

COVID-19 Metrics for School Opening and Closures

- Metric Information Recently Made Available
- Data Review Process
- Assumptions for In-Person Learning
- Defining our “Community”
- Draft LPS District Dashboard
- Support Documents

With new color-coded metric from DPH / COVID-19 Command, DESE is issuing additional guidance for selecting a learning model

New color-coded metric*		DESE expectation for learning model
RED	Average daily cases per 100,000 is greater than 8	Remote
YELLOW	Average daily cases per 100,000 is between 4 - 8	Hybrid OR Remote (if extenuating circumstances)
GREEN	Average daily cases per 100,000 is less than 4	Full-time in-person OR Hybrid (if extenuating circumstances)
UNSHADED	Fewer than 5 total cases over the past 14 days. Generally, this is for communities with small populations and very few cases.	

**Measured as a 14-day rolling average and will be reported weekly as part of the online DPH dashboard*

Source: "From the Desktop: Commissioner Riley 8.11.20

Additional considerations

Other metrics to review: While average daily cases per 100,000 is the metric that determines the color coding for each community, districts / schools should also monitor whether cases are **increasing or decreasing** vs. the prior period. Monitoring **positive testing** also remains an important metric. In consultation with their local boards of health, districts should consider whether these additional metrics and underlying data may indicate other concerning trends. DESE will provide additional guidance on example scenarios regarding other metrics for districts to review.

Multiple weeks of data is necessary to understand trends: Districts should **look at multiple reports** to inform any changes to their learning model for the start of the school year or to make any changes during the year.

Regional schools and others that draw from multiple cities/towns: We will issue additional guidance that points you to the appropriate data to view for your context.

Process:

Regular Review of Risk Incidence Levels using District Dashboard

- Every other week as part of standard School Committee Meetings, the following data will be reviewed and discussed:
 - Data from the MA Dept. of Public Health
 - Individual cases and cohort information
 - Infection rate report from Lincoln Health Department
- The School Committee will look at the data/trends and determine next steps based on the Learning Model Metric Chart.
- The Superintendent will review data daily.
- The Superintendent and School Committee Chair will review data weekly.
- If there is an immediate need to review data, the School Committee will convene to discuss.
- It is the responsibility of the School Committee, within the context of State guidance, to make the decision to move from one Learning Model to another. The School Committee will make these decisions based on recommendations from the Superintendent and current data.

Assumptions for In-Person Learning:

- Successful adaptation of Mitigating Factors throughout the District:
 - Physical Distancing
 - PPE/Face coverings
 - Disinfection/Cleaning
 - Students, Faculty and Staff self-screen for symptoms each day
 - Students, Faculty and Staff will report symptoms and report if close-contacts outside of the school test positive
 - Cohorts will be maintained to allow for accurate contract tracing
- ? Possible “Contract” to sign by parents agreeing to these terms?

Defining our Community:

What specific location data will we use to define our school community?

More guidance coming from DESE regarding defining Communities for METCO districts

Two Ring View?:

- First look at where 80% of students and staff reside (Lincoln and surrounding communities)
- Then look at where 85-90% of our staff are reside

DRAFT – LPS School Opening Reference Chart

Indicator:	Source	Current	Indicator Ranges	Indicator Color Level	Change From Last Week
MA Re-Opening Phase	Mass.gov	Phase 3 Step 1	> Phase 1 for in-person learning	In Person	Steady
MA 7 Day Weighted Average of Positive Molecular Test Rate	Mass.gov	0%	< 5% for in-person learning	In Person	Lower from 1.9%
Lincoln New Positive Case Numbers (Rolling 14 days)	MA DPH	4	Under 5 for in-person learning	In Person	Higher relative change in case counts; No Change in percent positivity
LPS New Positive Cases (Rolling 14 days)	Lincoln Health Dept.	0	Under 5 for in-person learning	In Person	
Lincoln PK-4 (Rolling 14 days)	LHD/ Principal	# People: 0 # of Cohorts: 0	<3 people for in-person learning	In Person	
Lincoln 5-8 (Rolling 14 days)	LHD/ Principal	# People: 0 # of Cohorts: 0	<3 people for in-person learning	In Person	
HPS (Rolling 14 days)	LHD/ Principal	# People:0 # of Cohorts: 0	<3 people for in-person learning	In Person	
HMS (Rolling 14 days)	LHD/ Principal	# People: 0 # of Cohorts: 0	<3 people for in-person learning	In Person	
Sudbury Average Incidence Rate per 100,000 (last 14 days)	MA DPH	2.0	<4 for in-person learning	In Person	Higher relative change in case counts; Lower percent positivity