



Canton Public Schools

Opening Minds - Transforming Lives

Reopening Plan Overview

Canton Public Schools' Reopening Goal

In the Canton Public Schools, our students will learn and achieve in a healthy, safe, emotionally, and intellectually supportive school and classroom environment. Our students will learn through high-quality engaging instruction delivered by highly qualified educators following our Vision of the Graduate and Canton's Community Expectations for Learning.

We partner with our students, educators, staff, families and community to:

- Work together with open minds, creativity and innovation
- Look for ways to treat others with kindness and respect
- Do our very best, be honest and hold each other accountable

We Value:

Collaboration

Kindness

Integrity



Vision of the Canton Public School Graduate



CREATIVE THINKER

I can

- Demonstrate curiosity and interest
- Generate and explore innovative ideas and solutions
- Take chances with the possibility of failure
- Respond to outcomes with adaptability and resilience



COMMUNICATOR

I can

- Seek opportunities to share with those with different perspectives
- Listen, speak, and write respectfully with my audience in mind
- Choose appropriate methods of communication
- Utilize a variety of media



COLLABORATOR

I can

- Contribute my ideas toward a common goal
- Promote discussion and respond in ways that lead to positive outcomes
- Listen to and consider different perspectives
- Adapt and compromise with others



CRITICAL THINKER

I can

- Examine existing assumptions or beliefs
- Identify and define problems or tasks
- Develop open-ended questions to drive learning
- Seek and evaluate information from a variety of viewpoints or sources
- Synthesize information in order to draw conclusions
- Determine strengths and challenges through self-reflection and feedback



COMPASSIONATE CITIZEN

I can

- Be kind
- Empathize with the needs of others
- Act with integrity
- Understand the local, national, and global impact of my actions
- Contribute my time, talents, knowledge and resources to benefit others
- Take ownership of my academic, civic, and social responsibilities



Canton's Guiding Principles

1. Keeping our students and staff safe and healthy by following public health guidelines
2. Supporting the physical safety, social-emotional well-being, and the mental health needs of our students
3. A return to in person learning for **ALL** students, **FULL TIME** in the Fall
4. Emphasizing equity, access, and support to students our community
5. Upholding equitable practices which support the Vision of a Canton Public Schools' Graduate

Canton Health and Safety Strategies

Understanding that risk is assessed as a continuum and that mitigation strategies work best in concert with one another in a layered model, multiple, effective, previously utilized strategies are available for possible employment in the Canton Public Schools.

Canton Mitigation Strategies

Vaccination Access	Provided in concert with FVHD Currently available to those aged 12 and older
Face Coverings	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations; If no requirements are in place, face coverings would be optional Mask wearing represents a data-based mitigation strategy in conjunction with a suite of strategies
Physical Distancing	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Three feet or more of physical spacing in school is the current recommendation as available and appropriate
Hygiene	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Hand washing and sanitization prior to and post activities reduces risk
Cohorting	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Efforts may be made to group students to mitigate transitions of students, as necessary. Developing seating charts to determine possible close contacts is recommended for all situations
Contact Tracing	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Current practices define close contact as within 6 feet for a cumulative time greater than 15 minutes.
Screening and Testing	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations
Cleaning Facilities	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Continued, regular cleaning of high touch surfaces
HVAC System Maintenance	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations Ensuring performance of school HVAC system
Stay Home if Ill	Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD Recommendations

Face Coverings

- The Canton Public Schools, per CDC, DPH and FVHD requirements and district policy, may require the wearing face coverings/masks which cover the nose and the mouth. In the absence of such requirements, the use of face coverings will be optional.
- The Canton Public Schools will provide a face covering/mask to those who may request them
- Masks may be required throughout the school day, although there may be “mask breaks” built into the school day when students are distanced by 6 or more feet from one another and from adults in the classroom
 - See Canton BOE Policy 4218.237 for current requirements
- Considerations relative to accommodations for any student and/or staff member will be made in conjunction with the district, DPH, FVHD, health staff, and health providers

Physical Distancing:

