



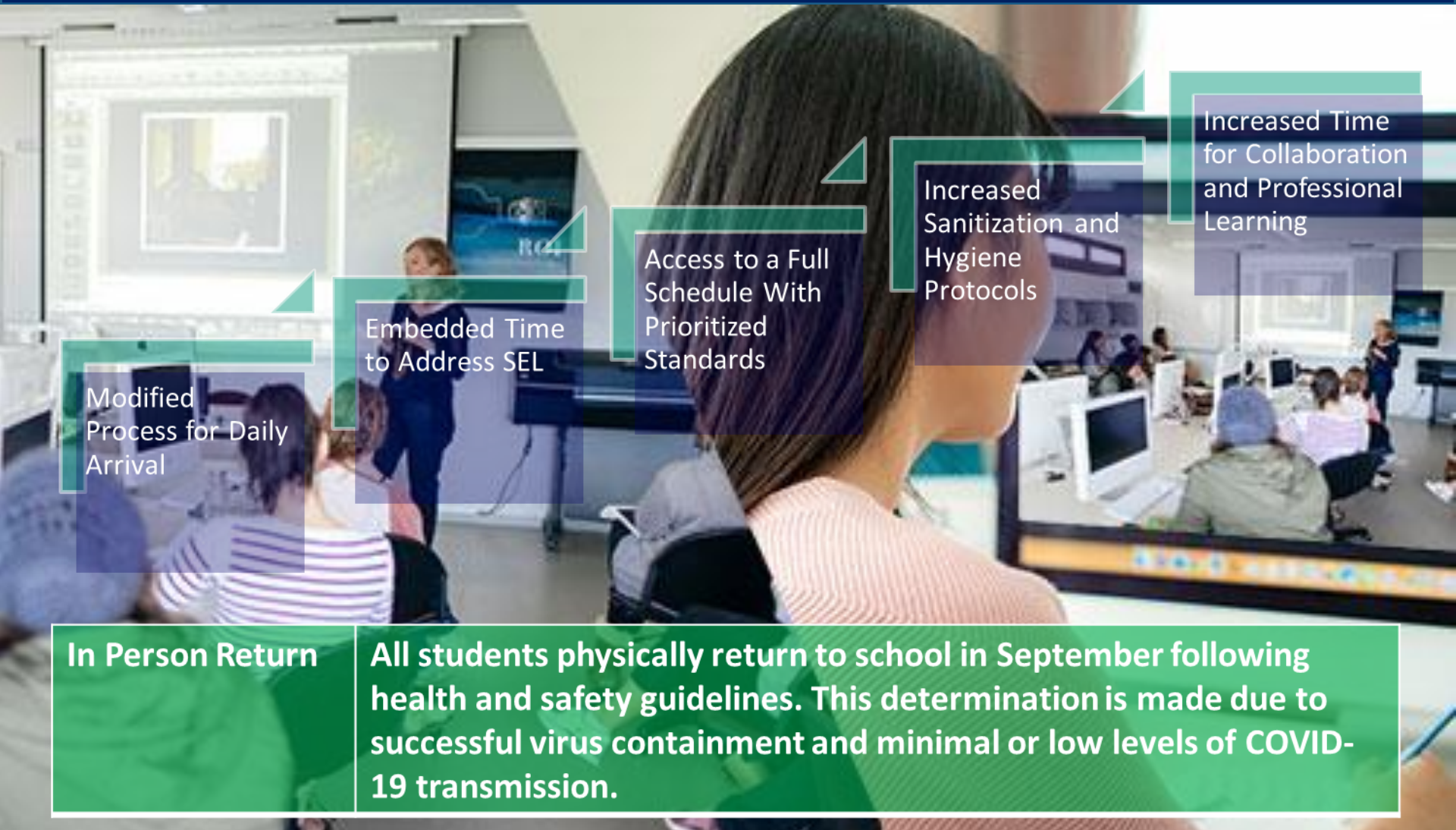
Opening Doors for a New Year of Learning

