



Kenton County School District | *It's about ALL kids.*

**THE KENTON COUNTY BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

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Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent of Schools

KCSD ISSUE PAPER

DATE:

10/18/2020

AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):

Consider/Approve District COVID-19 In-Person Decision Matrix for KCSD to begin January 6th 2021

APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:

01.11 General Powers and Duties of the Board

HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

The KCSD started the 2021 school year on full time synchronous learning for all students with the exception of those who chose full time virtual learning. On September 28th, the district transitioned to an A/B rotational model for grades 4-12 and full time P-3, staff P-8 kids and those determined by ARC's. Since this time we have added EL students based on performance plan review/recommendation and Tier three students based on intervention plan/recommendation. TEAM KENTON has done an outstanding job with all aspects of plan implementation and our team's growth mindset and willingness to do "whatever it takes" for our kids is simply incredible. Additionally, we extend a special thank you to our parents/guardians, families and community for their support and patience during this unprecedented time. The In-Person Decision Matrix was reviewed by CO staff, school leadership and leadership from our KCEA team. This model is congruent with the COVID-19 Mode of Instruction Metric for K-12 Education shared by the Governor's office issued on 12/14/20. This dashboard utilizes our current COVID-19 testing system to ensure we have school specific data to make school level decisions to mitigate risk for our students, staff and families. COVID-19 continues to have a profound impact on the social, emotional and academic well-being of our kids and our staff. (Please see attachments) It is our responsibility to take everything into consideration to try to mitigate all risk to our students, staff and families. We believe this model is congruent with guidelines and meets the needs of our students, staff and families well-being. It is important to note that the district and/or individual schools may switch categories or change to complete remote learning due to quarantines or recommendations from state/local health officials. The testing model for 2021 will be as follows: 5% of all staff/students who did not opt out of testing will be tested bi-weekly for school level decisions. The testing company states that we have a 90%+ rate of determining spread in our individual schools using this model. This will also ensure that schools have some continuity as determinations will be made for 2 weeks at a time.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Approximately \$275,000 for COVID-19 Testing to be paid from CARES funding.

Kenton County Board of Education

Board Members: Carl Wicklund, Chairperson Karen L. Collins, Vice Chairperson Carla Egan Shannon Herold Jessica Jehn
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RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of District COVID-19 In-Person Decision Matrix for KCSD to begin January 6th 2021

CONTACT PERSON:

Henry Webb

Principal

District Administrator



Superintendent

Use this form to submit your request to the Superintendent for items to be added to the Board Meeting Agenda.

