

# Transition to Hybrid

December 1, 2020

# Social Emotional Health – Guidance Department

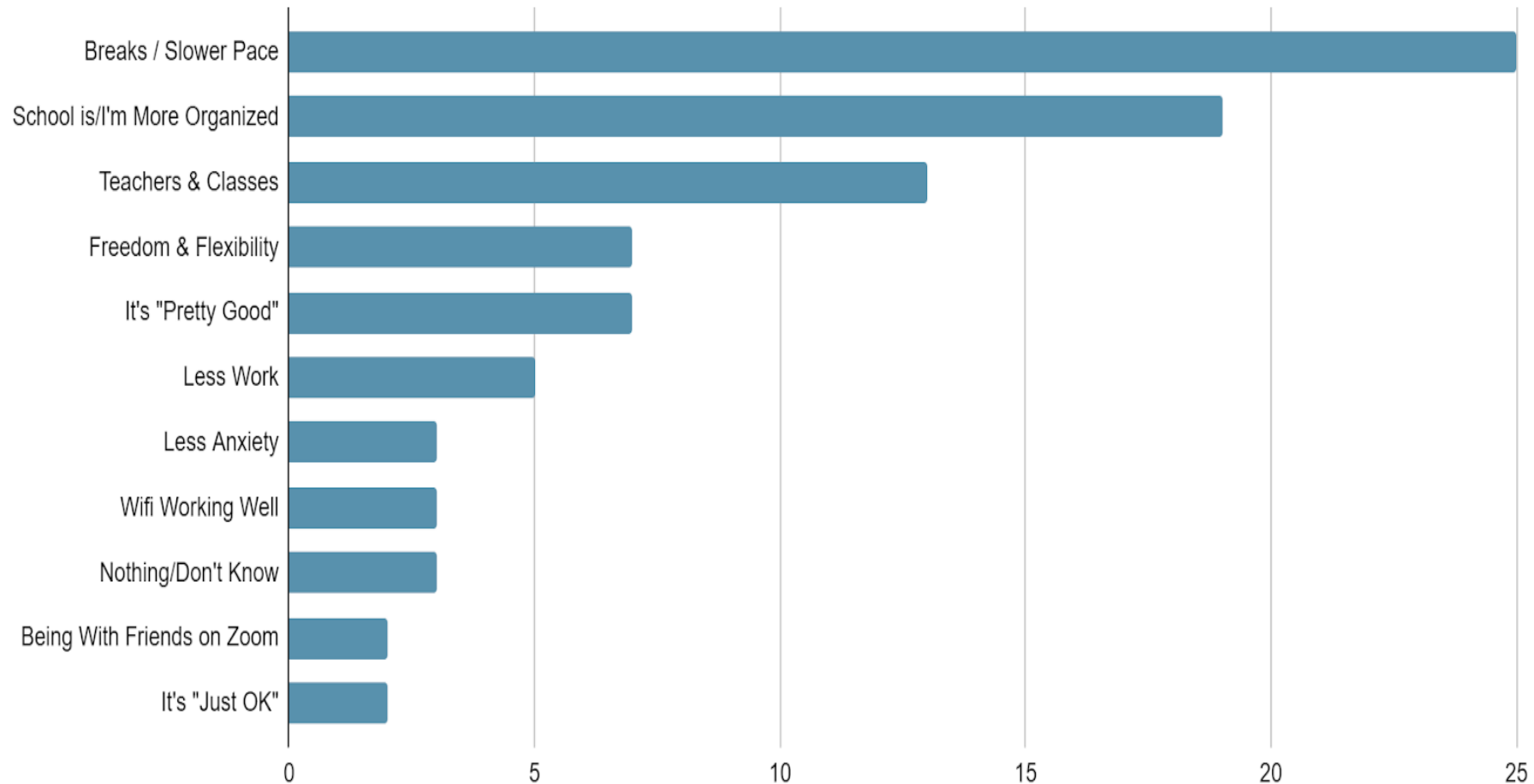
- Students with pre-existing mental health issues continue to struggle with the isolation and overall anxiety related to the pandemic.
- Several parents have reported that it has been difficult to access outside services such as therapy and medication treatment due to long wait lists or providers no longer accepting new patients.
- Students who were previously identified as having executive functioning deficits continue to struggle in that area with remote learning. These students report that it is difficult to feel connected with their teachers.