Darien's Reopening Plan
Update, October 13, 2020



Darien Board of Education

Transitioned to In Person Learning September 29



Modified
Process for Daily
Arrival

Embedded Time
to Address SEL

Access to a Full
Schedule With
Prioritized
Standards

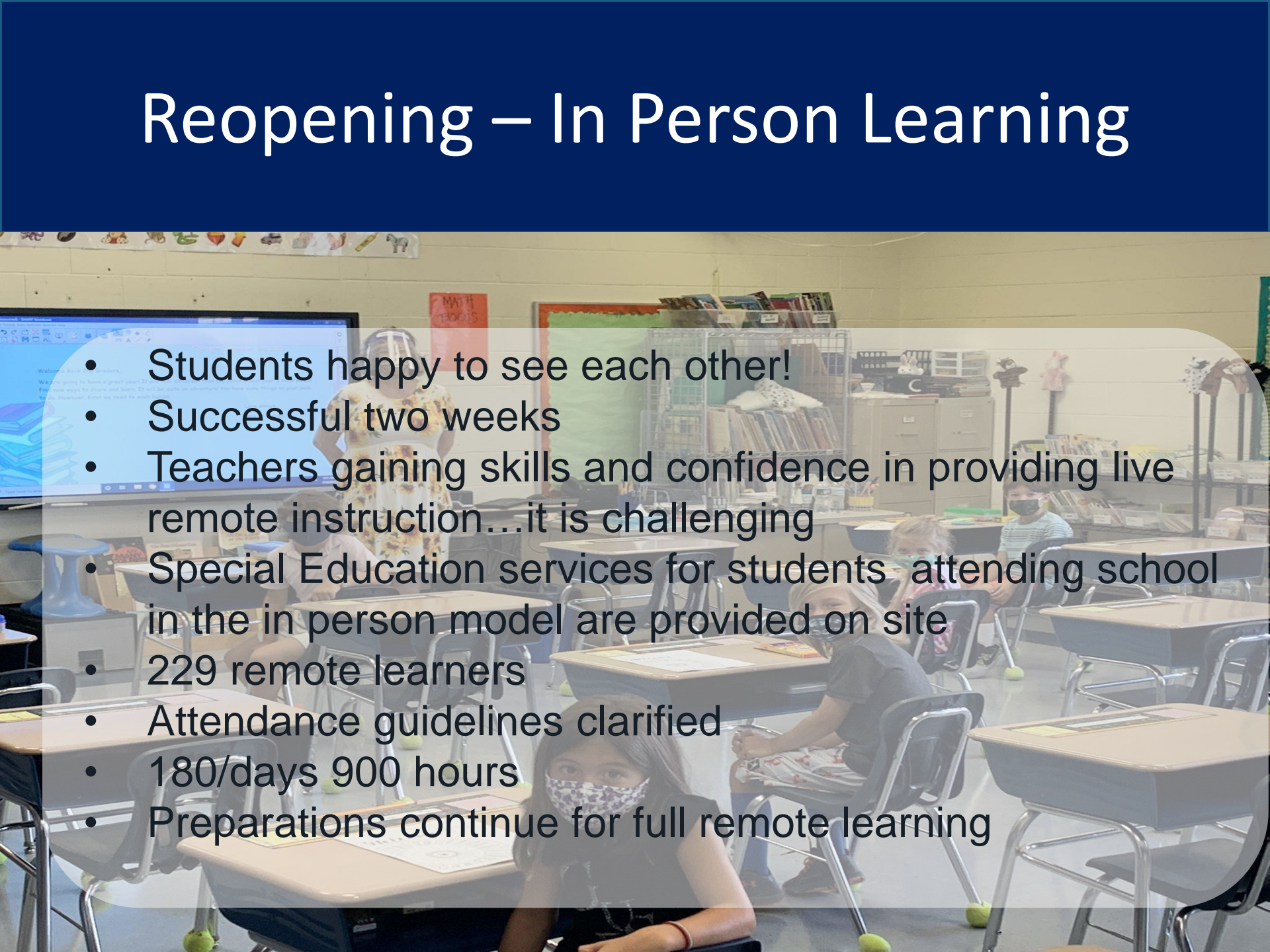
Increased
Sanitization and
Hygiene
Protocols

Increased Time
for Collaboration
and Professional
Learning

In Person Return

All students physically return to school in September following health and safety guidelines. This determination is made due to successful virus containment and minimal or low levels of COVID-19 transmission.

Reopening – In Person Learning

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- A photograph of a classroom during a reopening. Several students are seated at their desks, all wearing face masks. A teacher, also wearing a mask and a floral shirt, stands at the front of the room near a large interactive screen. The screen displays a welcome message for students. The classroom is filled with typical educational supplies, including books, storage bins, and a 'MATH TOOLS' sign.
- Students happy to see each other!
 - Successful two weeks
 - Teachers gaining skills and confidence in providing live remote instruction...it is challenging
 - Special Education services for students attending school in the in person model are provided on site
 - 229 remote learners
 - Attendance guidelines clarified
 - 180/days 900 hours
 - Preparations continue for full remote learning

