

Simsbury Board of Education Meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 2020
SHS Auditorium



Simsbury Public Schools

New Certified Teachers

2020-2021

Simsbury High School

Stephen Patrina, Principal

Ken Pera, Assistant Principal

Georgia Robert, Assistant Principal

Vanessa Massiah, Assistant Principal

James Compton

Technology Education Teacher



- BA, Cornell University
- MA, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
- CAGS, Sacred Heart
- Previously taught at SHS for 8.5 years
- Most recently taught at Farmington Public Schools

James Hochdorfer

Math Teacher



- BA, ECSU
- MA, CCSU
- Previous teaching experience in Hartford and Windham Public Schools

Brianna Loyot

Art Teacher



- BA, CCSU
- MA, University of New Haven
- Split with HJMS
- Previously taught at Watertown High School and Norfeldt Elementary School
- Taught 1 year in Anaheim, California

John Murphy

Business Teacher



- BA, United States Coast Guard Academy
- MA, George Mason University
- Served in the United States Coast Guard for 9 years
- Career change to education after 17 years with CIGNA
- Alternate Route to Certification Graduate

Rebecca Saltzman

Music



- BA, Ithaca College
- MA, Florida State University
- Previous experience in New Jersey at Ramsey High School

Henry James Memorial School

Scott Baker, Principal

Anjanette Belmonte, Assistant Principal

Christina Gundlach

Math Teacher



- BA & MA at UCONN
- Previous teaching experience includes The Master's School and Terryville Public Schools

Andrew Kohanski

Music Teacher



- BA, UCONN
- Most recently served as Band Director at Stonington Public Schools
- Also worked with the Rocky Hill High School Marching Band

Patrick Long

Math Department Supervisor



- BA, UCONN
- MA, University of Bridgeport
- 6th Year, UCONN
- Taught in Cheshire Public Schools

Jake Tarbox

Wellness Teacher



- BA, Springfield College
- Recent experience at Parish Middle/High School

Central School

Beth Hennessy, Principal

Justin Farrell

Music Teacher



- BA, Rider University
- Recent experience as Music Teacher in Berlin Public Schools
- SHS Graduate

Kelsey Marconis

Grade 4



- BA, ECSU
- MA, University of Bridgeport
- Student taught in Bethlehem

Elizabeth Pinzino

Special Education Teacher



- BA, Tufts University
- MA, Lesley University
- Taught 2nd Grade in Chestnut Hill, MA
- Most recent experience as Special Education Teacher in Brookline, MA

Latimer Lane School

Mike Luzietti, Principal

Erica Morawski

Grade 4 Teacher



- BA, UCONN
- MA, University of St. Joseph
- Served as Math Intervention Tutor in Simsbury

Kennedy Quirk

Kindergarten Teacher



- BA, Endicott College
- Student taught in Massachusetts
- Worked as a special education teaching assistant in West Hartford

Heather Riera

Kindergarten Teacher



- BA, CCSU
- MA, Walden University
- Previous teaching experience in Wethersfield, Farmington, and Winchester Public Schools
- Served as K tutor for SPS

Jennifer Sams

Grade 1 Teacher



- BA, CCSU
- Served as Math Intervention Tutor for SPS
- Student taught in West Hartford Public Schools
- SHS Graduate

Brianna Simonetti

Kindergarten Teacher



- BA, ECSU
- Student taught in Tolland and Coventry

Squadron Line School

Meg Evans, Principal

Jacqueline Petrella, Assistant Principal

Ryan Martin

Physical Education Teacher



- BA & MA, University of New Hampshire
- Most recent teaching experience includes St Timothy Middle School and St. Thomas the Apostle
- Also taught in Hartford Public Schools

Abigail Ritson
Special Education Teacher



- BA, Marist College
- Taught Special Education in Enfield Public Schools
- SHS Graduate

Tootin' Hills School

Maggie Seidel, Principal

Ashley McLaren

Grade 3 Teacher



- BA, Mitchell College
- MA, University of New England
- 6th Year, Loyola Marymount
- Taught 11 years in Waterbury