# Academics - Guidance Department

- Students seem to be handling the remote learning well. While they report that they do miss being in the school building, they are "making it work" and feel supported by their teachers.
- Some students have said they prefer remote learning and hope it stays that way. They report they are experiencing less social stress and less pressure from parents. They are finding ways to connect with each other in-person. They are also staying connected to each other through social media on their phones.

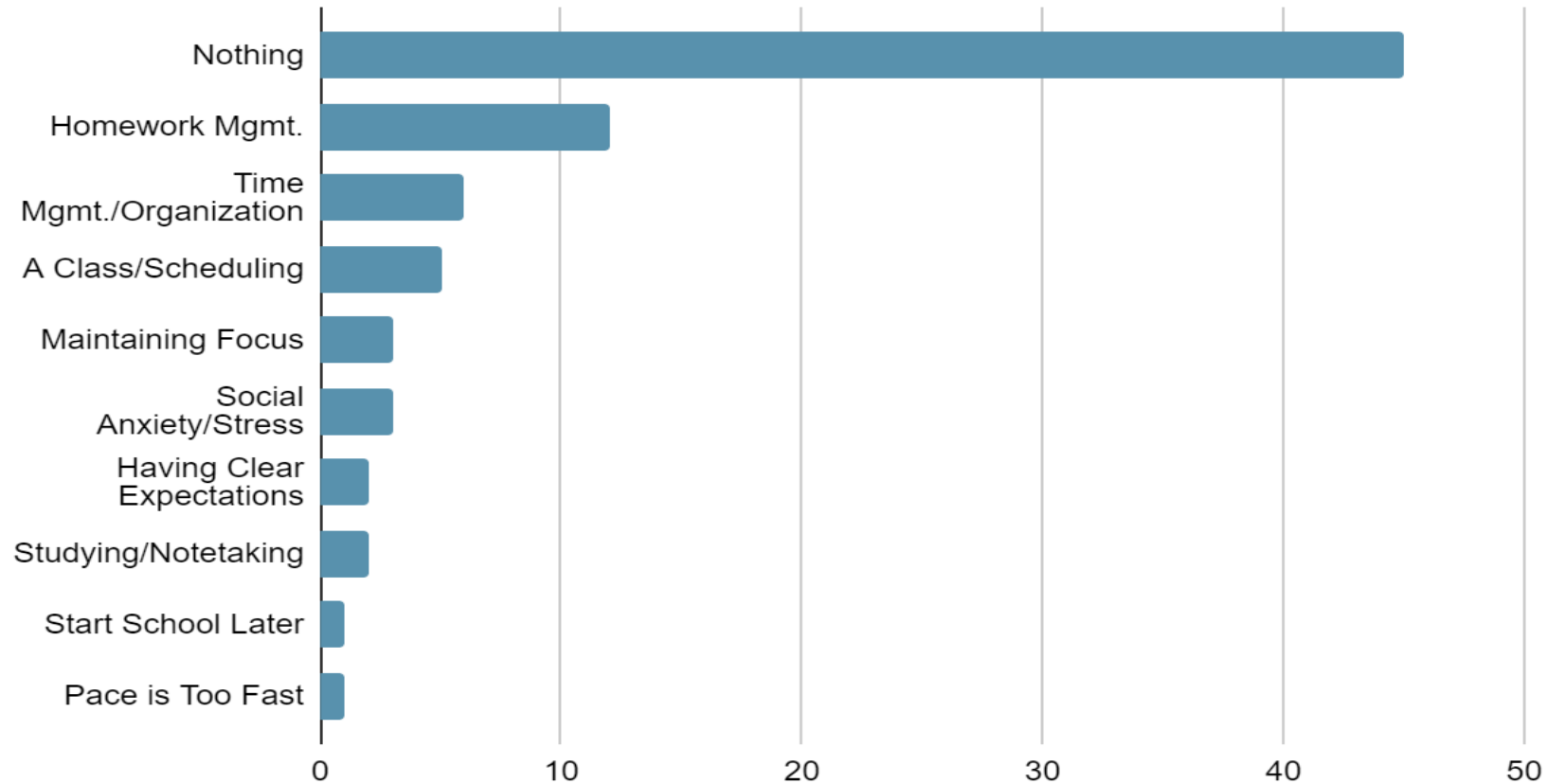
# Grade 9 "Reality Check"