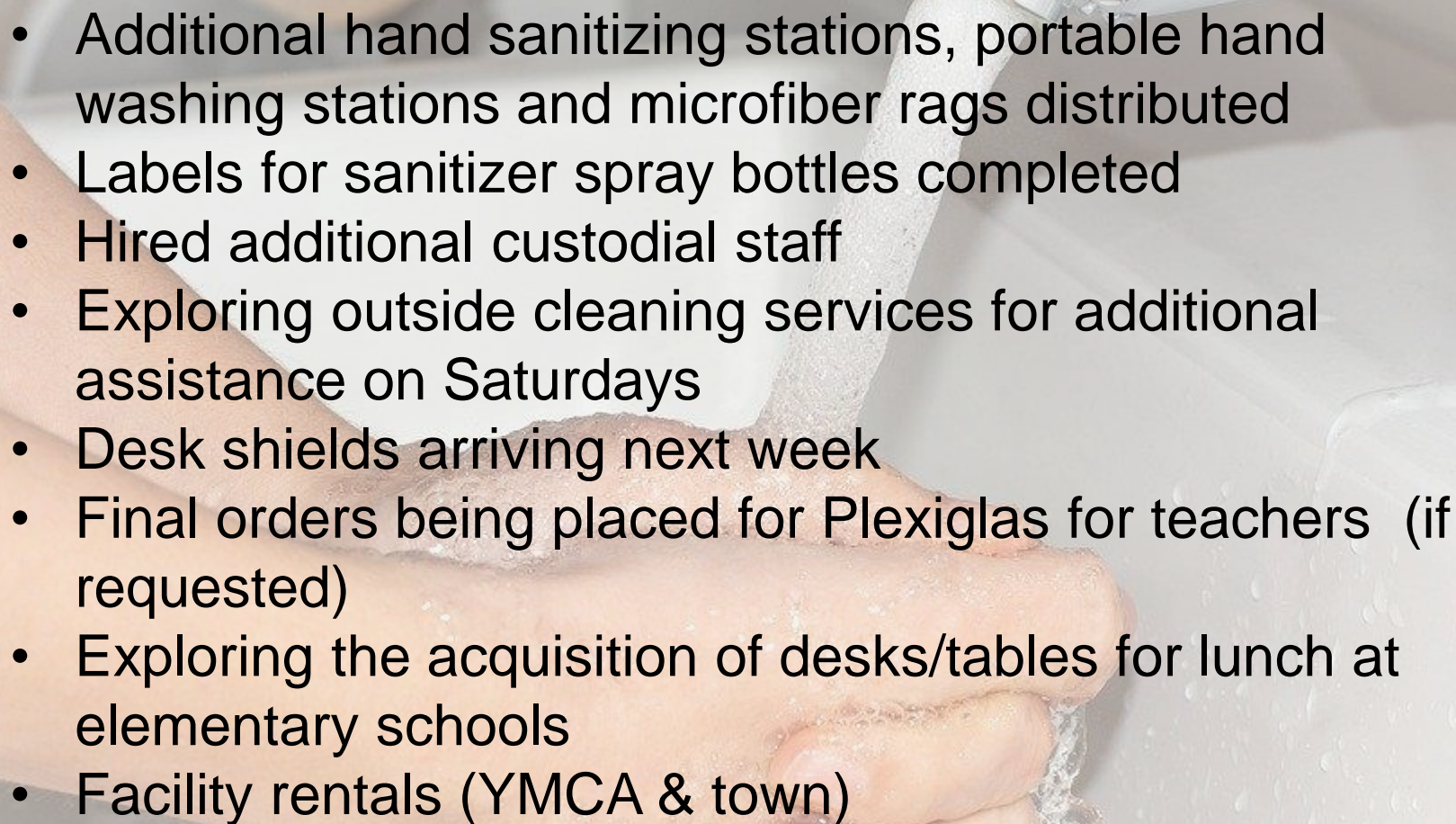
Technology

- Help Desk tickets trended down to about 140 tickets a day since full re-opening.
- Expansion of devices at the elementary level to ensure students are not sharing devices.
- Device failure more manageable
- Remote users are connecting with few issues
- Infrastructure performing well including new web filter and added access points.
- Still need additional staff to support additional devices
- Outsourcing of Chromebook repairs has allowed machines to be repaired quickly


Health & Safety

- Six (6) feet of distancing at lunch – going well
- Weekend hotline for reporting COVID cases
- One COVID case
- Average 15 quarantined/day due to close contact
- Resting & contact tracing informational video (Q&A with medical experts)
- Appreciative of communication from parents, students and staff about illness, travel and exposure to or pending testing for COVID-19.

