Advisory group on the safe reopening of CCSD schools in August 2020
CCSD SAFE RESTART TASK FORCE

- Mission, Guiding Principles
- Task Force Members: Introductions
- Essential information
  - Medical professionals
    - Recommendations
- CCSD Operations
  - Our current understanding: classroom capacities
  - Bus, transportation realities
  - Other operational issues
- What’s happening currently?
  - Surveying parents
  - Surveying teachers
  - Developing scheduling options
- Your questions, concerns, suggestions
Our desire is to restart school in August for all CCSD students with as much normalcy as is possible given the conditions at that time. We are tasked in the coming weeks with creating school settings that allow teachers and students to re-engage in quality learning while also taking appropriate measures to ensure their health and safety.

This safe restart in August will allow our students to return to their normal routines of learning and participation in school activities. We also understand that this safe restart will allow our parents to return to their normal lives knowing that their children are growing academically and being kept safe at school.

While we are not entirely sure today what our normal will look like when we restart, our staff, our parents, and our community deserve the assurance that we are diligently planning for a safe return to school for all students this August.
Current Reality

- The needed actions taken in response to the pandemic had the unfortunate impact of disrupting the education and the lives of approximately 50,000 CCSD students and their parents for the last two months of the school year – not to mention the educators and school staff members who serve them.

- Many of our students have fallen behind academically, and that is compounded by the fact that the most vulnerable students likely fell further behind by comparison.

- Our students need to return to some normalcy of schooling for their academic, social and emotional health.

- Fully-operational schools are an extremely important component of our community’s return to normal life.
Alignment with Federal, State and Local Efforts

CCSD Safe Restart

State's accelerate SC CDC + DHEC

relIGNITE Charleston Region
We will coordinate our efforts in alignment with:

**Accelerate SC**
(State-level) - DHEC

**reIGNITE**
(Charleston region)

(And also with CDC)
CCSD Safe Restart Task Force

Advisory group on the safe reopening of CCSD schools in August 2020
Task Force’s Mission

To act in an **advisory capacity** by reviewing information and recommendations provided by academic and logistics teams, offering insight into approaches and direction, and advocating within the community for CCSD reactivation.
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. **Vigilance** - recognition that we must all be ever-aware of our conditions and surroundings

2. **Data-informed judgment** - analyze conditions, review information from medical professionals, state and local entities and make and adjust as necessary

3. **Care to ensure equity** - recognize differences across CCSD and work toward *equity*, which could mean that services and schedules would be different in some schools

4. **New protocols for safety** - a) engineered controls (physical things we can do); b) administrative controls (processes we can implement); and, c) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for students and faculty

5. **Communication** that instills confidence by conveying the most recent updates and findings related to a safe start
Task Force Members

Rev. Dr. Eric Mack, CCSD Board Chair
Kate Darby, CCSD Board Vice Chair
Dr. Gerrita Postlewait, CCSD Superintendent
Matthew Severson, MUSC
Dr. Ed O-Brien, MUSC
Dr. Don Johnson, MUSC
Dr. Katy Richardson, SC DHEC
Jamie McCarthy, Principal, Lambs Elementary
James Whitehair, Principal, Laing Middle School
Henry Darby, Principal, North Charleston High School
Mary Carmichael, Principal, Charleston Charter M&S
Willa McGirth-Hobbs, Mary Ford Teacher
Chad Williams, Teacher, Deer Park Middle
Egypt Anderson, Student, RB Stall High School
Lauryn Daley, Student, Early College High School
Heather Burke, Parent
Tiffani Bush, Parent
Sherry Snipes-Williams, Charleston Promise Neighborhood
Tina Wirth, Metro Area Chamber of Commerce
Paul Asper, Business Community

Jeff Borowy, CCSD Operations
Karolyn Belcher, CCSD Academics
Erica Taylor, CCSD Strategy & Communications
Natalie Ham, CCSD Legal
Bill Briggman, CCSD Human Resources
Don Kennedy, CCSD Finance
Edward Boyd, CCSD Communications
Dr. Joe Williams, CCSD Academics
Michelle Simmons, CCSD Academics
Ellen Nitz, CCSD Nursing
The Task at Hand

How to restart schools for all CCSD students in August 2020, taking into consideration:

- **Confidence:** The need to instill confidence among staff, students, and parents

- **Safety:** Prioritizing the health and safety of students and staff as the highest priority with appropriate workplace procedures and protocols, including recommended social distancing practices for all facets of school operations (classrooms, buses, meals, extra-curricular)

- **Learning:** The diagnosis, recovery, and continuity of learning

- **Equity:** Supports for the most vulnerable student populations

- **Partnership:** Recognizing the needs of families in supporting students; understanding that families face different challenges and have different needs
Recovery and Continuity of Learning

- Assessments to identify where students are to begin the year
- Supports for vulnerable and those who have fallen behind
- Instructional configurations and schedules
- Professional development
- Wraparound supports for social and emotional needs
- Engaging with parents to understand what families need to support children’s learning

Karolyn Belcher, Chief Academic Officer
2 Logistical Considerations

- Health and safety protocols for school and workplace distancing
- Assuring all aspects of operations—facilities, HVAC, custodial, transportation, meal services, IT, nursing, security—support instruction and safety needs

Jeff Borowy, Chief Operating Officer
3 Revised Business Practices

- Impacts of the pandemic on finances
- Impacts of the pandemic on staffing; personnel challenges
- Planning in the event of a reemergence of virus
- Communication and engagement strategies that are transparent and responsive
Safety Considerations

It is our role at CCSD to understand how to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 within the school community.
DHEC and CDC Guidance for Schools

Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices
- Washing Hands with soap and water
- Wearing face coverings
- Adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behavior
- Stay home when you are sick

Promote Social Distancing
- Cohorting and staggered schedules
- Space desks for distancing
- Avoid group gatherings

Check for Signs and Symptoms
- Daily Health Checks for staff and students upon arrival
- Temperature checks for medically fragile students
- Testing of all staff is not currently recommended because the test simply provides a snapshot at a particular time.

Frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces and objects
- Adequate classroom supplies

Train Staff
- Proper PPE use
- Stay home when you are sick
- Adopt the culture, “I protect you and you protect me”
What has the school district been doing to prepare, plan?

- **CCSD Operations** – Mr. Borowy
  - Our current understanding: classroom capacities
  - Bus, transportation realities
  - Other operational issues

- **CCSD Learning Services** – Ms. Simmons, Dr. Williams
  - Surveying parents
  - Surveying teachers
  - Developing scheduling options
Next Steps and Safe Restart Meeting Schedule

- Friday, June 5, 10:00-11:30
- Friday, June 26, 10:00-11:30
- Friday, July 10, 10:00-11:30
- Friday, July 24, 10:00-11:30

- Survey results, parents and teachers
- Guidelines from State Department of Education, DHEC, Others
- School start date
- Most feasible schedules
- FAQ Document
Thoughts
Suggestions
Questions
Concerns

Students - Parents - Teachers - Community Members
Business Representatives, Board Members, Others