**What is Going Well With Remote Learning Thus Far?(90 responses)**



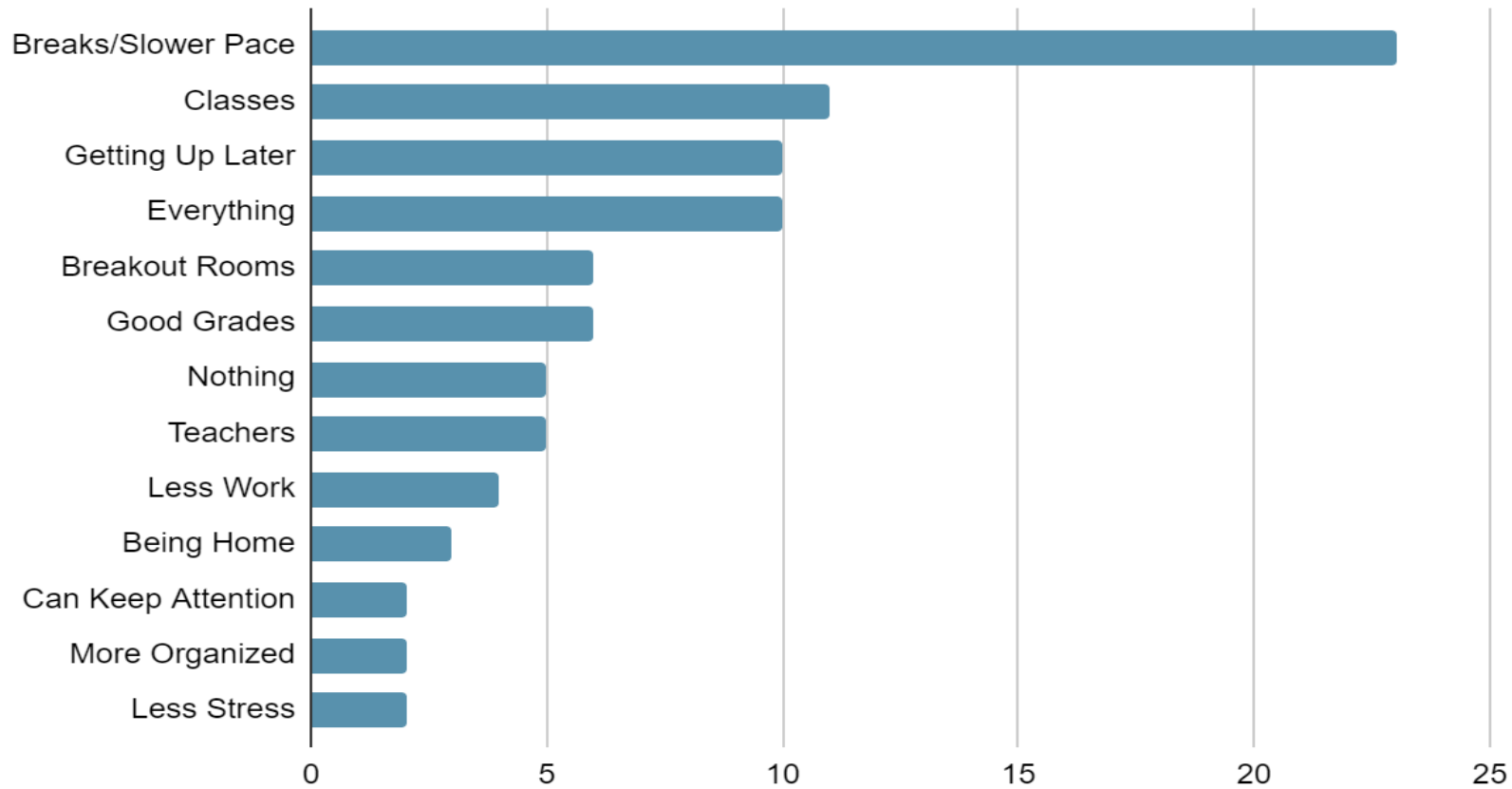
# Grade 9 "Reality Check"