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD requirements, classroom environments may be configured to provide additional physical distancing
- Three feet or more of physical spacing in school is the current recommendation as available and appropriate
- Traffic flow and direction of traffic within buildings may be scripted, as feasible, to support physical distancing
- Lunch and recess plans may be developed at each building level, based on health and safety guidance
- Bussing seating charts may be in effect

Hygiene Protocols:

- Frequent hand washing or sanitizing
 - at home, upon arrival, before and after meals, after playing outside, after bathroom use, using shared surfaces or tools, after coughing or sneezing, before and after transitions, and prior to boarding buses.
- Hand washing/sanitizing routines explicitly taught skill at the elementary level
- Additional hand sanitizing stations will be provided in each school.
- Hand sanitizer will be available strategically throughout schools
 - See Canton BOE Policy 6114.8 Appendix A for additional guidance

Cohorting & Contact Tracing Protocols:

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, students may be grouped to minimize transitions and support contact tracing efforts as necessary.
- Developing seating charts to determine possible close contacts is recommended for all situations
- Current practices define close contact as within 6 feet for a cumulative time greater than 15 minutes.
- Students or staff who test positive for COVID 19 may be required to isolate per DPH and FVHD guidelines
- Students or staff who are considered a close contact to an individual who has tested positive for COVID 19 may be required to quarantine per DPH and FVHD guidelines

Cleaning & HVAC Protocols

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, regular cleaning and disinfection of classrooms will occur with an EPA certified disinfectant cleaner
- Bathrooms cleaned and disinfected regularly
- Sanitize in and sanitize out practices expected in transitions
 - At this point, shared resources may be utilized with mitigation strategies in effect
- Spray and/or wipes may be provided to each classroom to wipe down commonly used surfaces (tables, work tools and equipment, etc.)
- Monitoring to ensure performance of school HVAC system

Health Protocols - Parents:

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, student temperature checks each morning - if 100 degrees or greater PLEASE KEEP CHILD HOME
 - Thermometers available if needed
 - Health prioritized over attendance
- Other possible COVID-19 symptoms to watch for, per CDC:
 - Fever or Chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- If any of the above symptoms are present in your child, KEEP THEM HOME and notify the school nurse and your doctor for further guidance

Health Protocols - Staff:

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, staff are instructed to self-screen and perform temperature checks each morning - if 100 degrees or greater PLEASE STAY HOME
 - Health prioritized over attendance
- Other possible COVID-19 symptoms to watch for, per CDC:
 - Fever or Chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- If any of the above symptoms are present, STAY HOME and notify the school nurse and your doctor for further guidance

Health Protocols - School Based:

- Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, school staff will continuously monitor students for obvious symptoms
- Any students exhibiting symptoms may be assessed by the school nurse

School Visitors

Based on CDC, DPH, and FVHD recommendations, school visitation may need to be reduced in order to promote a clean school environment.

- Access to school campuses by visitors may be limited
- Any school visitors may be required to comply with public health regulations set by the CDC, DPH, and FVHD
- School campuses may be closed during the school day

Canton Continuity of Services

The Canton Public Schools will ensure the continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs.

Canton Public Schools Fall Reopening Model

The Canton Public Schools expect to have all students return to school for full-time, in-person instruction at the beginning of 2021-22.

Additionally, the Canton Public Schools expect to utilize a continuum of instructional models to support student learning.

In Person Learning	Emergency Remote Learning
Full Reopening with all students	Alternate model based environmental and/or public health needs
Adherence to health and safety guidelines with a full student population	All students and staff working remotely

Canton Public Schools In-Person Learning Model

IN PERSON LEARNING - Traditional Schedule (amendments as necessary) -
Students attend every day.

