

Possible Options for Increased Teacher-Student Direct Interaction

— December 2, 2020 —

Approach to Risk Mitigation: Minimize spread in and outside schools

In-School Strategies:

- Consistent and correct use of masks
- Social distancing
- Hand hygiene
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Contact tracing in collaboration with Wayland Health Department
- Use of daily health screener

COVID Expenditures September-December, 2020

Cost = \$596,925 Funded by Covid Relief Grant

Staffing -

WRAP Teachers - 2.3 FTE WMS

WRAP Teaching Assistants - 1.0 FTE Grade 4/5

Student Supervisors - K-12 7.0 FTE

Tech Support

Supplies -

Technology Devices

Classroom and Health Room Supplies, Equipment, HEPA Units, Tents

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Disinfectants

Services -

Healthwatch App

Software Memberships and Subscriptions

Predicted COVID Expenditures, January-June, 2020

Cost = \$877,109 Funded by Appropriated Budget

Staffing -

WRAP Teachers - 2.3 FTE WMS, 1.0 FTE Grade 4/5

WRAP Teaching Assistants - 1.0 FTE Grade 4/5

Student Supervisors - K-12 7.0 FTE

Permanent Substitutes K-12 7.0 FTE

Tech Support

FDK Revenue Loss

Supplies -

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Services -

Healthwatch App

Electricity and Heat

Discussion of Possible Avenues for Increasing Student-Teacher Direct Interaction, K-12

- Kindergarten 4-Days-a-Week option
- Increased Synchronous Time for grades 1-5
- 1-12 in-school possibilities and cost implications





Notes on Current Hybrid Model

Grades 6-12

- Remote incorporates substantial synchronous learning

Grades K-5

- Nurture of in-person very valuable
 - Behavioral concerns far reduced
 - Individual skill development
- Challenges with asynchronous learning particularly in grades K-2

A Framework for Current Planning Priorities

Identify ways to increase in-school/synchronous learning particularly for our youngest students while currently maintaining the physical distancing of six feet recommended by the Wayland Board of Health and currently followed by districts across the state. In considering changing this six-foot threshold, we will listen closely to the guidance of our Board of Health.

Information from Peer Communities with K All-In

- Concord -- K-5 class sizes are between 12 and 22, they are maintaining 6 feet in all classes
- Dover-Sherborn -- Kindergarten class sizes are between 17 and 19 at a minimum of 5.5 feet
- Wellesley -- Kindergarten and first grade class sizes are 8-15 students, they are maintaining 6 feet, second grade is about to come all-in with 12-17 students per class at between 5 and 6 feet (6 feet in most classes, 5 feet in a few)
- Weston -- K-5 maximum class sizes range from 16-18 students, they are maintaining 6 feet
- Westwood -- Kindergarten class sizes are 10-15 students, they are maintaining 6 feet

Kindergarten: 4-Days-A-Week (5 feet of distance)

- **Approach: would be:**
 - Use current spaces--one possible move
- **Cost: \$95,500**
 - \$23,000: Facilities work
 - \$10,000: Materials
 - \$7,500: Increased storage
 - \$55,000 WRAP: new section--staff and supplies
- **Possible Start: January 25**

Option 1: Kindergarten: 4-Days-A-Week

- **Approach: would be:**
 - Move three kindergarten classes into alternative spaces
 - Create additional sections at Claypit, Loker and Happy Hollow (move 3-4 students from each class)
- **Cost: \$269,500**
 - \$18,000: Possible facilities work
 - \$7,500: Increased storage
 - \$12,000: Sinks
 - \$177,000: new sections--staff and supplies
 - 18,000: Supplies: 6,000 per building
 - 159,000: Staff: $38,500 + 14,500/\text{per class} = 53,000 \times 3$
 - \$55,000 WRAP: new section--staff and supplies

Option 1: Kindergarten: 4-Days-A-Week

Challenges/Steps

- Hiring teachers is very challenging
- K students would be in larger classes than they are in now getting less individualized attention
- Students in new classes with teachers
- Setting up new classrooms
- New schedules

