As we plan for the beginning of the school year, we hope to introduce a blended learning model - face to face instruction complemented with home learning. Our goal is to balance the educational needs of students with the health and safety of staff, students, families and community.

Beginning the year with the most stable plan possible will increase the likelihood of us maintaining a delivery model for an extended period of time. As health conditions evolve, portions of this plan may change. We are working to finalize schedules and communicate details in the coming month.

Our planning follows guidelines from the Alaska Departments of Education and Early Development (DEED) and Health and Social Services (DHSS). The following risk levels are defined by the State of Alaska. [AK SMART START 2020](https://www.dhs.state.ak.us/coronavirus/education)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low Risk</th>
<th>Medium Risk</th>
<th>High Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No Community Transmission</strong></td>
<td><strong>Some Community Spread</strong></td>
<td><strong>Widespread Community Transmission</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>No laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the last 14 days, and no reported increase in the number of cases over the last 14 days.</em></td>
<td><em>Low to moderate level of community transmission: Minimal amount of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 as determined by community.</em></td>
<td><em>High level of community transmission: Outbreaks or increases in cases and recent laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19.</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wednesday will be used in the beginning of the year for staff preparation time, professional learning, and disinfecting as we establish our blended learning model.

Given sustained low risk status, there will be an increase in face to face learning time.

Wednesday will be home learning (e learning) all day for all students to provide staff preparation time, professional learning and disinfecting.

Green and Yellow risk levels have the same DHSS recommended guidelines for social distancing and other mitigation strategies. We anticipate starting the year in the Yellow level, **unless the community is in HIGH RISK status.**

Provided our community sustains low risk (Green), we will begin to phase in additional face to face learning.
**ELEMENTARY:** K-5 students will attend in person at least half days, 4 days a week. While the morning group is at school the afternoon group will be learning from home. Then the afternoon group will attend in person while the morning group learns from home.

Face to face time during these sessions will be classroom instruction only. Specials (music, PE, library, etc.) will be supported through the home learning portion of a student’s day.

Some groups, such as those students on IEPs, will possibly attend all day, 4 days a week.

**MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL:**
Students will attend in A and B groups, attending at least two full days a week and learn from home the other days.

Some groups, such as those students on IEPs, English Language Learners, etc., will possibly attend all day, 3-4 days a week.

The bell schedule/days may be adjusted to increase face to face learning time.

**Juneau Charter Community School and Montessori Borealis (including Children’s House):**
Students will attend in A and B groups, attending at least two full days a week and learn from home the other days.

**YDHS:** All students will attend Monday-Thursday full days; Friday will be an e learning day.

**Integrated and KinderReady:**
Students will attend normal hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday is a non student day (the usual non student day is Monday)

**ELEMENTARY:** Most K-5 students will attend in person for half days, 4 days a week. While the morning group is at school the afternoon group will be learning from home. Then the afternoon group will attend in person while the morning group learns from home.

_Tentative times:_ morning 8:00 - 10:45 and afternoon 11:45 - 2:30.

Face to face time during these sessions will be classroom instruction only. Specials (music, pe, library, etc.) will be supported through the home learning portion.

Some groups, such as those students on IEPs, will possibly attend all day, 4 days a week.

There may be some special requests regarding morning or afternoon sessions or siblings attending the same sessions, etc. Once we are in the phase of detailing those schedules, we will be asking for, and doing what we can to accommodate, those requests.

**MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL:** Students will attend in A and B groups, attending two full days a week and learn from home the other days.

_The bell schedule for middle and high school is still being developed and will be shared before the start of the year._

**Juneau Charter Community School and Montessori Borealis (including Children’s House):**
Students will attend in A and B groups, attending at least two full days a week and learn from home the other days.

