

A grayscale photograph of the front of a school bus. The words "SCHOOL BUS" are prominently displayed in large, bold, black letters across the front. Below them, in smaller letters, is "EMERGENCY DOOR". The bus has three black exhaust stacks on the roof. The image is framed by a white border.

**SCHOOL BUS**  
EMERGENCY DOOR

HOPKINS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

## OPENING STATEMENT

Hopkins Public Schools is updating this document to meet the requirements as a recipient of ARP ESSER III funds. This document is subject to change with future orders or mandates from federal, state or county agencies. The Board of Education remains committed to monitoring and responding to local data and making operational decisions in consultation with the Allegan County Health Department. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to make decisions adjusting this plan in response to local COVID-19 data and ACHD recommendations specific to Hopkins Public Schools. This plan will be reviewed no less frequently than every six months.

## INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL

To best serve our community we will continue to offer a traditional, in-person, five days per week instructional model. A virtual option is not available.



# EDUCATIONAL GOALS

## Quality Evidence-Based Assessment Practices

The Hopkins Public Schools District believes that benchmark assessment evidence can be used to monitor and evaluate patterns and trends in school/district academic performance and to identify effective instructional programs. We believe it can provide guidance for standardizing or adjusting curriculum and instruction across grade levels, schools, and districts.

However, we will not use benchmark assessment data to make high-stakes instructional decisions about individual student learning. Rather, HPS will continue the use of (and professional learning around the use of) the formative assessment process as a powerful practice embedded in the teaching and learning process to continuously observe where our students are in order to modify instruction.

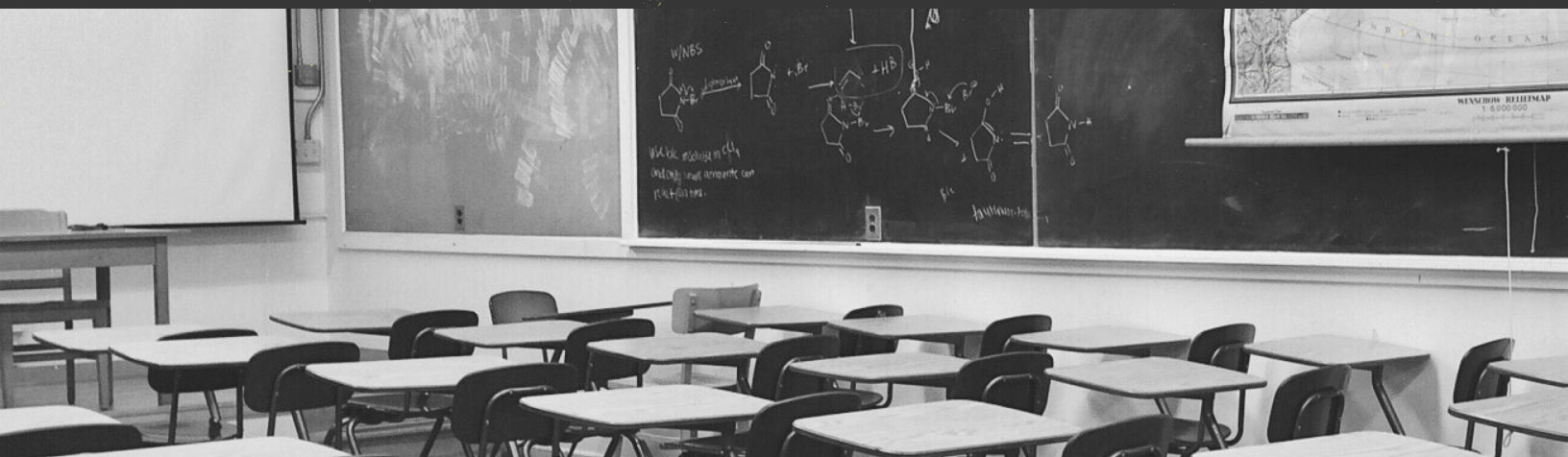
We believe the use of the formative assessment process, which is supported by an extensive body of research, provides in-time data for both our teachers and students to accelerate their learning and progress and gives us a more complete picture of what our students know and are able to do.

## Educational Goals

The NWEA assessments in reading and mathematics will be administered to all K-8 students three times each year: once in the first six weeks of the school year, once in January, and again prior to the last day of school. Formative assessments will provide information to inform our progress toward our goals over the course of the year. Progress reports will be available on our website in February and June.

As a means of continuous improvement in teaching & learning, all teachers have received or will receive professional development in, and commit to the use of, the formative assessment process.

Additionally, we will continue to engage stakeholders in the district's balanced assessment system, including publicly sharing aggregate and student subgroup performance reports on NWEA results.



