Reopening BICO

2020-2021 School Year

Jeanne M. Sullivan, Executive Director
August 10, 2020
Welcome - Agenda

**Meeting is being recorded

Introduction of Executive Director

Discussion of BICO Reopening Plan

Questions

Thank you!!
Why are we reopening - Is it safe?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHiEThCMROc
### Why are we reopening - Is it safe?

Member District Status per August 12 - Massachusetts COVID-19 Public Health Report

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Planning to Reopen BICO - Family Survey

Family Survey - Completed July 21-27

Comments from Survey

“We haven’t decided what we should do yet. I don’t know if he can tolerate wearing a mask for 6 hours but I also know he is feeling very isolated and lonely. We aren’t sure yet what to do.”

“I am ready, however would want to review the procedures to be completely comfortable.”

“My son does not do well with remote learning. He is more successful in class.”

“____ is a very ____ girl who benefits from being with her teachers and other students. She requires a lot of prompting during learning sessions which is a challenge with the remote learning format.”
Planning to Reopen BICO

- Executive Director & Director of Students Services participating in all DESE Virtual Meetings with Commissioner & Senior Associate Commissioner.
- Program Directors working with host district reopening teams/communicating with building administrators.
- Program Directors and Teachers looking at set up and design of classroom spaces in host districts, Summit and Mansion Drive.
- Ongoing collaboration with classroom teachers to clean out and design socially distant classroom spaces.
Planning to Reopen BICO

- Program Directors and Executive Director looking at class ratios
- Collaboration with Coordinator of Technology about Devices and instructional software.
- Lead Nurse collaboration with nurses from across the state to develop training protocols, procedures and practices for our classrooms.
- Purchase of PPE began in Spring and is ongoing.
- July 28 - Leadership Team Workshop Day.
- July 30 - Virtual All Staff Meeting.
Reopening Plan

- August 31, 2020 - Staff return
  - Welcome Back
  - 10 days of training
    - Host School Protocols
    - Health & Safety
    - Technology
    - SEL
    - Family Engagement
      - Virtual Conferences & tours
      - In Person scheduled tours
  - Home Services scheduled outside of school day will be provided - no other services will be provided.
Reopening Plan

● September 16, 2020 - Students Return
  ○ All services resume in person

● Families not yet ready to return
  ○ Services will continue remotely
  ○ Attendance will be taken
  ○ Grading will occur
  ○ We will continue to try and bring these students back a little bit at a time (ex. therapy services)
PPE

- Masks must be worn by all unless a Dr. note is provided.
- Students should bring masks to school daily

Staff being provided:
- 2 Face Shields
- 2 pairs of Goggles
- Face masks
- Gloves
- Gowns (as needed)
Program Specific Information

Program Directors:
Julie O’Connor - PDLP, EDLP, LREP (King Philip)
Pam Ludwig - AMS, TEAP & SEAP - (Plainville), SLBP
Kristin Boni - TEAP, The Learning Center
Laurie Cunningham - TEP (Foxborough)
Jake Richardson - LREP (Norton), Mansion Drive,
Ben Giuffrida - Summit MS/HS, STAP
Ongoing communication between Program Director and District Administration.

Mansfield district will begin the year remotely. This will not have an impact on our in-person model.

BICO has had access to our classrooms throughout the summer.

Daily schedule will remain mostly the same with the exception of Inclusion, community outings, and the use of the therapeutic pool to start. These will be revisited as the year progresses.

The classroom has been set up to maximize spacing between students.

Students will continue to enter and exit directly into the classroom from their van.