**YDHS:** All students will attend Monday-Thursday full days; Friday will be an e learning day.

**Integrated and KinderReady:** Students will attend normal hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday is a non student day (the usual non student day is Monday)

**PRE-K to 12:**
All students will participate in home learning each day for regular school hours.

_Teachers will train students on the use of digital platforms and tools so that they can use them independently or with support while at home._
## Conditions for Learning

### Health and Safety Protocols

- Staff are required to wear masks/shields.
- Clear Humanity Shields will be provided to all certificated staff and other staff who provide instruction or would benefit from the use of a shield due to either comfort or the need to have their face visible.
- **Students are encouraged to wear masks.**
- Social/Physical distancing—reduced class sizes
- Hand washing
- Hand sanitizer available
- Gloves will be available to staff and students as needed.
- Cleaning of desks/chairs and other surfaces between change of students.
- Screening: staff and parents are expected to answer “no” to screening questions each day.
- Symptom free environment. Staff and students are expected to stay home if symptoms exist.
- Students and staff who demonstrate a fever or other symptoms while at school will be isolated and sent home.
- Deliberate cleaning and disinfection plan.
- Train and teach hygiene and other preventative measures to staff and students.
- In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in the building and poses a risk to the community, we may consider closing that particular building for a short time (2-5 days) for cleaning and disinfection.
- Adjusted routines for transitions between classes at secondary
- Minimize transitions at elementary
- Minimize “mixing” as much as feasible

### Parent and Family Engagement

- Communication between district, schools and teachers will be timely and informative.
- The district has reduced the number of platforms parents and students are asked to interact with.
- Training will be set up in August and September to help parents learn the distance learning tools implemented by teachers.
- These trainings will help parents navigate learning platforms and programs, communication tools, and understand the flow of learning from the classroom to the home and back to school.
- Information will be provided regularly to parents on how to support the home learning portion of the plan.
- The home learning activities/time will look much different than last spring as the core academics will be taught during the face to face time

### Transportation

- By reducing the number of students in buildings at one time, we will be providing for some social/physical distance on the buses.
- However, a full six feet may not always be possible.
- Students will be encouraged to wear masks.
- First Student employees will wear masks when riding on bus or assisting students on and off bus. Drivers may drive without masks.
Parents who are able to transport their children to school are encouraged to do so. Parents will be asked to drop off/pick up their students outside the entry doors to reduce the number of people mixing in the building. Transportation for elementary students will be provided for the midday switch between morning and afternoon groups.

Welcome Back Planning

- Given that students have not been in school for an extended time, particular attention will be paid to the introduction back to the school setting.
- For students who are transitioning (incoming Kinder students, 6th grades, 9th graders) we will be doing some specific activities to orient you to your new schools.

Continuity of Learning

Intervention/Learning Gaps

- As we stabilize in the green zone, we will be assessing students who need additional time to minimize the gaps or challenges resulting from the loss of face to face time instruction in the spring and will add time to their day as we have capacity.
- At the elementary level, interventionists and other specialists will work with students who need additional support both in person and via distance learning.

School Schedules

- Described above
- In order to be fully prepared for the new type of teaching we will be doing, we are considering a later start for students. We will communicate once we have it finalized, but we are considering a grade 1-12 student start date of August 24th instead of August 17th.
  - Start Date for Kindergarten: Thursday, August 27th
  - Start Date for PK: Monday, August 31st

Professional Learning

- The additional days before the start of students will allow for a better connected school and home learning experience for all students as teachers experience training in blended learning and have time to prepare in advance to support the distance learning portion of the plan.
- Teachers will learn about blended learning, as well as about the platforms being implemented this fall. Training will include introductions to learning management platforms, content creation and curation tools, and communication tools.
- Teachers will also have a substantial amount of time to meet in district and site Professional Learning Communities to learn their new tools in more detail, and to work with colleagues on blended learning lesson planning.
- Wednesday will be a home learning day for all students to provide preparation and training time for staff, as well as time for cleaning.
## Capacity of Learning

### Connectivity
- Our ability to deliver home/e-learning opportunities is dependent on access to both devices and the internet.
- Through a combination of funding sources, existing devices, and long term planning, we will be introducing a 1 to 1 device program in August. More information to follow on the expectations and benefits of this resource.
- Devices will be deployed to students in August.
- For students with connectivity concerns, we are continuing to work with local providers and other strategies to ensure access to the Internet.

### Student Activities and Travel
- ASAA will be providing guidance on ASAA sanctioned activities.
- Other district activities will be determined on a case by case basis.
- District related staff and student travel is restricted at yellow and red risk levels.
- District related staff and student travel per approval in green risk level.
- JSD will communicate the expectations related to activities as we get closer to the opening of fall seasons.
- Currently some programs are engaging in summer activities per the ASAA guidelines and district approved mitigation plans.

*Last revised 7/7/2020*