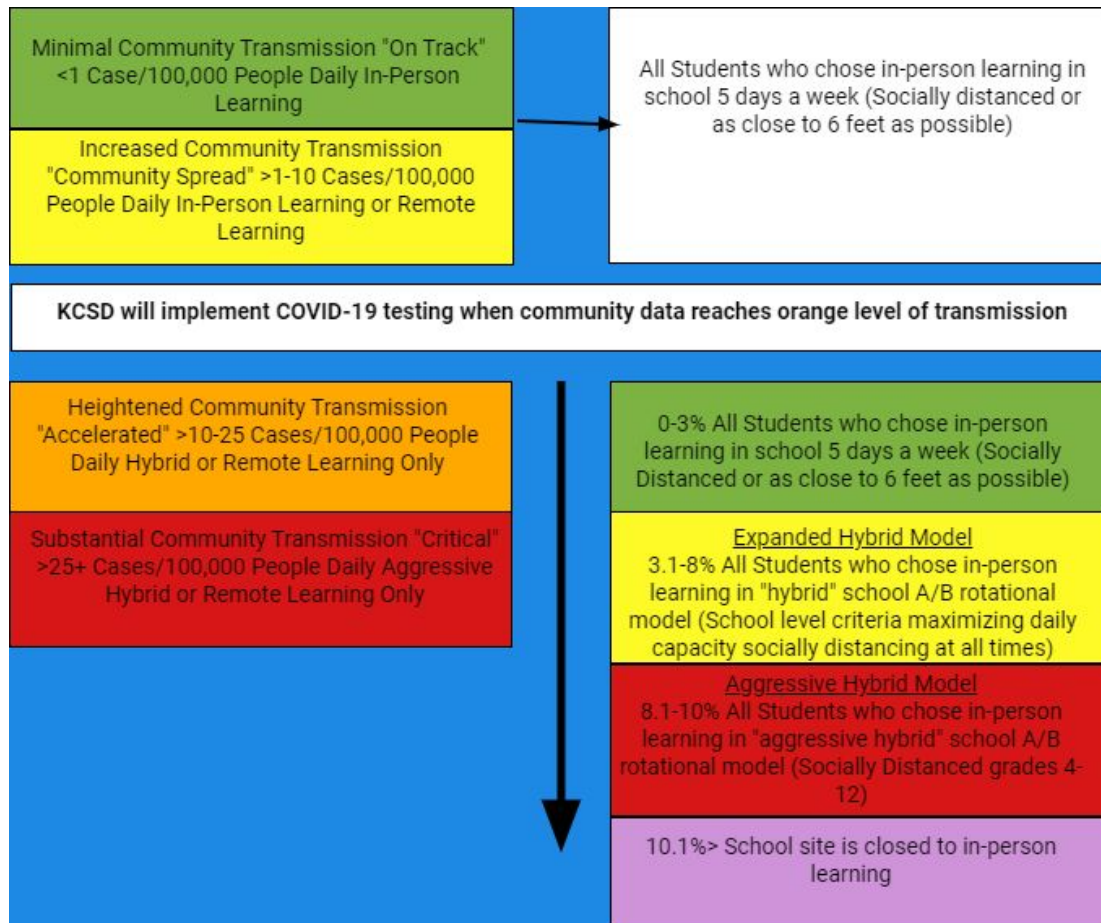
Principal –complete, print, sign and send to your Director. Director –if approved, sign and put in the Superintendent's mailbox.

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KCSD COVID-19 Dashboard Overview

KCSD has updated the COVID-19 In-Person Instructional Dashboard for 2021. The dashboard has been updated to ensure we continue to mitigate risk for our students, staff and families with regards to COVID-19 while also mitigating risk for our students' academic well-being and our students/staff social and emotional well-being. This dashboard ensures that all stakeholders have access to the In-Person Learning Matrix and data utilized by the district to make informed decisions for in-person learning. The following information is an overview of each section on our dashboard to explain the calculations and graphs utilized.



The updated 2021 KCSD in-person learning decision matrix is congruent with the COVID-19 Healthy at School guidance document and the Governor's order. This dashboard utilizes our current COVID-19 testing system updated and it has been updated for congruency with the CDC Indicators and Thresholds for Risk of Introduction and Transmission of COVID-19 in Schools (see CDC chart at end of this section). Additionally, this model enables the district to make informed decisions regarding potential prevalence/transmission in individual schools based on data. Also, this model enables the district to mitigate risk from COVID-19 for our students, staff and families while also mitigating risk for our students' academic

well-being and our students/staff social/emotional well-being. As a reminder, decisions are made on Friday mornings for the following two weeks. Finally, the district or individual schools may be closed to in-person learning at any time due to the number of quarantined staff/students or in conversation with state/local medical professionals.

District Total Positive Chart

Total Number of Positive Cases Reported to KCSD since Mid-August. This total includes students in full-time synchronous and VL.

430

The District Total Positivity Chart displays all positives (in-person, synchronous, virtual students and all staff) that have been reported since the beginning of data collection in Mid-August.

COVID-19 Information Links:

[KY COVID -19 Website \(Kenton County current cases per 100,000/K-12 Dashboard\)](#)

[KDE COVID-19](#)

[K-12 School COVID-19 Self-Reported Data](#)

[NKY Health](#)

[Center for Disease Control](#)

The information links contain the current cases per 100,000 for Kenton County and the current number of positive cases by school and by district under the KY COVID-19 link. These links also contain other important data/information regarding COVID-19.