Facilities & Hygiene

- 
- Additional hand sanitizing stations, portable hand washing stations and microfiber rags distributed
 - Labels for sanitizer spray bottles completed
 - Hired additional custodial staff
 - Exploring outside cleaning services for additional assistance on Saturdays
 - Desk shields arriving next week
 - Final orders being placed for Plexiglas for teachers (if requested)
 - Exploring the acquisition of desks/tables for lunch at elementary schools
 - Facility rentals (YMCA & town)

Transportation

- 
- 238 students have opted back into transportation since September 29th.
 - Arrival & dismissal logistics improving
 - Ox Ridge dismissal remains the biggest challenge

Full Remote Learners

Direct Live Teaching

Teachers provide direct instruction in identified content areas.

Independent Practice

Students work on their own. Camera shares visual reference (anchor chart), mics off, but teacher is there.

Recap

Teacher facilitates a review and closes lesson with all students.

Full Remote Learners

Phase I	Fully remote learners livestream for morning meeting, read aloud, DI block (as scheduled), and closing circle.
Phase II	In addition to Phase I, fully remote learners livestream for direct teaching portion of math and literacy lessons.
Phase III	In addition to Phase I-II, fully remote learners remain connected during independent practice so they may access the teacher, or participate in a conference or small group.
Phase IV	In addition to Phase I-III, fully remote learners livestream for lesson recap/closure.

This week the District began Phase IV for our fully remote learners.

Full Remote Learners

Phase I	Phase II 9/29	Phase III 10/5	Phase IV 10/12
Morning Meeting / Read Aloud	Morning Meeting / Read Aloud	Morning Meeting / Read Aloud	Morning Meeting / Read Aloud
DI Block (2x per rotation)	DI Block (2x per rotation)	DI Block (2x per rotation)	DI Block (2x per rotation)
Closing Circle	Closing Circle	Closing Circle	Closing Circle
	Reading/Writing/Math Direct Live Teaching	Reading/Writing/Math Direct Live Teaching	Reading/Writing/Math Direct Live Teaching
		Reading/Writing/Math Independent Practice	Reading/Writing/Math Independent Practice
			Reading/Writing/Math Recap

Special Education

- In-person Student Evaluations & Remote PPTs
- Weekly PLCs at each school
- Elementary Parent Coffees: Hindley (9/24), Ox Ridge (10/14), Royle (10/30), Tokeneke (TBD), Holmes (TBD)
- Special Education and Student Services Parent Workshops: Elementary 10/20, MMS 10/21, DHS 10/22.
- PD : Specially Designed Instruction with Dr. Marilyn Friend 11/03
Wilson Reading System Training (10/27-10/30)