**What is Something  
You Want Help  
With?(81 responses)**



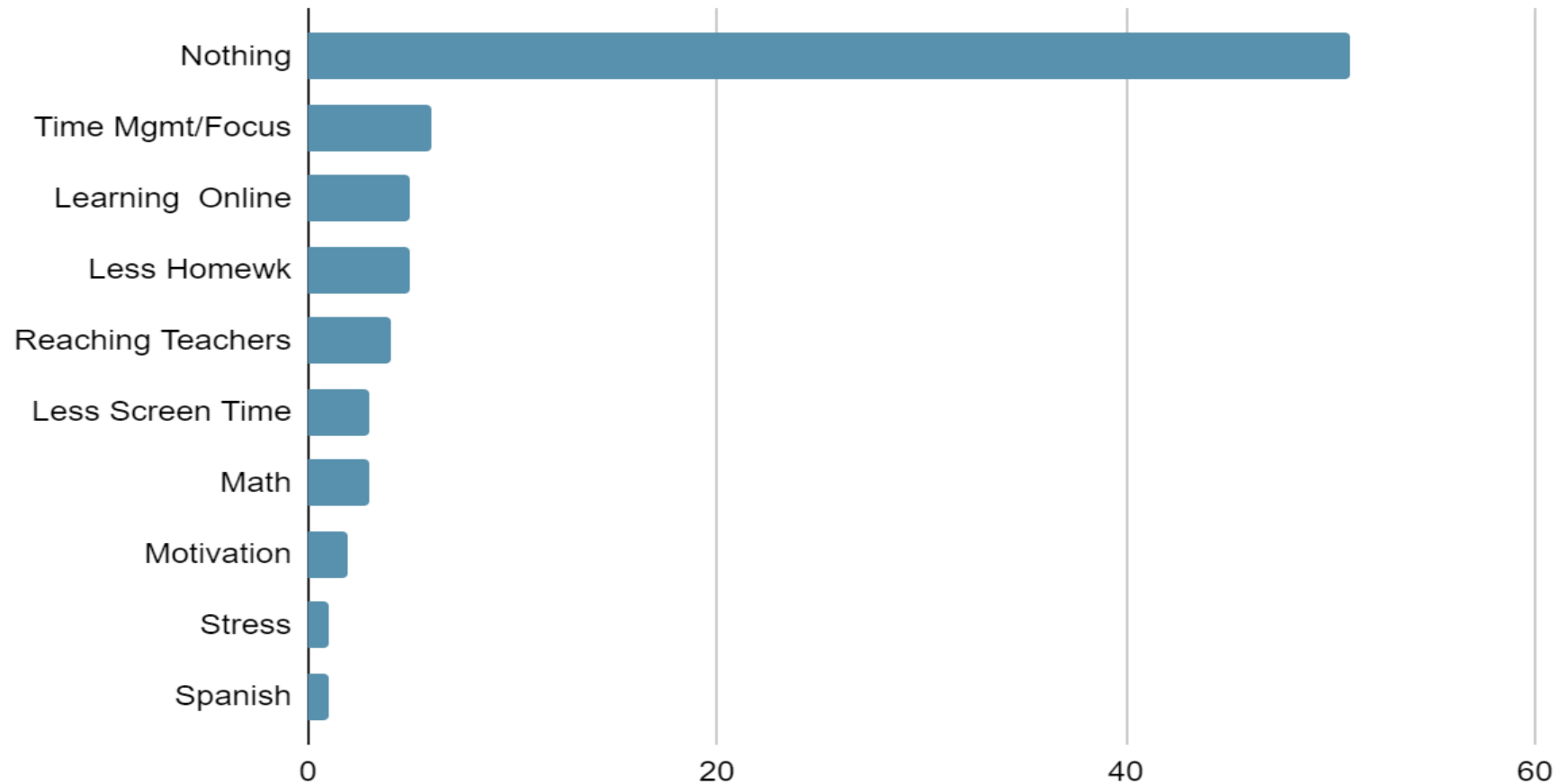
# Grade 10 "Reality Check"

What is Going Well  
With Remote Learning  
Thus Far?(90 responses)



# Grade 10 "Reality Check"

**What is Something You  
Want Help With?(81  
responses)**



# Objective

Manchester Essex Regional Schools overarching goal for remote/hybrid learning is to create a structure that is accessible, accountable, and engaging for all students so they receive the necessary, current programmatic instruction and supports to thrive during the most unprecedented of times. **Our goal is to match a typical school day in effort to run our complete program with appropriate time on learning.**