KCSD District Testing Program Results

KCSD District Testing Results

When testing is implemented decisions regarding in-person instruction will be made using the testing positivity rate collected. Results from bi-weekly COVID-19 testing will be displayed in the table below.

Week of 11/20/2020 Data

Schools	# of Positives From Testing	Sample Size	Total % Positive ▾
White's Tower	3	56	5.36%
Ft. Wright	2	48	4.17%
Summit View	3	124	2.42%
Dixie Heights	2	89	2.25%

The KCSD District Testing Results graph shows the number of positive students/staff, the number tested or sample size and the total % of positive tests for individual sites. The positivity rate will be used for individual school decisions. Data will be reviewed each Friday morning and decisions based on the testing data will be in place for two weeks until the next round of testing is complete.

District Covid-19 Testing Program (Beginning 1/11/21)

The Kenton County School District is revising the COVID-19 testing program for school staff and students beginning 1/11/2021. COVID-19 testing will occur when Kenton County is in the "Orange/Red" categories to ensure we continue to mitigate risk for all students, staff and our families. The testing program will enable the district to utilize data to make individual school site in-person learning decisions in lieu of utilizing broad data for district wide decisions. The testing program has been changed to test bi-weekly and 5% of those students/staff that did not opt out of the testing program. The testing company indicates we have a greater than 90% threshold of determining prevalence/transmission under this model. The test will continue to be the PCR test which the testing company indicates a >99% accurate rate based on studies. Additionally, we believe that this model will enable schools to have some sense of continuity while still mitigating risk. We also believe that utilizing building level data to determine the prevalence of the COVID-19 virus is the most effective way to make sound decisions to mitigate risk for all stakeholders.

The program will be implemented as follows:

- The program will be initiated when community transmission moves into the "Orange/Red Categories"
- When community transmission is in the "Orange/Red Categories" each school site will test 5% of students/staff who did not opt out of the testing program. (According to the testing company the district has a >90% rate of determining prevalence/spread in the individual school site at 5% testing)
- The program will test students in grades 2-12 (who did not opt out of testing). Schools will remain in their identified category for two weeks as testing will be every two weeks. Testing every other week enables our schools, kids and families to have some sense of stability while still mitigating risk for everyone.
- Students/staff have the ability to "opt out" of the testing program with no consequences
- Results will be reviewed on Friday morning to make decisions for the following two weeks.
- All costs associated with the testing will be paid by the district. The cost for testing is potentially reimbursable by FEMA and/or CARES funding.
- Testing protocols will be developed with the selected testing company to ensure accuracy and consistency in our testing program.
- According to testing companies, the PCR test being utilized is 99.5 percent accurate.
- The test will be "self-administered," however, district health staff will be trained and available to assist with all tests.
- Test samples will be sent directly to the lab, and all results will be delivered to the district within 48 hours.
- Positive results will be shared with the local health department, our families and the guidance from the Department of Public Health will be followed. Privacy and confidentiality will be maintained.

While we understand that there may be conflicting information on testing asymptomatic individuals, the district believes that the implementation of a testing program when community transmission enters the "Orange/Red Category" enables the district to make informed decisions based on school district data to maximize in-person learning for our students while still mitigating risk for all stakeholders.

Anyone with additional questions should contact your local school and/or our Director of Health Services.

The KCSD remains committed to ensuring we do everything we can to keep TEAM KENTON, including our extended community, safe during this COVID-19 pandemic.