Alexa Morawski

Grade 4 Teacher



- BA, UCONN
- MA, University of St. Joseph
- Served as Math Intervention Tutor

Amy Stupienski

Grade 4 Teacher

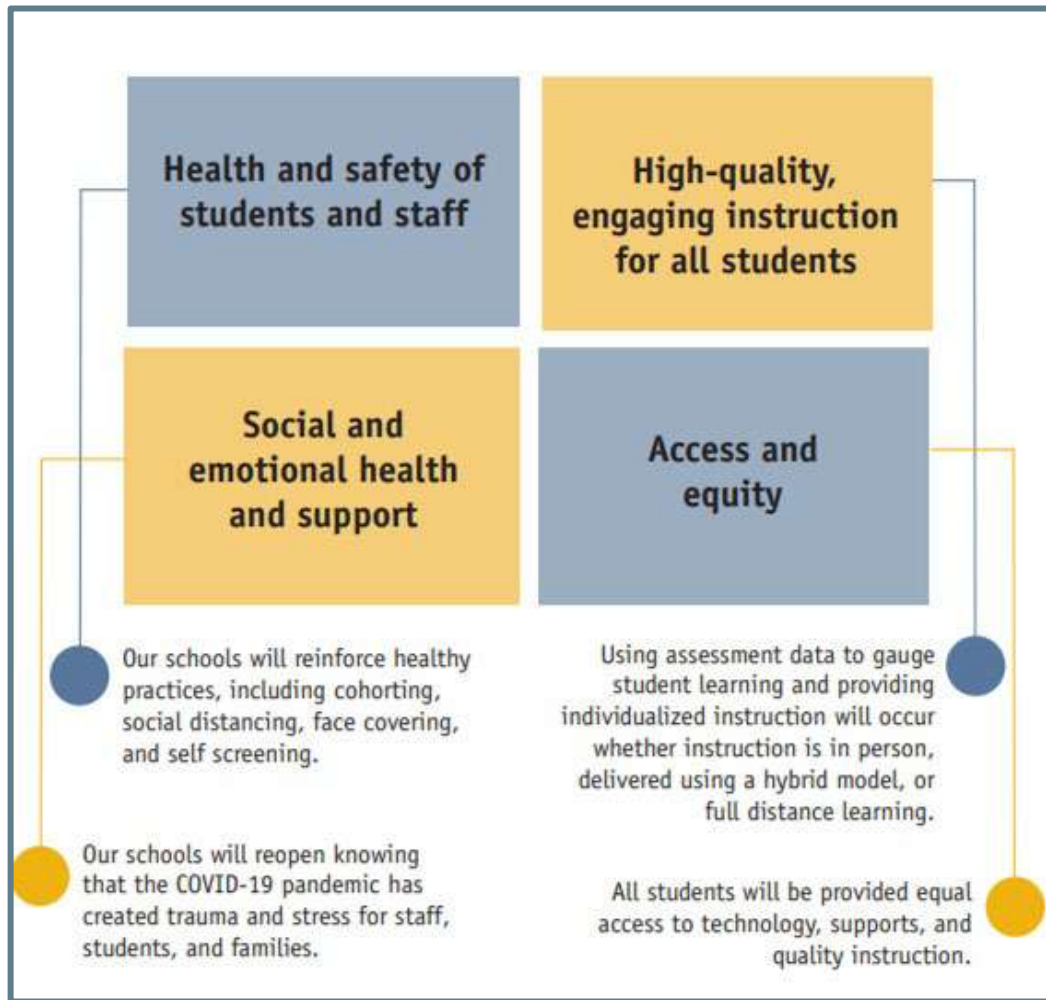


- BA & MA, University of North Carolina
- Served as teaching assistant in Granby

Simsbury Public Schools

New Certified Teachers

2020-2021



SPS

Guiding Principles

for

Reopening the Simsbury Public Schools

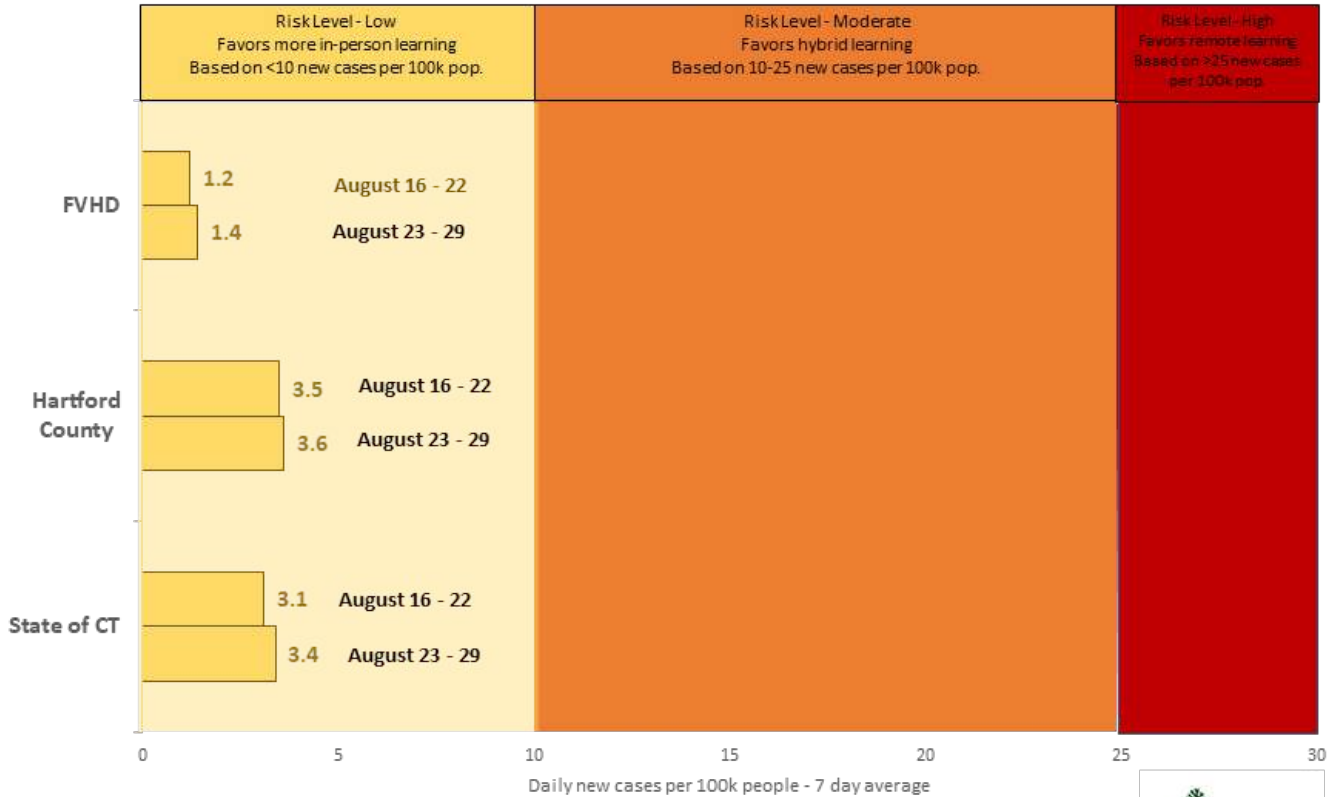
Public Health Data Markers

Reopening Schools Metric - Leading Indicator New COVID-19 Cases 7 day average per 100k population

Secondary Indicator: Percent Test Positivity

Farmington Valley Health District

.4% for week ending 8/15/20 based on number of confirmed cases/total tests



Data source:

<https://data.ct.gov/stories/s/CT-School-Reopening/ddy2-ijgu>



Opening Enrollment K-12

School	In-Person	Distance	Total
Central School	316	59	376
Latimer Lane	352	87	439
Squadron Line	478	129	609
Tariffville	183	58	241
Tootin' Hills	287	70	360
Henry James	527	99	634
SHS	1103	175	1293
TOTAL	3246	677	3952

Note: Totals include outplaced students.