# What's Different

- DESE Guidelines originally directed schools to limit movement in the building
  - Hybrid cohort models w/ asynchronous teaching
  - Block scheduling
- Number of students in a classroom
  - Originally had ten students in a classroom, now it is 13

## In Person Days – December 15 & 16

- Opportunity to meet students in their assigned cohorts
- Opportunity for students to interact with teachers
- Opportunity to go over safety protocols
- Opportunity to "feel" what it is like to have kids in the building
- Students at home will complete asynchronous assignment
- 8:30am – 11:30am

# Schedule

- Monday – Remote will follow our current remote bell schedule beginning at 8:00am
- Tuesday – Friday – will follow our regular school year bell schedule beginning at 7:45am and concluding at 2:15pm.
- Tuesday – Friday schedule will include U block and two scheduled high school lunch periods

# Schedule – Things to Consider

- The schedule needs to match our typical bell schedule
  - Lunches drive the times of the classes
  - 5 Lunches run between 10:30 am – 1:15pm
- U Block needs to match our typical bell schedule
  - Allow for Band and Chorus to meet regularly
  - MS can free Band Director during this time period
- Moving times – 4 minutes passing
  - Maintaining passing times so that students do not congregate in hallway
  - Teacher may use more time to transition and prepare in the class beyond the 4 minutes passing/students will be seated in classroom, setting up technology
  - Students at home may use the transition time of the teacher to take a break as they do now.

# Cohorts

- The Manchester Middle/High School students have been designated into two cohorts, Green and White. Below are the two cohorts for hybrid learning:
  - **GREEN**- Students in the Green cohort meet in school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and last names: **Adams-Jacobson**
  - **WHITE** - Students in the White cohort meet in school on Thursdays and Fridays and last names: **Jobe - Zschau**

# Cohorts – Things to consider

- Cohort split considers all students in Middle School/High School
- Cohort split considers all students returning to the hybrid model
  - Students will have the choice to move between learning hybrid or remotely by notifying the Dean of Students the week prior to making the change
- With current numbers in sections for second semester classes at the high school approximately 24 cohort-sections of 460 will have a cohort period of over 13 students (5%)
  - This does not consider students that will choose to remain remote
  - Average overage is approximately 2 students
  - Average cohort class size is approximately 9 students

# Cohorts – Things to consider

- When a cohort class section is over 13 students
  - The overage of students (1 or 2) will be assigned to the overflow space in the auditorium to take part in the class period remotely
  - The teacher will develop a rotation and seating assignment for these cohorts
    - It is important to remember that the number of cohort/sections that are over 13 are approximately 5% of total
  - The number over 13 will decline if students choose to remain remote
  - Students are expected to attend school on both in person days

# Hyflex Learning

The hybrid model utilizes the hyflex method which allows the cohort of students in school to interact virtually and in real-time with the cohort that is learning from home. It also allows for the implementation of the full academic program in both hybrid and remote only modes. We've chosen a challenging model to implement, but one we believe is in the best interest of students and one that allows us to maintain continuity of schedule and expectations. There is no one way to structure the hybrid day. Each educator will use his or her expertise to design lessons that balance virtual instruction, online activities, independent learning, and traditional paper and pencil activities.



# Before Coming to School

Parents will need to complete an electronic attestation form via the **Medbot** app each morning before sending their child to school. The electronic form will be submitted each morning to affirm that their child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms.

# Arrival to School

- Students may not arrive to school until 7:30am if driving or being dropped off
- Students driving or being dropped off will enter the building by the doors to the high school by the student parking lot
- Students arriving on buses will enter the front of the building and proceed directly to the auditorium. They will be released from the auditorium to go to first block at 7:35am.
- Students must wear a mask at all times on school grounds (exception during mask breaks and lunch)
- Faculty/Staff will enter the building by the front doors

# Dismissal From School

- Students will exit the school to the closest marked exit near their last class of the day.
- Students are not to congregate at the end of day and must leave the building and campus unless instructed by a teacher or attending a structured after-school event supervised by a faculty or staff member.

# Bringing Supplies to School

- Students will continue to be able to bring backpacks and lunchboxes to school. Each student will have a designated place in each classroom for their belongings, which will be around his/her desk area. Families should clean these items frequently and talk with their child about not sharing items with other students.
- Students need to come to school with two masks. One to wear throughout the day and a back-up mask in case the other needs replacing. Teachers will have extra masks in the event of an emergency.

