



## Wareham Public Schools

Multi-Service Center  
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August 7, 2020

Dear Wareham Families,

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education issued the Initial Fall School Reopening Guidance on June 25, 2020. Since the release of the guidance, members of our school community have spent countless hours developing the plans, remote learning, hybrid, and in-person learning, per the direction of the Commissioner of Education. A district-wide task force helped to provide a broad overview of the district plans. As well, each building formed a task force, developed specific plans for each school following these goals.

- To ensure the safety of our students and staff.
- To provide our students with a rigorous and challenging academic experience.
- To support our students' social-emotional well-being and development.


The Wareham School Committee held three workshop meetings during the month of July. Building Principals and the Director of Student Service presented their building and department plans to the Committee. These workshops provided the School Committee an opportunity to learn about the plans and ask questions.

On August 6, 2020, the School Committee voted to adopt the hybrid plan as the return to school model.

The Commissioner of Education agreed with the Massachusetts Teachers Association, and reduced the number of student days for this school year to 170, 10 days less than usual. This will provide time for us to enhance our remote instruction, put safe protocols in place, and communicate with all of you. Thus, the first day for our students is September 16, 2020. Our students will begin in a remote setting as we gradually phase in the hybrid component. Currently, it is our hope for students to return to a cohort group starting October 5, 2020.

While we now have the framework of our back to school plan, there are additional details that we continue to address. We will be sharing this information with you very shortly. Thank you for your patience and understanding. I realized the burden this decision places on every family in our district; however, keeping all safe and healthy is our number one priority and it is our belief this entry plan will help us in keeping everyone safe.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Kimberly Shaver-Hood