

Indicators and Process for Phase Change

The district's Return to School plan has three phases. The first phase limits the number of students in the building to provide greater social distancing and other strategies that may limit the spread of the virus. As health conditions improve in the community, the number of students in our schools will increase. The district's primary goal is to return to a full week of school for all students as quickly as possible but to do so safely.

Experts in the field and the experience of other successful openings have made it clear that controlling community spread of the virus is the key to meeting the district's goal. Key indicators have been identified and will be used to inform the decision-making process for making the change from one phase to the next. The following outlines the process for phase change.

Phases for Return to School

- Phase I: Early dismissal Monday thru Thursday. Buildings at 50% capacity.
Students rotate from in-person to online with all students online on Fridays.
- Phase II: Early dismissal Monday thru Thursday. Buildings at 100% capacity.
Students attend in-person four days a week and are online on Fridays.*
- Phase III: Full day, regular schedule five days a week.

***Additional phases may be added as conditions warrant.**

Process for Phase Change: The Safety Committee is comprised of representatives from across the district. The committee will initiate a recommendation to change phases. While the district's objective is to provide increased access to schools, the Safety Committee may determine that a return to Phase I is needed based on the health conditions in our schools and community.

1. Safety Committee monitors conditions and data daily/weekly. Every week, the committee will evaluate whether or not to submit a recommendation to the Superintendent's Council to change phases.
2. Superintendent's Council reviews the recommendation and either accepts or rejects it.
3. An accepted recommendation is submitted to the Board for approval.

Key Data: The following metrics have been identified by health professionals as indicators of community spread. The district will monitor these indicators closely for the Provo area. While these indicators will be used to inform a decision, it is not necessary for each target to be fully met before a decision is made. They are intended to be used collectively to indicate the level of community spread of the virus.

1. Percent of positive tests within 7 days* - Target: < 5%
2. Daily cases per 100,000* - Target: < 12 / 120,000
3. Cases per school site within 7 days - Target: < 3

***Center for Disease Control and Prevention**

Key Questions for Safety Committee: As the Safety Committee monitors key data, the following questions will help guide the decision-making process. They are intended to evaluate the data with other factors.

1. What are the positive rate and case counts in the community?
 - a. Have the data reached the target?
 - b. Which direction is the data trending?
 - c. What do the data suggest about the potential spread in our community?

2. How many positive cases in our schools for the past seven days?
3. Do we change phases for elementary, secondary, or both?
4. What other changes may be needed to the phasing (e.g. #days, length of the day, etc.)
5. What is our target date for a transition?
6. How do we communicate the change?

Additional Questions

7. What is the level of compliance in our schools and community with masks, etc.?
8. How are we managing cleaning/disinfecting in our buildings?
9. How are teachers managing both in-person and online teaching?
10. How many teachers are in quarantine or isolation per school or department?
11. How are we managing the availability of substitute teachers and other district personnel?
12. What is the district's ability to fully provide services at each school?

Strategy for Reopening: As changes are considered for each phase, priority will be given to the following groups.

- 1st priority: Grades PreK-6 and in-person special education services at grade levels PreK-8 open.
- 2nd priority: Grades 7-8 and in-person special education services at grade levels 9-12 open.
- 3rd priority: Grades 9-12 continue on a hybrid schedule, with regular in-person services for students with the greatest need, including special education and English language learners.
- 4th priority: Grades 9-12 open fully to in-person services.

Adapted from: Harvard Global Health Institute