

Reopening  
TJEMS: A Town  
Hall Meeting

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Wednesday, January 20, 2021

**ROAR84**

**THOMAS JOHNSON ELEMENTARY MIDDLE**

# Greetings

**Presenter: James Dendinger, Principal**

**Moderators:**

- **Shireen Robinson, Assistant Principal**
- **Eileen Merriman, Educational Associate**
- **Kristanya Wruck, IEP Chair**
- **Katie Scotti, Teacher**
- **Jenn Wendler, Teacher**

# Norms

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- Generally save questions for the end.
- Post urgent questions in the chat and moderators will present those questions to the presenter.
- Keep your settings on mute when you are not asking questions.
- Understand that some questions cannot be answered today.
- Understand that circumstances are fluid and information could change between today and the reopening.
- Out of respect to all, we will close the meeting on time.

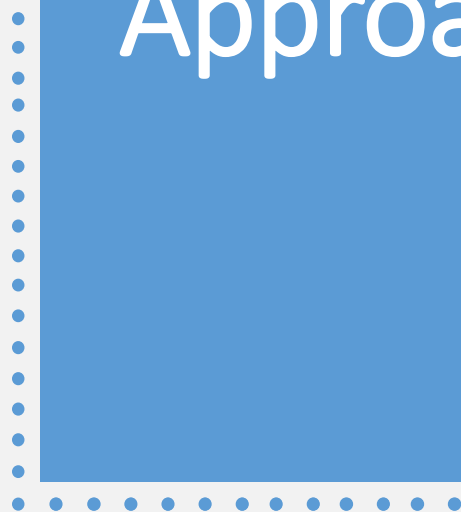


# Timeline for Information

- Initial communication in October and November of tentative plans for reopening in February.
- Principals attended a briefing with Dr. Santelises and Chief Davis on Wednesday, January 13 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- On Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, Central office officials announced to parents and the media official plans to reopen beginning on Tuesday, February 16.
- Districtwide townhall meeting for staff today (Wednesday, January 20).
- Districtwide townhall meeting for parents tomorrow (Thursday, January 21) at 5:30 p.m.
  - On Facebook, Twitter (@baltdcityschools), City Schools TV, and YouTube.
  - Check district website for more information.
- Survey later this week.
- There will likely be an additional town hall.

# Timeline for Reopening

- February 16, 2021: K-2 re-opens
- March 1, 2021: 3-5 re-opens
- By March, 2021: Announcement will be made for re-opening pre-K, 6, 7, 8.
- Feb. 8-12: Revised instructional days for grades K-2 teachers and other teachers to prepare for reopening.
- Feb. 22-26: Revised instructional days for grades 3-5 teachers and other teachers to prepare for reopening.



# In-Person Instructional Approach

- Pods of approximately 7 students.
- Teachers generally work with no more than two pods.
- Each student pod will interact with approximately three teachers/staff.
- EVERYTHING depends on in-person student numbers.
- There may be several instructional models within our school.
- SPAR classes will likely remain virtual.
- Depending on numbers, schedules may be different than current virtual schedule.

# Classroom Structure



- Only student desks and other essential items will remain in the classroom.
- Desks will be spaced 6 ft apart.
- There will be approximately seven students in a pod/classroom.
- Desk shields.
- Taped off teacher area.
- Removal of:
  - Rugs
  - Bean bags
  - Curtains
  - Small group instruction tables