- Students and staff are in the building every day, all day. Schools able to operate up to 100% capacity
- Mitigation measures may be implemented in order to support operations
- Schools may utilize seating chart records to document possible close contacts
- Maximize spacing of seating, as feasible.
- Coordinated traffic flow, as feasible, in common areas throughout each day
- Students practice physical distancing, to the greatest extent possible, throughout the day
- Music and Physical Education will follow CDC, DPH, and FVHD guidance in operation and may utilize larger/outdoor spaces and/or smaller groups as necessary
- Athletics adhere to state and CIAC guidelines
- Various instructional supplies such as software and other instructional materials will be implemented to assist in instruction in physically distant classrooms

Special Education

- Free Appropriate Public Education(FAPE) still applies to each of the plans developed
- No waivers of requirements under IDEA for students with disabilities
- Individualized student supports will be identified through the PPT and 504 processes. If an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan needs to be modified due to the safety protocol, that will be specified in the IEP or 504 Plan
- All instructional and related services and supports will continue

Curriculum

- Administrators, curriculum leaders, and teachers have worked to document and review student performance to provide necessary data and supporting information in place to support students at the start of the school year
- Administrators, curriculum leaders, and teachers will prepare instruction to meet students where they are and challenge them to continue their growth
- Our curricular focus will be on developing specific grade level and content area learning skills within our curriculum.
- We will provide students with the necessary supports based on our formative assessments to guide learning and growth.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL):

Supporting the SEL needs of students, families and staff

- Building Administrators and teachers will develop programming designed to support students' and adults' social and emotional needs, including:
 - Responsive Classroom (PK-6)
 - Resiliency Training (7-12)
 - Advisory (7-8)
 - CHAT (9-12)
 - EQ and Resiliency Training (11-12)
 - Emotional Intelligence (EQ) Academy for Staff (PK-12)
- SEL will help to:
 - Reinforce strong social connections
 - Build a sense of community and belonging within the school, classrooms and cohorts
 - Support opportunities for social interactions with peers (even with physical distancing)
 - Connect with community health providers for support

Technology

Chromebooks will be deployed 1-1 to be available for at home and distance learning

Applications for K-12

- G Suite Enterprise for Education
- Google Classroom K-12
- Screencastify
- Kami document editor
- Additional, effective instructional applications by grade and content area

Focus Areas:

- Focus on effective methods for engaging students
- Identify technology tools/skills to support teaching and learning
- Prepare training materials/ resources for teachers / students / families
- Clear expectations for use of technology by teachers and students
- Continued Professional Development focusing on key practices for teachers

Emergency Distance Learning Plan

A Short Term Closure (1-2 days)

- Students engage in Distance Learning with materials and support from the school.
- All students work virtually
- Bus transportation suspended
- All extracurricular activities suspended
- Staff and students follow a school-based schedule
 - See Canton BOE Policy 6114.6 for additional guidance

Full Distance Learning Plan

As a result of public health or emergency need or a Long Term Closure

- Students engage in Distance Learning with materials and support from the school.
- Classroom learning and instructional activities are shared through contact with the Teacher. Instruction is provided through a blend of synchronous (scheduled video meetings for instruction) and asynchronous (individually paced, based on school requirements) learning.
- All students and staff work virtually
- Bus transportation suspended
- All extracurricular activities suspended
- Staff and students follow a school-based schedule

Lunch Protocols:

- Lunch times may be scheduled to maximize physical distancing and safety
- A combination of cafeterias, large spaces, and classrooms may be utilized
- Outdoor areas may also be used for lunch and breaks

Transportation

- Masks may be required when physical distancing is not an option
- Masks may be required during bus rides
- Monitors may be utilized on buses to train and enforce safety expectations and requirements
- Planning will be in place for vehicle flow for additional vehicles in school lots
- Contact Lynn Young (lyoung@cantonschools.org) with transportation questions

Understandable and Uniform Format

- This document will be posted publicly on the Canton Public Schools Website
- This document may be translated in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated;
- Upon request by a parent or guardian who is an individual with a disability, this information may be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent or guardian.

Continued Collaboration and Communication

- This plan will be posted on June 23, 2021
- This plan will be regularly reviewed by the following dates
 - December 23, 2021
 - June 23, 2022
 - December 23, 2022
 - June 23, 2023
- Plans will be updated and modified as new information from CSDE and Farmington Valley Health Department is made available
- Communication with constituent (families, students, staff, health officials) groups will continue regularly