# Lunch

- Students will be assigned to the cafeteria, gym or auditorium for lunch
- Students will eat lunch at desks in the cafeteria, gym or auditorium
- Upon sitting the student will scan a QR code noting the desk location. This will allow for contact tracing if necessary
- While attending lunch, students are expected to be seated in a designated space and not get up and socialize with other students at different tables.
- Students will be allowed to move around the cafeteria if they need supplies, food, and to throw away their trash. Masks must be worn if the student is not seated.
- Students should not line up at the exit door before being released to their next class. They should remain in their seats until an administrator dismisses them. Students will be dismissed in a staggered fashion to help prevent overcrowding in the hallways.

# Movement in the Building

- All hallways, stairways, cafeteria, auditorium, and other public spaces will be clearly marked to indicate the traffic direction and side of the hallways which faculty, staff, and students must follow.
- While moving through the building, social distancing of six feet should be observed at all times.
- Between each class, teachers will be in their doorways to monitor students' social distancing and wearing of masks.
- We will be sending a video prior to return showing the routes

# Classroom Space

- Nonessential furniture has been removed for the maximum student movement in the classrooms.
- Student desks have been arranged to be socially distant from one another. Desks should not be moved around the classroom.
- Students will have assigned seats in their classrooms in alphabetical order
- Whenever possible, student seats should be organized in a manner that increases social distancing as much as possible.





# Classroom – Healthy Practices

- All classrooms will have hand sanitizer pumps.
- There will be a supply of tissues in each classroom located by the entrance and NOT on the teacher's desk.
- All classroom trash pails should be located near the door entrance and NOT near the teacher's desk.
- Nose blowing - students must go to the hallway to blow their nose and dispose of tissues before returning to their desks. Hand sanitizer must be used upon returning to class.
- Cover a cough/ sneeze, then hand sanitizer after. A new mask may be needed.

# Learning Commons & Study Hall

- The Learning Commons will be closed to students
- Students in study hall will report to the auditorium
- Students will scan into study hall seat using QR Code

# Crisis and Safety

- Fire Drills - There will be typical fire drills during the first week of school utilizing appropriate spacing.
- ALICE- During the first day of school, teachers will review ALICE guidelines with students including noting optional exit spaces and movement to the Essex Country Club.

# Bathrooms

- Only 2 students will be allowed to access the restroom at one time.
- Students must keep their masks on while using the bathroom.
- If a student is the only one using the bathroom, he/she may take their mask off.
- Waiting spots will be placed in the hallway
- Bathrooms will be closed during passing times. Students should go to class, drop off materials and request permission from their teacher to go into the bathroom. The goal is to discourage congregation in those spaces



# Masks

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# Mask Requirement

- Teachers may provide an opportunity for “Mask Breaks” throughout the day. These will occur with students six feet apart, ideally when students are outdoors.
- **Requirements:** Spaces for mask breaks must allow students to be at least 6 feet apart. Consider using tape or other markers to identify where students should be to maintain 6 feet of separation.
- **Mask breaks may consist of the following:**
  - The class goes outside and takes off masks and maintains 6’ if distance
  - Masks may be adjusted or taken off within the classroom during teacher designated mask breaks as long as students are 6’ apart.
  - During a classroom mask break, masks can be completely or partially removed for a short period of time. Classroom windows should be open **If a mask is completely removed, the mask should not be placed on a surface such as desks, lab table, computers, or any surface hands can touch.** Masks should be stored in the students’ personal belongings (ie. backpack, purse...).

# When a Student Refuses to Wear a Mask

- **Step 1:** The teacher will request the students to wear a mask and offer the student a mask. If the student refuses, the student will be asked to go to the office. The teacher will notify the office that the student will be arriving.
- **Step 2:** The main office secretary will offer the student a mask. If the student refuses, they will meet with the Dean of Students
- **Step 3:** The Dean of Students will offer the student a mask. If the student refuses to wear a mask, the parents or caregiver will be notified.
- **Step 4:** The parent or caregiver will be notified and asked to encourage their child to wear a mask. If the student refuses, he/she will be required to leave school for the day and continue their learning remotely and required to make up any missed work.

# Standardized Testing

- **MCAS and PSAT Testing - Class of 2022**
- PSAT Testing - Tuesday, January 26
- MCAS Testing - Thursday, January 14, Friday, January 15, Monday, January 25, Monday, February 1