Remote instruction being provided for families who are not yet comfortable sending their students back to in-person learning.
● Ongoing communication between Program Director and District Administration.
● Mansfield district will begin the year remotely. This will **not** have an impact on our in-person model.
● Bico has had access to our classrooms throughout the summer.
● Daily schedule will remain mostly the same with the exception of Inclusion, community outings, and the use of the therapeutic pool to start. These will be revisited as the year progresses.
● The classroom has been set up to maximize spacing between students.
● Students will continue to enter and exit directly into the classroom from their van.
● Remote instruction being provided for families who are not yet comfortable sending their students back to in-person learning.
Staff received frequent communication from Superintendent; PD has ongoing communication and meetings with the building principal.

Classrooms will have desks 6 feet apart and we looked at how the space will be navigated to maintain social distancing.

BICO program will be starting in person. Delaney will start Hybrid with not more than half the student body in the school on a given day. No inclusion or field trips initially.

BICO Program starts and ends at a different time with separate entry/exit. Social distancing will be maintained in any common areas. Students will have mask breaks and scheduled time outside. Playground equipment may not be in use. Breakfast and Lunch will be brought to the classroom by staff.
TEAP Therapeutic Elementary Alternative Program
(located at The Millville Elementary School)

Program Director participated in BMR’s Operations Sub Committee; ongoing communication and meetings with the building principal.

Met on site with teachers to set up classrooms with desks 6 feet apart and looked at how the space will be navigated to maintain social distancing.

BICO program will be starting in person. Millville will start Hybrid with not more than half the student body in the school on a given day.

BICO Program starts and ends at a different time and separate entry/exit. Social distancing will be maintained in any common areas. Students will have mask breaks and scheduled time outside. Playground equipment will not be in use. Students will eat breakfast and/or lunch in the classroom.
Participated in the Plainville Superintendent’s Advisory Planning Group.

Met on site with teachers to set up classrooms with desks 6 feet apart and looked at how the space will be navigated to maintain social distancing.

BICO program will be starting in person. Plainville will start Hybrid with not more than half the student body in the school on a given day.

BICO Program starts and ends at a different time than the Plainville students, at Jackson School separate doors are used. Social distancing will be maintained in any common areas. Students will have mask break and scheduled time outside. Playground equipment will not be in use.
Kept contact with School Principal and the Classroom teacher participated in the back to school planning committee.

The classroom has been set up to accommodate 6 feet of social distancing.

BICO program will be starting in person. North Attleboro will start Hybrid with not more than half the student body in the school on a given day.

BICO Program starts and ends at a different time than the North Attleboro students. Social distancing will be maintained in any common areas. Students will have mask break and scheduled time outside. Playground equipment will not be in use.
Participated in school based reentry planning, continuing as a member of the Health & Safety subgroup of the reopening committee.

Spent time in the classrooms with the teachers setting up desks 6 feet apart and looking at how the space will be navigated to maintain social distancing.

BICO program will be starting in person while the majority of the Franklin Classes will start remote (some special education classes will be on site)

Starting in person before the rest of the school will give us the opportunity to identify areas of concern and implement safety protocols.
LREP Norton

● Ongoing communication between Program Director and Norton’s Middle School Principal and Superintendent
  ○ Norton will be beginning the school year in a hybrid model
    ■ This will **not** impact our program
    ■ Access to our classrooms has already been provided by Norton

● School day will remain largely unchanged

● Classrooms have been set up to maximize spacing between students
  ○ Student groupings to remain consistent to minimize contact
  ○ Remote instruction being provided for families not sending their students back
Ongoing communication between Program Director and Middle School Principal
  ○ Foxborough will be beginning the school year in a hybrid model for General Education students and full in-person model for Special Education students
    ■ This will not impact our program and access to our classrooms has already been provided by Foxborough
    ■ Extensive cleaning protocols have been put in place to address the health and safety of all students and staff within the building
      ● Reorganization of custodial staff schedules and the use of substitute custodians allows for increased cleaning during the day.
      ● Plexiglass has been placed in control areas (e.g., Office spaces)
      ● Electrostatic Spraying Machines used for daily and thorough cleaning (2 handheld in each school and 5 additional backpacks for large areas)
      ● High touch point surfaces will be disinfected a minimum of 3 times per day by day shift staff.
      ● Night shift custodial staff will perform a more substantial disinfection of all surfaces as stated above.
School day will remain largely unchanged following the same daily schedule.
- Time will be spent at the start of the year helping our students adjust to the changes of mask wearing, social distancing, etc.
- Mask breaks will be provided to students throughout the day with social distancing parameters in place during these times. (both indoors and outdoors)

