Special Education Advisory Committee
SEAC
May 27 2021
Agenda

- Introductions from the co-chairs
- Updates from the Associate and Director
- Information about Virtual Academy
Updates

Mr. Kevin Lowndes, Associate Superintendent

Mr. Philip A. Lynch, Director
Graduation Update

• As we enter graduation season in June, Montgomery County will lift all restrictions on capacity, activities, and business operations on May 28, 2021.

• As a result, high schools will increase the number of tickets per expected graduate beyond the initial allocation of two (2) based on size of graduating class and facility/stadium capacity.
Summer School Enrollment
Registration opened May 3, 2021
daily update on enrollment and staffing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th># Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IN-PERSON Local School Programs, Summer UP, and ELO (K–8)</td>
<td>13,029</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRTUAL Program (All K–8 and ELO)</td>
<td>5,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central High School Summer Program</td>
<td>3,389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended School Year (ESY)</td>
<td>2,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong> as of 10:00 a.m. May 17, 2021</td>
<td><strong>24,902</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>Virtual K-8 and HS</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>8585</td>
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<tr>
<td>HI</td>
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<tr>
<td>EL</td>
<td>986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARMS</td>
<td>1683</td>
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</table>
Health Guidance Updates

• On May 18, 2021, Montgomery County achieved 50% of residents fully vaccinated, moving the county forward into Phase 3, effective May 28, 2021.
  o Lift all capacity, physical distancing, and mask restrictions for all residents (vaccinated and unvaccinated)
  o Masks still required in public transportation, health care, school buses, and in schools.
Health Guidance Updates

On May 20, 2021, the Maryland Department of Health issued guidance specific to schools.

- Strongly recommends that masks be worn indoors, and outdoors at a school when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

For the remainder of this school year, MCPS will require masks when on school grounds. This is consistent with the federal, state, and local recommendations and recognizes that vaccinations for our student populations are still in progress.
Programs for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (D/HOH)

Specialized PPE

Review of procurement of clear masks
- Benchmark with other districts and schools for the deaf
- Review by Department of Materials Management and Department of School Safety
- Collaboration with program supervisors

Distribution of clear masks
- D/HOH classroom staff and D/HOH related service providers
- Interpreters
- Google request form

Guidance to D/HOH staff
- Research data
- Auditory impact of clear masks
- Decision making guidance
FM/DM Technology

In person:

- IEP AT equipment provided and monitored by MCPS Audiologists
- Personal receivers
- Provides a highly effective Signal to Noise Ratio
- “Goes where the student goes” - class to class
  - Teachers use microphone - health and safety protocols
- Sound field system may be used if FM/DM system is not an option

Virtual:

- Individual decision making and troubleshooting
  - external speakers
  - specific headphones
  - personal FM/DM receivers with patch cord connection or direct connect

Programs for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (D/HOH)
D/HOH Summer Programming and Support

- **ESY**
  - County wide program PreK - grade 12
  - Itinerant services
    - Single service to address goal(s)
    - Related service in other ESY programs

- **Support to Summer School Programs**
  - Consultation to summer school program staff
  - ESY service on site
  - Interpreting service
  - Audiological consultative support

*Programs for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (D/HOH)*
Virtual Academy Updates

SLT

Wednesday, May 26, 2021
Why Have a Virtual Academy?

- Success
- Flexibility
- Additional Courses
- Health
Admission Requirements

➔ Maintain a primary residence in the county
➔ Actively enrolled in an MCPS school

Recap from Last Week’s Review:

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS
Program Details

- Full day, five day a week instructional model
- Full year commitment; transfer at marking period/semester transitions
- Core courses to meet MSDE & graduation requirements
- Not offering specialized programs at this time
Program Details (cont.)

- IEP/Special Services Review
- In-person, on site engagement at times
- Report cards & diplomas via home school
- Technology provided as needed
Tentative Application Process

1. **Does the student have an IEP/504?**
   - **YES** → **Student completes central application.**
     - **YES** → **Student application flagged.**
     - **NO** → **Consultation with student's family.**
     - **NO** → **Application approved, student enrolled.**
   - **NO** → **Application denied, student not enrolled.**

2. **Does the student have other unique programming needs?**
   - **YES** → **Consultation with student's family.**
   - **NO** → **Application approved, student enrolled.**

3. **Does the family agree to the modifications?**
   - **YES** → **Application approved, student enrolled.**
   - **NO** → **Application denied, student not enrolled.**
Communication and Outreach

- Parent/Guardian information sessions
- Staff information sessions
- Application (multiple languages)
- ParentVUE | Paper | Hotline
- Outreach via bus
- Community partners
Thank you for a fabulous year!

Thank you for your participation! Be on the lookout for a google survey for agenda items for next year.