CDC indicators and Thresholds for Risk and Transmission of COVID-19 in Schools

Indicators	Lowest risk of transmission in schools	Lower risk of transmission in schools	Moderate risk of transmission in schools	Higher risk of transmission in schools	Highest risk of transmission in schools
Core Indicators					
Number of new cases per 100,000 persons within the last 14 days*	<5	5 to <20	20 to <50	50 to ≤ 200	>200
Percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days**	<3%	3% to <5%	5% to <8%	8% to ≤ 10%	>10%
<p>Ability of the school to implement 5 key mitigation strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent and correct use of masks • Social distancing to the largest extent possible • Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette • Cleaning and disinfection • Contact tracing in collaboration with local health department <p>Schools should adopt the additional mitigation measures outlined below to the extent possible, practical and feasible.</p>	Implemented all 5 strategies correctly and consistently	Implemented all 5 strategies correctly but inconsistently	Implemented 3-4 strategies correctly and consistently	Implemented 1-2 strategies correctly and consistently	Implemented no strategies

For more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/indicators.html#thresholds>

2021 District In-Person Learning Dashboard Based on Data

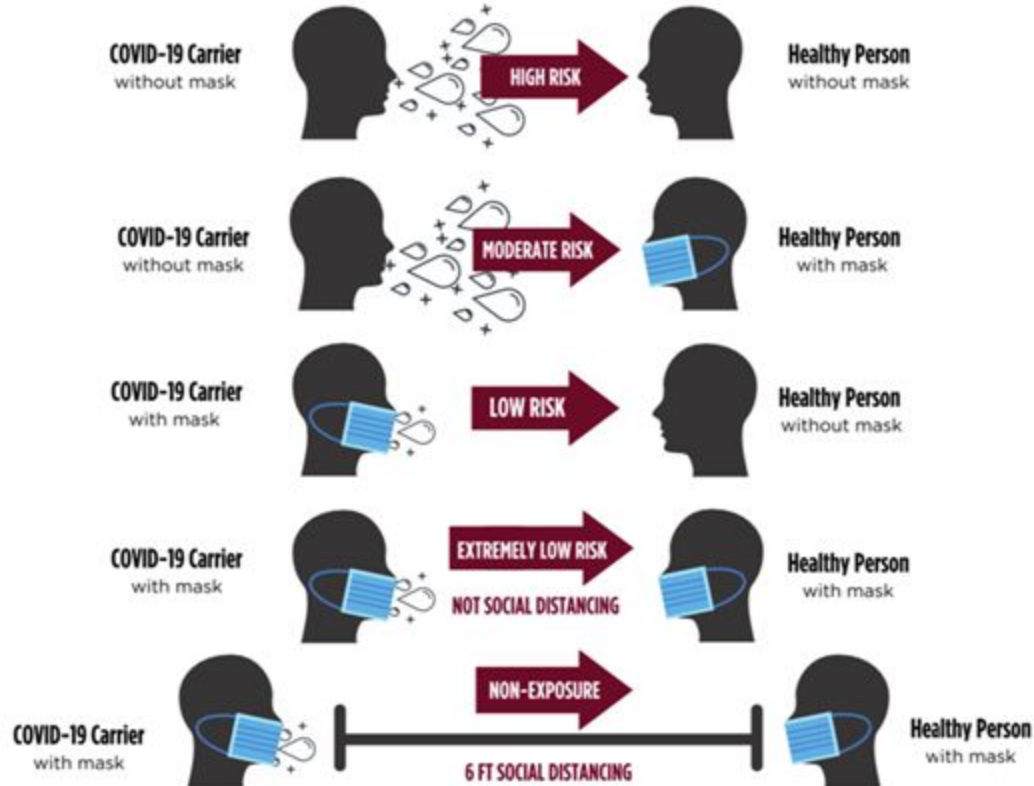
In-Person Learning Dashboard 2021 Recommendation Dynamics:

- School Districts across the country, the commonwealth, the region and here in KC continue to do our very best utilizing all of the information/data we have to make the best decisions for kids during this unprecedented time in our history.
- Safety is our number one priority in the KCSD and mitigating risk due to COVID-19 will continue to be a top priority.
- Additionally, trying to determine a balance to also mitigate risk for the academic well-being of our students and the social emotional well-being of our students and staff must also be a priority.
- National, State and local medical professional recommendations have been and will always be strongly considered. While not always congruent with the CDC our medical professionals are doing their very best utilizing state level data/information and their expertise to make these recommendations. Our medical professionals at the state/local levels are to be commended for their efforts during this unprecedented time.
- KCSD is very unique as we are one of the only districts in KY and perhaps the nation that has implemented a COVID-19 testing program to measure prevalence/transmission in our schools. This data enables the district to have specific school level data to make informed decisions about COVID-19 in local school sites. It is imperative that we utilize this data to make school level decisions rather than making blanket decisions for a district with 18 facilities and 14,000+ kids.
- Qualitative and Quantitative data continues to be utilized to ensure we make the most informed decisions regarding our district in-person learning dashboard to include but not limited to:
 - Medical professionals recommendations/thoughts
 - Information on spread of the virus in our schools from school level district level staff (Note: while we continue to monitor the information/data the district does not have any current information to support the transmission of COVID-19 in our schools)
 - Review of state data, regional data, district school COVID data to include reported positives and testing program data
 - Grades which data indicates that we have more kids failing/struggling in classes when compared to this point last year
 - Formative/assessment data
 - Terrace Metrics Data (Social Emotional Learning) indicates that while we have higher levels of trauma reported this fall we have less students receiving services when compared to previous years due to the access/utilizing support. While the district is providing on-line services early indication is that students are reluctant to utilize the on-line support when compared to in-person data, and feedback from stakeholders.
- Please see below for a few key informational artifacts impacting the recommendation for our in-person learning dashboard.

The CDC has released this [matrix for schools](#) to follow regarding COVID-19 and in-person learning. While the KY dashboard for in-person learning is not congruent with CDC's current model it is important that we consider this model, especially the testing program recommendations as this is the only matrix that we have accessed regarding recommendations for in-person learning utilizing a testing program.

Levels of Exposure

Keeping Yourself and Others Safe



This graphic was shared by St. Elizabeth Health Care and is a critical guide with regards to ensuring we continue to mitigate risk regarding COVID-19 for our students, staff and families. Additionally, this graphic is congruent with the current indications from national, state and local medical professionals that spread is not occurring in schools and local data based on our testing system is congruent as well. We strongly believe that the school setting is one that has embraced and is doing an excellent job of implementing all guidelines to mitigate risk.

TEAM KENTON has performed amazingly during this unprecedented time and we cannot thank our amazing TEAM enough. Additionally, our families and extended community have been incredibly supportive and very patient with our new reality. Our recommendations to our courageous board during this time will always be grounded in the best data/information we have and will always be made to mitigate all risk for our students, staff, families and our community.

Grade Level	2019-2020 % Failing One or More Courses 1st Term	2020-2021 % Failing One or More Courses- First Term	2020-21 % Failing One or More Courses- Second Grading Period as of 12-18
4th Grade	8%	8%	29%
5th Grade	6%	*10%	28%
6th Grade	6%	20%	50%
7th Grade	10%	16%	49%
8th Grade	10%	25%	50%
9th Grade	15%	23%	43%
10th Grade	17%	21%	42%
11th Grade	15%	17%	35%
12th Grade	14%	12%	30%

Level	% of Students Impacted by Trauma as measured by Terrace Metrics-Spring 2020	% of Students Impacted by Trauma as measured by Terrace Metrics- Fall 2020
Middle	10%	17%
High	6%	16%

Level	% of Students in School Based Counseling-2019-2020 through November 2019	% of Students in School Based Counseling through November 2020	% of Suicide Risk Assessments-2019-2020 through November 2019	% of Suicide Risk Assessments- November 2020
Elementary	2.55%	2.71%	0.87%	0.11%
Middle *	4.08%	2.94%	1.67%	0.36%
High	2%	1.47%	0.44%	0.39%