## Classroom Structure (Cont.)

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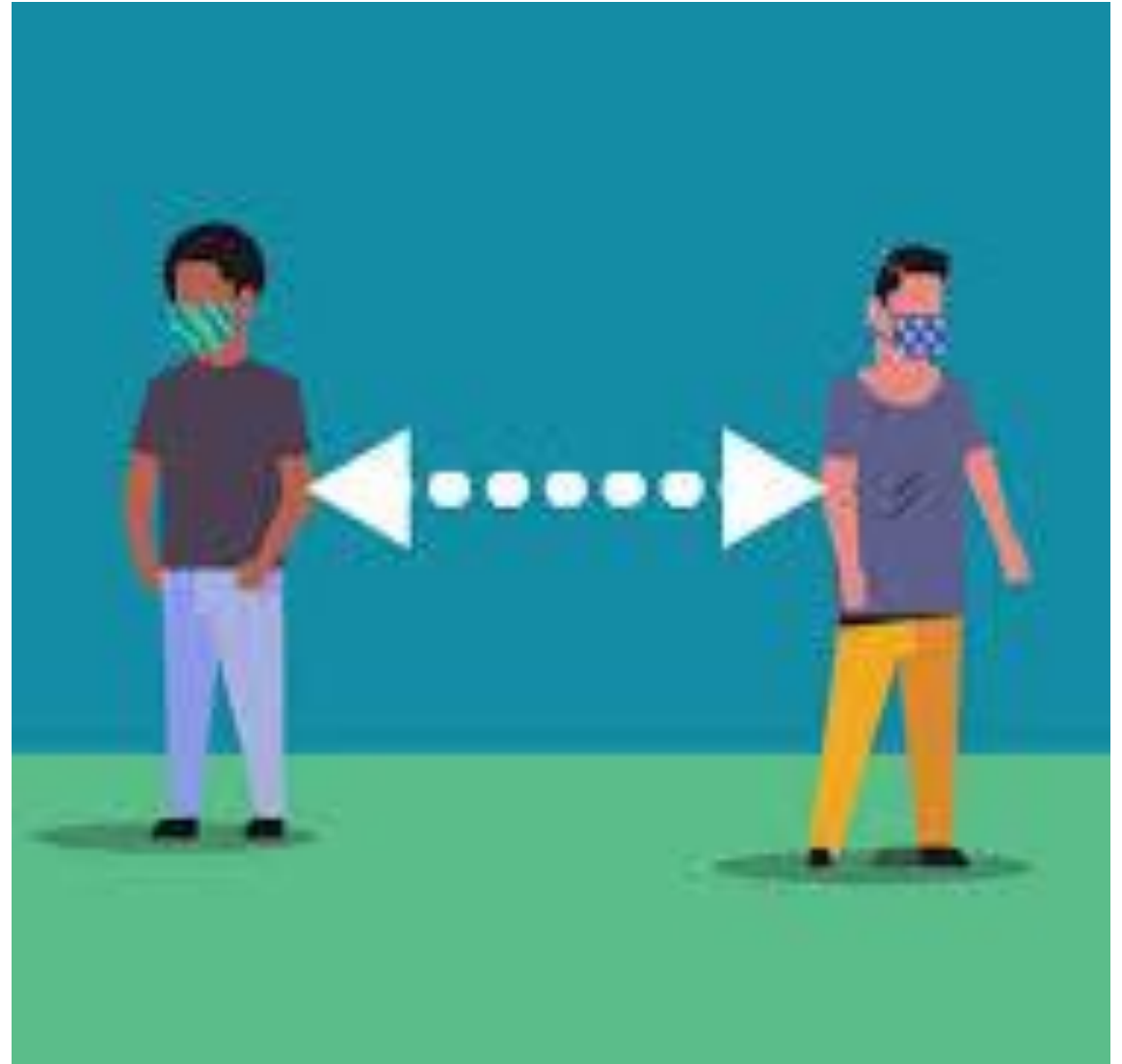
- No in-person small group instruction.
- Virtual instruction will be a component of in-person.
- Water bottles.
- Lunch in the classroom.
- No class changes.
- Students will remain in the classroom for the entire day.
- Recess with masks and social distancing.




# Other Information

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- Temperature check & health screening.
  - Morning entrance will be slower.
  - Parents must remain with students until they pass temperature screening.
- Student isolation room.
- No after-school programs.
- Restrooms
  - Assigned restrooms.
  - Usage will be coordinated.





# Other Information (Cont.)

- Parents will not be admitted inside the school.
- Yellow bus service continues.
- Small Group Wellness Wednesdays continue to remain virtual.
- If a member of a pod (teacher or student) tests positive, all members of the pod will begin quarantine protocol.
- Most teachers will teach a blend of in-person and virtual formats.
- All schools will receive Merv 13 filters on HVAC systems OR one of the two following air filters:
  - Medify MA-112 V.02
  - DELOS Powered by Healthway Intellipure Ultrafine 468

# Survey

Parents complete survey ASAP with due date of Wednesday, January 27 for EACH child.

Parents will not be permitted to change their minds after the due date.

Only after we receive confirmed numbers will we be able to plan our instructional model.

A hand holding a pen over a document with a circular overlay containing text. The background shows a wooden table with several red and grey decorative items.

# Opt-In Contract

- After students are designated for in-person learning, parents will receive an opt-in contract.
- Opt-in contract requires:
  1. Parent must give consent to on-site COVID testing by the Baltimore Health Department COVID Van.
  2. Parent must be able to pick up child within 15 minutes if the student presents with COVID-like symptoms.
  3. If a student becomes ill for any reason, a negative COVID test must be provided or parent must provide medical clearance from doctor before student returns to school.
  4. If a student or teacher within the pod tests positive, the pod will begin quarantine protocol.
  5. Parent must remain with student in morning until student is admitted entrance (potentially 45 minutes).
  6. Parent must pick up student promptly each day. At no time, will staff be available to keep students past the dismissal time.
  7. Indicate understanding that your child has increased risk for contracting COVID if attending in-person learning.

• Will I know if a COVID-19 case occurs at my optional in-person learning site?

City Schools will notify staff or families at that site in writing if an individual in a classroom pod tests positive for COVID-19 or if a classroom closure is required. Close contacts of the individual will be notified and subject to quarantine. The case will be noted on the district's COVID-19 dashboard.

- Will on-site COVID-19 testing be available at the optional in-person learning sites?

As part of our health and safety plan, City Schools provides free, daily, on-site COVID-19 testing at schools for any staff or students experiencing COVID-like symptoms. Results from this testing will be provided to City Schools and the impacted staff member or affected student's family.





## Next Steps

- Look for survey via Classroom Parent.
- Attend district-wide town hall meeting for parents on Thursday, January 21 at 5:30 p.m.
- Turn in survey prior to Wednesday, January 27, 2021.
- If your child is designated as a student who will return to in-person learning, an administrator will contact you to complete the Opt-In Contract.

# Any Questions?



## Questions

- Please feel free to unmute yourself one at a time to ask questions.
- We will close at 7:30 p.m.