# EDUCATIONAL GOALS

**Goal 1** - All students (K-8) will improve performance in Reading/ELA from Fall to Winter and Winter to Spring as measured by NWEA.

- All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Reading/ELA academic standards.

- Results from Reading/ELA benchmark assessments, local Reading/ELA summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

**Goal 2** - All students (K-8) will improve performance in Mathematics from Fall to Winter and Winter to Spring as measured by NWEA.

- All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Math academic standards.

- Results from Math benchmark assessments, local Math summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

**Goal 3** - All 8th-11th grade students enrolled and failing a Math course at the end of the 2021-2022 school year will improve performance in that content area as defined by final grades in their first math course of the 2022-2023 school year as 9th-12th grade students.

- All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Math academic standards.

- Results from Math benchmark assessments, local Math summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

**Goal 4** - All 8th-11th grade students enrolled and failing an ELA course at the end of the 2021-2022 school year will improve performance in that content area as defined by final grades in their first math course of the 2022-2023 school year as 9th-12th grade students.

- All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of ELA academic standards.

- Results from ELA benchmark assessments, local ELA summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

## **MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS**

The district has increased mental health services by providing additional counselors, social workers and therapists. The funding for these additional services has come through 31n and 31o grants as well as from the district's general fund. The Allegan County Community Mental Health Agency has also expanded services to students and staff in need of mental health supports.

## **TECHNOLOGY & INTERNET**

Although the district is not offering its own virtual instruction option, devices are provided for all students in grades Y5-12 at Hopkins Public Schools. Rural internet issues are a stark reality in Michigan. To help alleviate this, the district has provided a list of area hotspots that will allow students to access the internet.

## **EXTENDED LEARNING**

The district has hired intervention teachers and paraprofessionals to assist students with learning loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These positions are funded through ESSER funds and the district's general fund. The district was able to offer an expanded summer school program for all grade levels and provided meals and transportation for attending students.

## **SPECIALIZED SERVICES**

The district ensures a continuation of services for students receiving speech and language, occupational therapy, physical therapy, or social work services within their IFSP or IEP. The district also ensures a method for the continuation of evaluation for students suspected of having a disability as well as those requiring re-evaluation. The district also ensures that students of special populations are given additional considerations; these considerations vary by building and/or grade span.

The district will also provide access and additional opportunities to support English Learners with language development through a local district ELL teacher. Parents and families will continue to be supported in their native language(s) as requested. Students enrolled at Hopkins Public Schools with 504 plans in place will continue to receive appropriate accommodations as specified through their 504 plans. Those students that have social emotional needs will be provided with resources (personnel, curriculum and/or supplemental) to support those needs.

## **CAPACITY LIMITS**

At this time, there is no capacity limits on gatherings or events.

## **VISITORS**

Visitors and volunteers will be allowed in schools as long as current mitigation measures are followed.



## MASKING

Masks are optional, but not required, for all students, staff and visitors. This includes indoors, outdoors and on buses. Please respect the choice each person makes.

## DISTANCING

Proper social distancing will not be able to be achieved in most school settings.

## VACCINATION

The COVID-19 vaccine is not on the list of required vaccines for Michigan students.

## TESTING

At this time, there are no requirements to test students for COVID-19.

## QUARANTINE AND CLOSE CONTACTS

Schools will remain open unless ordered to close by the Allegan County Health Department or at times when staffing becomes an issue. While the health department values having students in school, it is possible that closures or full classroom quarantines could be issued depending on the size of an outbreak and the vaccination status of those affected. As with all communicable diseases, our school has a legal obligation to cooperate with public health investigations including assisting with identifying contacts of a positive case.

## ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Our students will continue to have access to early college, advanced placement and dual enrollment courses and the district will continue to work with the provider to determine the best method for providing these opportunities. For students enrolled in CTE programs the district will work with the CTC Principal/Director to ensure our students have the ability to complete these courses. When needed, the district will ensure the student has the necessary resources.

## REPORTING AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Reporting of positive cases is no longer required. Information and updates regarding COVID-19 can be found on the HPS website:  
[www.hpsvikings.org](http://www.hpsvikings.org)

## DAILY HEALTH SCREENING AND ILLNESS IN SCHOOL

We need all parents to screen their children for symptoms each day before going to school. Symptomatic students should be kept home. Keeping sick students home is our most powerful strategy to keep COVID-19 out of our school.

The Hopkins Public School District Board of Education complies with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, (including sexual orientation or gender identity), disability, age, religion, height, weight, marital or family status, military status, ancestry, genetic information, or any other legally protected category, (collectively, "Protected Classes"), in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Superintendent of Schools, Hopkins Public Schools  
400 Clark Street, Hopkins, MI 49328 Phone: (269) 793-7261