Option 2: “Middle School Model” for K-5

Approach

- Add a “secondary” staff member for each class on in-person days
- Either hire TAs as secondary staff, or repurpose existing staff
 - **Repurposing staff**
 - Grades K-5 (18=\$261,000)
 - Grades K-2 (4=\$58,000)
 - Grades 1-2 (cost neutral)
 - **If just hiring TAs**
 - Grades K-5 (28= \$406,000)
 - Grades K-2 (14=\$203,000)
 - Grades 1-2 (9=\$130,500)

Option 2: Middle School Approach for K-5

Considerations Regarding Middle School approach

- The gain is more synchronous instructional time on remote days, but a roughly 50% reduction in face-to-face instructional time on in-person days
- If repurposing staff, those staff members' classes and programs are no longer available
- Cohort schedules and transportation will change
- Hiring TAs has been very challenging and at times impossible

Option 3: Increase Synchronous Instruction for K-5

Augmenting Synchronous Instruction

- Hire additional K-5 teachers at each elementary school
 - \$402,500 for K-5
 - \$230,000 for K-2
 - \$115,000 for only 1-2
- New hires are responsible for providing synchronous instruction on remote days
- In K: adds roughly 5-6 hours of synchronous instruction each week
- In grades 1-5: adds roughly 2.5 - 3 hours of synchronous instruction for each student across the three remote days each week

Option 3: Augmenting Synchronous Instruction for K-5

Considerations Regarding Augmenting Synchronous Instruction

- Could require significant coordination with in-person teachers
- Alternatively, could remove some planning responsibilities from in-person teachers
- Finding staff will be challenging

Options 2 or 3: Planning

- Work with Town to establish funding for this option
- Pull together a cross-functional team to select option and move forward
- Develop a plan between December 7 and January 8
- Implement plan beginning January 25
- It would be very challenging to figure out and plan for both options simultaneously

Predicted Costs

Option 1: Kindergarten in 4 days a week: approximately \$269,500

Option 2: Using Middle School approach

- **K-5:** \$261,000-\$406,000
- **K-2:** \$58,000-\$203,000
- **1-2:** \$43,500-\$130,500

Option 3: Augmenting Synchronous

- **K-5:** \$402,500
- **K-2:** \$230,000
- **1-2:** \$115,000

All-In for grades 1-5, March-June

If in upcoming months, change in virus outlook enables us to reduce 6-foot threshold to 3-6 foot distance.

Grades 1-5: \$466,243

- Furniture: \$84,000
- Storage: \$7,500
- Space: \$250,000
- Transportation: \$66,993
- Custodial: \$39,000
- Movers, PPE, ERV: \$18,750

All-In for grades 6-8, March-June

If in upcoming months, change in virus outlook enables us to reduce 6-foot threshold to 3-6 foot distance.

Grades 6-8: \$158,013

- Furniture: \$81,000
- Storage: \$12,500
- Transportation: \$29,763
- Custodial: \$26,000
- Movers, PPE: \$8750

All-In for grades 9-12, March-June

If in upcoming months, change in virus outlook enables us to reduce 6-foot threshold to 3-6 foot distance.

Grades 9-12: \$117,263

- Furniture: \$54,000
- Transportation: \$29,763
- Custodial: \$26,000
- Movers, PPE: \$7,500

Possible Re-Allocations

Net Available Funding as of December 2 (Budget Summary and Status Report):
\$118,891

Reduce Permanent Subs/student supervisor: \$51,705

Reduce supplies and materials: \$56,000

Town picks up Healthwatch and PPE: \$42,000

Total (possible) Dollars Identified : \$268,596

Recommendation

January 25, 2020

Do Option 1: Kindergarten 4 days a week (approx. \$269,500)

Strive to Do Option 3 for just 1st or 2nd grade (up to \$115,000). Will need to get up to \$114,500 additionally from Town/allocations within budget--School Dept would work on this funding between now and January 25

March, 2020: See if vaccines, state and local guidance shift to allow 3 feet of distance. Strive for funding from Federal, State and local funding to bring in as many students as possible perhaps by bringing one level (k-5, 6-8, 9-12) in at a time.