Classrooms have been set up to maximize spacing between students
- Student cohorts will remain consistent to minimize contact
- Open houses will be scheduled by appointment for each student and their family between September 1st and September 15th to allow students to see the building, their classrooms and staff prior to our first day of school of September 16th.

Remote instruction will be provided to students for families not sending their students back full time. These plans will be developed with school teams and families on a case by case basis with the hope of eventually integrated each student back to in-person instruction when appropriate.
● Ongoing communication between Program Director and District Administration.
● King Philip district will begin the year remotely. This will not have an impact on our in-person model.
● Bico will have access to the school building beginning on August 24, 2020, at which time staff will design the classroom to maximize spacing between students.
● Daily schedule will remain mostly the same with the exception of Inclusion, community outings, and the use of the therapeutic pool to start. These will be revisited as the year progresses.
● Arrival and Dismissal procedures have been put into place, which will eliminate exposure to other students if the district decides to resume an in-person or hybrid model at any point. Remote instruction being provided for families who are not yet comfortable sending their students back to in-person learning.
The Learning Center
(located at The Blackstone-Millville Regional High School, Blackstone, MA)

Program Director participated in BMR’s Operations Sub Committee; ongoing communication and meetings with the building principal.

Staff set up desks 6 feet apart and looked at how the space will be navigated to maintain social distancing. Students will remain in designated cohorts as much as possible. Social distancing will be maintained in any common areas.

BICO program will be starting in person while the BMRHS students will start hybrid, with not more than half the student body in the school on a given day. Scheduled open houses will be offered prior to September 16th.

BICO Program starts and ends at a different time than the BMRHS students. Students will have mask breaks and scheduled time outside. Inclusion opportunities will be on hold for at least the first month to maintain cohorts.
Mansion Drive Programs - LRTC and ATP

- Ongoing communication between Program Director and TEC Leadership
  - All staff completing dedicated trainings to demonstrate competence with health and safety guidelines prior to first day back
  - Shared spaces now scheduled to not overlap during any given day
  - Therapeutic pool use to be temporarily suspended

- LRTC:
  - School day will remain largely unchanged
  - Community outings limited
  - Student groupings to remain consistent to minimize contact
    - Remote instruction being provided for families not sending their students back

- ATP:
  - Work-based learning opportunities still being discussed with site managers
  - Likely to include increased time spent on soft skills and on-site vocational training
  - Additional time spent on academics for students pursuing diplomas
    - Remote instruction being provided for families not sending their students back
School admin meet regularly throughout the summer to develop the best possible plan

- Hiring a full-time custodian to ensure the building is cleaned throughout the day
- Small class sizes, able to keep desks 6 feet apart
- Trying to keep things as normal as possible for kids, with exception of necessary precautions
- Trying to be as flexible as possible for families looking to have students hybrid or remote
Additional Information

- What Happens if someone is diagnosed?
  - DESE has provided some scenarios & more guidance is coming
  - Lead Nurse will work with local Boards of Health and School Nurses on contract tracing, etc..

- Stepping Back from In Person
  - Will follow guidelines
  - May be program to program
  - Communication with you and host schools essential
  - Lead Nurse will remain in communication with local Boards of Health
  - Plans are developed for each model

- Calendar has been updated to reflect 10 days of training mandated by DESE
Thank you to everyone who has gone above and beyond to work on this reopening plan:

- Board of Directors
- Operating Committee
- Central Office Staff
- Leadership Team
- Staff
- Families
Questions??