Elementary Distance Learning Enrollment

Grade Level	Total K-6
Kindergarten	46
Grade 1	73
Grade 2	66
Grade 3	65
Grade 4	64
Grade 5	48
Grade 6	41
TOTAL	403

Health & Safety of Students and Staff

MITIGATION STRATEGIES:

- Social Distancing
 - ◆ Classrooms
 - ◆ Public Spaces
- Masks/Face Coverings
 - ◆ Excellent compliance
 - ◆ Mask Breaks
- Hand Hygiene
- Cleaning & Disinfecting
 - ◆ Manpower
 - ◆ Equipment



Health & Safety of Students and Staff

OPERATIONAL ADJUSTMENTS:

- Drop Off/Dismissal
- Recess/Lunch
- Nurse's Office/Isolation Rooms
- Hallway Traffic
- Bathroom Capacity
- Plexiglass Barriers
- Outdoor Spaces



Health & Safety of Students and Staff

Elementary Highlights:

- Cohorting Strategy
 - ◆ Limited Movement
 - ◆ Very favorable class sizes (average of 15.4)
- Appreciation for “Soft Start”
 - ◆ Created sense of calm
 - ◆ Teach into the procedures
- Change in Specials Schedule
- Monitor Operational Adjustments after 9/14 and 9/29
- Some Distance Learning classes are large - fluid situation



Health & Safety of Students and Staff

Secondary Highlights:

- Block Schedule/Hybrid dramatically reduces typical exposure
- Significant “Team Cohorting” strategy at Henry James
- Successful 7th and 9th Grade orientation days
- Limiting after-school activities for first 6 weeks
- Social distancing needs to be emphasized
- Traffic challenges at Henry James
- Next steps decided during week of 9/29



Health & Safety of Students and Staff

Health Protocols:

- Emphasis on daily screenings
- Enforcement of quarantines
- COVID-19 Nursing Protocols
 - ◆ Symptoms but no known exposure
 - ◆ Symptoms and possible exposure
 - ◆ Exposure to a confirmed case
 - ◆ Confirmed case in school community



SPS Hybrid Model to Full In-Person Transition

Elementary Schools, Grades K-6		
Date*	Grades	Action
September 14	K through 2	All students in kindergarten, grade 1 and grade 2 will return to a full in-person (5 days/week) learning model.
September 29	3 through 6	All students in grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 will return to a full in-person (5 days/week) learning model.
By Tuesday, September 29, 2020, SPS students in grades K-6 will have returned fully to the in-person learning model.		

Secondary Schools, Grades 7-12		
Date*	Grades	Action
Week of September 29	7-12	Review status of full, in-person return, and communicate our transition plan to HJ and SHS communities.

* It is important to note that these dates are subject to change based on current health metrics and preparedness at the time. Any change in schedule will be made in collaboration with the Farmington Valley Health District.

Back to School!



Technology Access

- **Distribution**
 - K-6 (8/25-DL, 8/28-K, B Group, 9/1-A Group)
 - 7-8 (8/28-Grade 7)
 - 9-12 (Forms & Photo Days)
- **Devices**
 - Students
 - K-1 iPads / cases
 - 2-12 Chromebooks / cases
 - Teachers
 - Chromebooks K-12
 - Webcams / Mics 7-12
 - VMware Desktop Devices



Technology Points to Note

- Increased bandwidth capacity to handle the amount of usage
- Noted glitches, breaks & pauses in school and at home
- Daily problem-solving with district tech team and K-12 educators with solutions in settings, equipment, and classroom set-ups
- Later equipment arrivals
- Educator excitement and increased “know-how”
- Ongoing monitoring will continue with necessary adjustments

High-quality, Engaging, Instruction for all Students

Committed to engaging all students in rigorous, dynamic, and relevant learning experiences.

