

Community Updates

Jean Childs Young Middle School

Preparing for the Next Phase of School

Today's Topics

- District Reopening Plan
- Young MS Reopening Plan
- Parent Survey
- Access to Resources: The DEN
- Next Steps

District Reopening Plan

APS Plans As of 10-5-2020

- For Phase 2, the district plans to bring students in grades Pre-K through 5th grade and those in Special Education Low Incidence classrooms back for four days of in-person instruction starting Monday, October 26. All other students would remain in virtual learning either in their home school or Atlanta Virtual Academy.
- For Phase 3, as early as November 16, the district could bring in students from grades 6 through 12 for four days of in-person learning.
- For Phase 4, as early as January 19, 2021, the district could resume five days of in-person instruction for all students.

APS District Wide Plan Key Points

- Elementary students allowed to return 10/26.
- Elementary staff to return 10/19.
- All self-contained SPED classes return on this same timeline.
- Virtual and in person options are being provided.
- Parents must complete survey to opt in to face-to-face instruction for these groups by 10/12.
- Proposed date to phase in middle school is 11/16 but this is pending success/lack thereof of the elementary return
- All of the above is pending health data as of 10/16 when a final determination will be made.

Young MS Reopening Plan

What does this mean for Young MS?

- We have **1 class** which is slated to open for face-to-face instruction and that is our **one Self-Contained Special Education classroom taught by Ms. Norman.**
- **Support and Leadership staff** will begin to report back to the building for work on staggered schedules beginning **10/19 to support Ms. Norman's class.**
- Some staff are being re-assigned duties to support the students and staff who are required to work face-to-face (Ms. Norman and her class).
- Those staff required to return on a staggered schedule on 10/19 include the School Leadership Team, counselors, social worker and some paraprofessionals not assigned to exact classes/students.

What does this mean for Young MS?

- Staff have been advised to begin to prepare for a potential building wide return the week of 11/9 in case the plan to allow middle school students back on 11/16 moves forward.
- Based on the staff survey sent out by the district, 31 Young staff members reported inability to return to face-to-face instruction.
- This includes more than half of our Math teachers, half of our Special Education staff, for example.

What does this mean for Young MS?

- Based on this, if a large number of students were to return for face-to-face instruction, our ability to provide both excellent virtual instruction, excellent face-to-face instruction and excellent and safe student supervision and care will be greatly compromised.
- If a large number of students return for face-to-face instruction on 11/16, we will have to change student and teacher schedules, abandon our instructional model of small teams, eliminate reading instruction on level for every child, and undo our intentionally created classes and cohorts of students.

What do we advise parents?

- If your child is engaging in virtual learning and has a routine in place, **do not disrupt it this semester. (remain virtual)**
- If you are happy with your child's current teachers and schedule, **do not disrupt it this semester. (remain virtual)**
- If you have concerns about health risk to your child or family, **continue with the virtual learning model for the rest of the semester.**
- If you are concerned that your child does not have a suitable at-home atmosphere to engage effectively in learning, consider the return to face-to-face.

What will a reopened Young MS look like?

- If we open on 11/16, we will run a **pandemic schedule** for those students who choose to return.
- Our focus will be to **create the least amount of disruption to teaching and learning** as possible and **keeping all staff and students safe** while in the building.
- **We are highly concerned about COVID, staff and student health and safety, and the integrity of teaching and learning with any potential return to face-to-face learning this semester.**

What will a reopened Young MS look like?

- Our **Pandemic Reopening Plan** will include:
 - No student movement outside of classroom except for scheduled and supervised bathroom breaks;
 - Virtual learning instructional delivery will continue;
 - Supervision of students by alternate staff members as they engage in virtual learning in classrooms;
 - Teachers might teach from classroom or other spaces depending on numbers of students who return;
 - Student access to teachers will remain primarily virtual.

Essentially, for students who return face-to-face 11/16, instruction will remain virtual even while in the school building so that we can maintain consistency of teaching and learning for all students.

While we guarantee supervision while virtually learning in the building to the best of our ability while maintaining COVID protocols for health and safety, we cannot guarantee your child's teacher will be the adult in the classroom with your child, nor can we guarantee your child will be grouped with current classmates.

COVID Health Precautions during reopening

- Students **screened upon arrival** at entry door at bus entrance (all students).
- Students with a **fever of 100.4 or higher OR showing ANY COVID type symptom** will be escorted directly to the nurse, parent called and **immediate pick up required**. Guidance will be given to the family on an allowable date to return to school face to face, but student may immediately engage in virtual learning again.
- **Hand sanitizer, cleaning products** are available in all classroom and office spaces.
- **Masks are required** at all times except when eating breakfast and lunch.
- **No movement or interaction outside of assigned cohort**. Students stay in one room with assigned cohort for the full day from arrival through dismissal including lunch and Connections.
- **No touching of any other person** at any time.

What if someone doesn't comply?

Absolute no tolerance for non compliance of school rules, routines, and COVID precautionary and safety measures.

Non compliance will lead to an immediate return back to virtual learning.

We simply will not jeopardize the health and/or safety of any of our staff or students due to non-compliance.

Every student needs a laptop and school supplies for Face to Face

- Students coming for face to face school **must bring their own or district issued laptop, pencils, and composition notebook.**
- There is **NO sharing of or loaning of supplies.**
- This is a compliance issue. If a student who has opted in for face to face continues to arrive to school without the needed laptop for learning, he/she will have to go back to virtual.

Technology Maintenance and Support

- Throughout the year, **anytime you have a tech need, call 404-802-1000.**
- We do not have ANY inventory of hotspots or computers.
- Every time the district delivers a shipment, we contact the next students on our waiting list.
- As of now, fewer than 20 students are still awaiting a computer and fewer than 20 are awaiting a hotspot.
- **For students who return in person, there are not devices in the building for them to use b/c we have distributed all of them for virtual learning.**

Parent Survey

Do I have to complete the parent survey?

- If you plan to send your child to the school building to receive their instruction on 11/16 for the rest of the semester, YES.
- Otherwise, you may, but you do not have to.
- If you do not complete the survey, your child will remain virtual on their current schedule with their same teachers.
- Survey can be found on the APS website.

Access to Resources: The DEN

The DEN

- Reminder that you may submit a referral for your child for any of the following:
 - **Social Emotional Support** (counseling, therapy, coaching of managing emotions or trauma, behavior support)
 - **Academic Support** (tutoring, study skills, study support)
 - **Basic Needs** (school supplies, connection to community resources for food/housing, etc)
 - **Access/Exposure** (Clubs, mentoring, extracurriculars)
- DEN Referral is on the Young MS website on the right hand side of the screen.

How and Who to Contact if you have questions

Contact grade level AP via email

- **6th grade:** Rod Hister hiterr@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- **7th grade:** Ron Garlington rgarlington@atlanta.k12.ga.us
- **8th grade:** Wanda Moore Williams wmwilliams@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Contact Principal if not grade level specific or concern not addressed

- **Kara Stimpson** kmstimpson@atlanta.k12.ga.us

Send a direct message via FB page

School number is answered between 8:30 and 4:30 daily: **404-802-5900.**

Beginning week of 10/19, school building and office will be closed on Wednesdays. Phones will not be answered.

Questions?

Put in chat.

Topics you'd like addressed in upcoming weeks?

Put in chat.

Thank you! And remember,
TOGETHER, we've got this :-)