changes in Physical Education and Science lab schedules, but not teachers

Four Days in Person

Impact on Systems & Protocols

- Arrival and dismissal protocols will change or become longer.
 - Your building administration will communicate any changes to you before the transition to 4 days of in person instruction.
- Lunch periods will have larger numbers of students unmasked in spaces.
 - Both HS and MS have lunch periods that would need to accommodate over 100 students
 - We are planning to provide outside eating opportunities as well as other alternate locations to minimize the concentration of students in one area.
 - ES lunch in the classroom will have double the number of students unmasked
- Plastic barriers will be necessary for classroom and cafeteria spaces.
- Transportation times and routes will change.
 - These will be shared with parents before the transition to 4 days in person instruction.
- This could lead to larger numbers of students needing to quarantine after positive exposure

Four Days In-Person Impact on Remote Schedules

- Remote only students will receive 5 days of remote instruction.
- Grades K-5 will see changes to related services schedules
- Grades 6-8 remote only students will see changes to their special area class schedule.
- This schedule will begin the same day as hybrid students begin attending 4 days per week.

Recap & Timeline

- *March 22 if decided this evening, otherwise April 5:* Current hybrid Kindergarteners begin 4 days in person attendance
- Monday, April 12 or 19*:
 - Begin 4 days in person instruction for all hybrid students.
 - Begin 5 days remote instruction for remote only students*

*The start date will depend on:

- the delivery date and installation of plastic barriers.
- retrieval, assembly and placement of furniture currently in storage

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT OF OUR
STUDENTS AND
DISTRICT!

Questions & Discussion