- Quality curriculum that guides instruction and student outcomes
- Purposeful learning around the standards & instructional shifts
- Technology use that supports teacher instruction and student learning
- Student and teacher engagement to meet social, emotional and academic needs
- Teacher appreciation of time to collaborate, plan and prepare prior to student arrival
- Student and teacher excitement!

Elementary Distance Learning

- 403 Students and 20 Teachers
- Materials Distribution
- Week 1 Focus
 - Relationship building
 - Building a classroom community
 - Learning and practicing the technology
 - Establishing partnerships with families
- Specials Rotation
- Opportunities for Whole Class and Small Group Instruction
- Balance of paper/pencil and digital practices
- Clearly communicated schedules and expectations to students and families



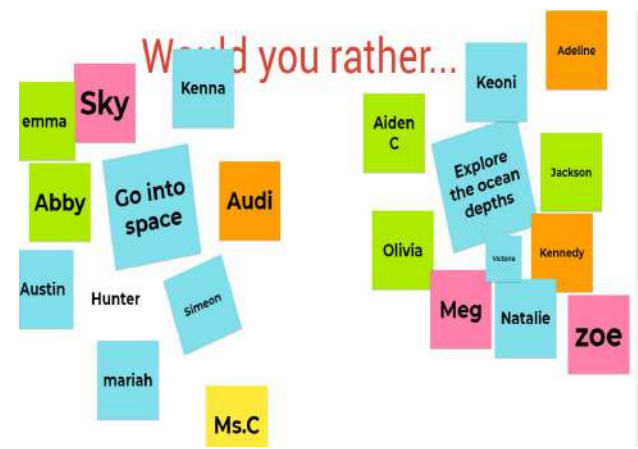


YOU ARE LIVING THROUGH HISTORY RIGHT NOW

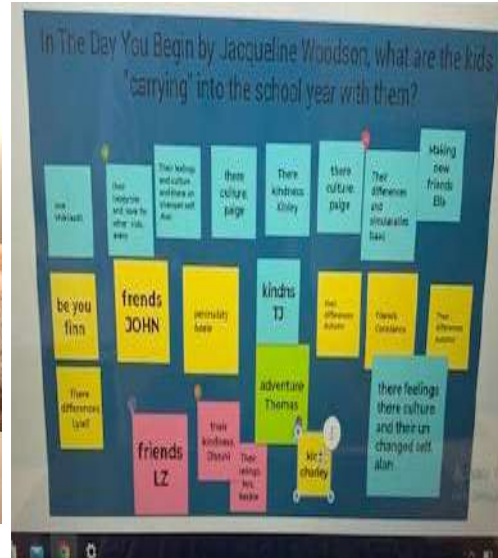
Some Questions to think about:
 What kinds of things would you want to tell the earthlings of the future about our life today? Your job today is to THINK- IMAGINE-CREATE!

Your Task:

1. List things you might want to share with earthlings of the future. Make sure to really ponder the question. That means REALLY give it some thought. Try to list at least 10 things.



Dear Ms. Champagne,
 I am sending you this google doc to tell you that you are the best 4th grade teacher and I am so happy to be in your class this year!! I think you are so kind and good hearted.



Social & Emotional Health and Support

- Multiple sessions, facilitated by teacher-leaders have occurred:
 - Faculty/Staff focus on personal emotional health and well-being; self-care
 - Faculty/Staff supports of students - Emphasizing a connection with each and every student
- Faculty/Staff “Playbook”
- Specific staff/student baseline information collected
- Follow-up sessions at faculty meetings and future professional development

Equity

- Equity Statement shared and discussed:
 - New Teacher Orientation and Upcoming Faculty Meetings
- Special Education students prioritized for full, in -person learning
 - Intensive, specialized programming on or before September 14th
 - All K-6, Monday, September 14, 2020
 - HJMS & SHS: Communication to families this week
- Special education students distance learning opt -in
 - K-6: 47 7-8: 12 912: 47
- CHOICE distance learning optin:
 - 42% at this point
 - Working with CHOICE Liaison, Gertrude Banks, to ensure connections and connectivity.

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