Tuesday, June 2, 2020
1:30 pm
Accelerate ED - Operations Subcommittee

In attendance: Jennifer Austin, Laurie Traywick, Brian Newsome, Scott Turner, Dana Yow, Kathy Coleman, Mike Bullman, Garry Fast, Matthew Ferguson, Missy Campbell, Mychal Frost, Nancy Williams, Ron Jones, Sherry Eppelsheimer, Robin Bright, Wanda Knight, Ryan Brown, Tony Thomas

Georgia - https://www.georgiainsights.com/uploads/1/2/2/2/122221993/georgias_k-12_recovery_plan.pdf
Arizona - https://files.constantcontact.com/cbebfe4e101/c74d6758-a584-4aeb-af41-72e111346f9f.pdf
https://www.scoe.net/media/rokm1xn2/school_year_planning.pdf

Community Spread

DHEC needs to define it, like Georgia has defined community spread levels. So we can advise by different phases and protocols.

Group consensus is to over plan rather than micro manage schools and districts. Suggests including guidance on the levels of community spread.

DHEC and Buses

Buses will have 50% capacity to recommend for the fall.

DHEC does recommend students wearing masks on the bus. If kids wear a mask on a bus, $27,000 a day for masks in Greenville. Who will enforce wearing the mask? (Garry: It is only a recommendation.)

Need to have a bus monitor to help with social distancing and for students to use masks.

Do not need to "require" masks to ride a bus. Rather, use the word **allow** to wear a mask.
A district will decide or recommend who has to wear a mask. Not all districts will need to require certain protocols, if there are not many known cases in the county. Hard to require something that you cannot make readily available.

Five cloth reusable washable masks for food service, custodians, bus drivers, teachers (teacher aides were not included) *calculated by teacher salary supplement numbers*

Classrooms

50% capacity on buses. Does that mean classrooms are at 50% too?

Garry- We will use 50% capacity for the summer and if that "works" then will ask DHEC for 75% capacity in the fall.
How do we know "it works?"
Maybe increased COVID cases.
Square footage of a classroom. Are there some in older buildings that do not meet the requirements? How do we suggest classroom capacity?

Guidelines or best practices?
We should provide a menu of options and protocols for districts. Since it will not be the same across the state.
Districts need to know what the updated COVID case numbers look like for their area. Will we need to report them like we have for measles in the past? Will the whole school close for one case, etc?

Feeding
How are you going to feed the kids not a school, when the buses are being used to bus children?
Will still need to get waivers to be able to serve food away from the school building.
Need to work out how they will send food home and package it for consumption later.
Packaging materials will be an increased cost. Need to remember the uncontrolled cost of labor and cost of food that will increase with increased meal service.
Food has been ordered and delivered for menus that were written before the pandemic closure. So have to keep that in mind when feeding children in the fall.

Superintendents want a lot of detail from the committee and SCDE. There are a lot of differences across the state to give a one fit model. Georgia's model has different pathways for different levels of outbreak.

Some suggestions for summer camps can be related to the fall session. Need to provide more guidelines for high school.
Need to address transition times in between classes, cleaning schedules for classrooms and bathrooms, lunchroom capacity, more lunch times than usual, etc.

Thoughts on fire drills, emergencies, etc. Katie will reach out to state fire marshal about requirements and regulations.
Maybe shift the drills so they are done with staff (students if possible.) Make videos, staff training, etc. Need the flexibility from SCDE.

Human Resources
Evaluations, leave policies, etc. Do we make recommendations or keep quiet.
School board association is looking into leave policies. Speak with Tiffany Richardson at SBA.
Evaluations and ADEPT questions need to speak with Lilla Toal-Mandsager at SCDE Educator Services.

Need to meet the minimum requirement of days of instruction in between evaluations. Only 90 days needed with little overlap for semesters. Speak with her about how to conduct evaluations if interrupted by COVID.
CARES money for leave, can use until December 31, 2020.
If someone is exposed and are told not to return to work, where does that leave come from? Take paid leave through CARES act, then take personal sick leave, then are docked unless district made special arrangements.

Work on Google Doc and meet again on Tuesday, June 9th at 8:00 am.

From the Chat

The reality of masks....
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bGctJfWWTrneXxz1c0CqSLzJR3DHo6xecMQMJR7oYLc/edit?usp=sharing
from Matthew Ferguson to everyone:
No.
from Matthew Ferguson to everyone:
Do you make a recommendation if there is a moderate spread?
from Mychal Frost to everyone:
Dr. Turner - to your original question - if the SCDHEC is able to define the types of spread, the visual organization of the Georgia model is excellent
from Mychal Frost to everyone:
If SC DHEC has defined, or will define, the triggers of "substantial spread", "minimal spread", and "low/no spread" ... we don't have that answer.
from Matthew Ferguson to everyone:
Have we considered keeping students together as a unit and moving teachers into rooms?
from Matthew Ferguson to everyone:
It may not meet high school as eaasily but middle school would work