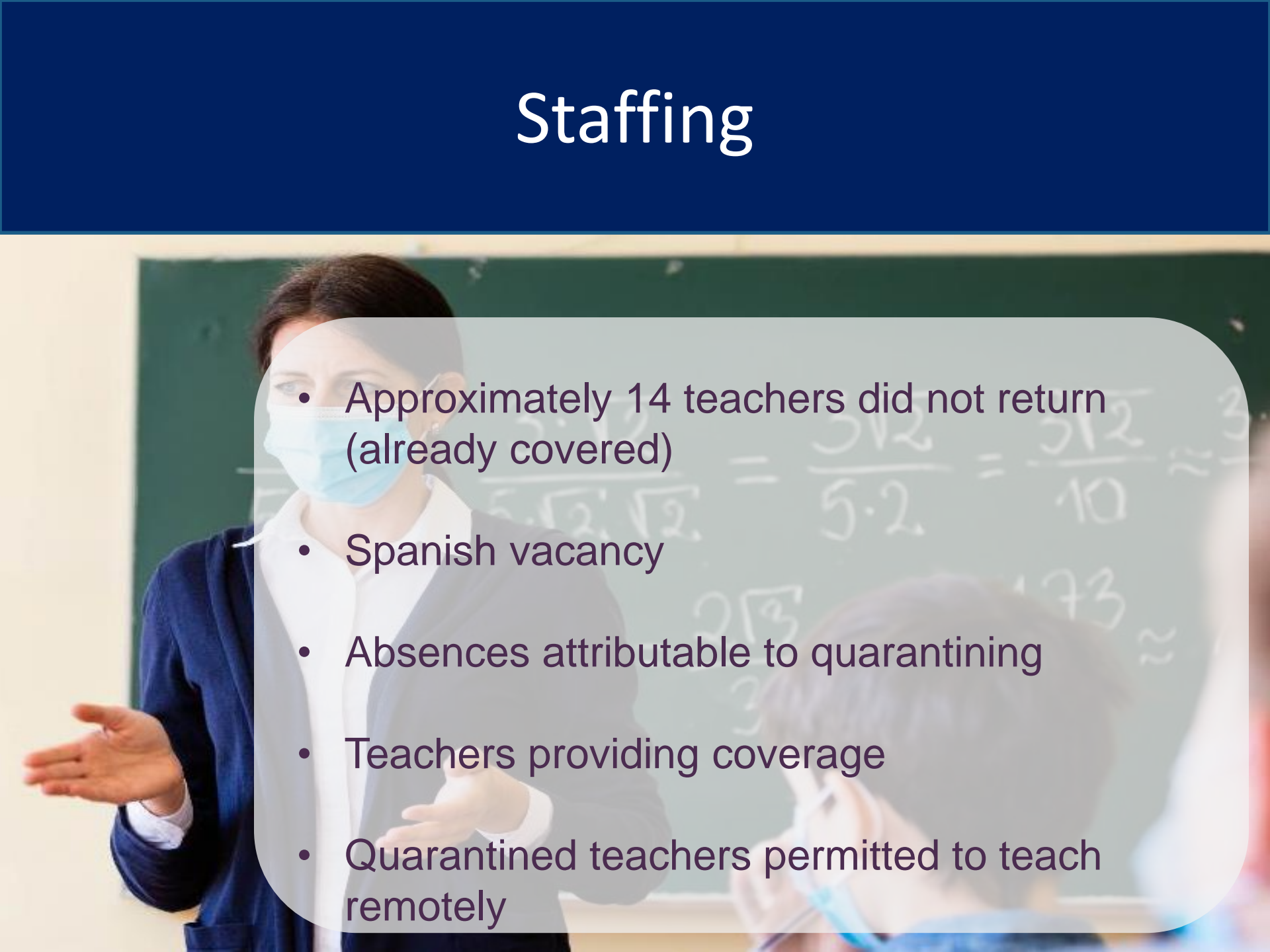
Communication

- Received teacher feedback for remote learning
- Produced Testing & Contract Tracing Informational Video
- Parent Zoom meetings scheduled (October 20-22)
- Parent remote learner survey administered


Teaching & Learning

- Amidst our first assessment window
- Remote assessment center is working well
- Continuing to integrate technology skills during the school day that will prepare students for remote learning

Staffing

- 
- Approximately 14 teachers did not return (already covered)
 - Spanish vacancy
 - Absences attributable to quarantining
 - Teachers providing coverage
 - Quarantined teachers permitted to teach remotely

Athletics

- 
- Following FCIAC guidance on spectators
 - Changes to athletic competitions
 - Volleyball with masks
 - 7 v 7 football
 - Increased coverage of games by DAF Media

COVID-19 Related Expenditures

Category	Operating Fund	Grants	Total
Staffing	\$1,515,347	\$12,497	\$1,527,844
Facilities	\$567,664	\$368,160	\$935,824
Technology	\$187,776	\$92,611	\$280,387
Transportation	\$0	\$8,840	\$8,840
Materials	\$69,047	\$0	\$69,047
Total	\$2,339,835	\$482,108	\$2,821,943

Additional Updates	Operating Fund	Grants	Total
YMCA Facility Use	\$67,860	\$0	\$67,860
Lunch Tables	\$6,439	\$0	\$6,439
PPE's	\$6,461	\$0	\$6,461
Saturday Contracted Cleaning	TBD	\$0	TBD

Adjusted Total	\$2,420,595	\$482,108	\$2,902,703
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Reopening Schools Metrics

Indicators for Learning Models Week Ending Oct 6

Leading Indicator		Secondary Indicators		
Risk Level	New COVID-19 Cases (7 days avg. per 100K pop)	Percent Test Positivity	New COVID-19 Hospital Admissions (7 days avg. per 100K pop)	Percent COVID-like illness hospital ED visits
Low (Favors more in- person learning)	<10 < 2.2 for Darien (=15 cases) Currently 2 cases	Trending down to flat No statistically significant changes		
Moderate (Favors hybrid learning)	10 – 25 2.2- 5.5 for Darien (=15 – 38 cases)	Trending flat to upward Any statistically significant changes		
High (Favors remote learning)	>25 > 5.5 for Darien (=38 cases)	Trending upward Consistent statistically significant changes upward		

Reopening Schools Metrics

Current Status of Indicators by County Week Ending Oct 6

Leading Indicator		Secondary Indicators		
County	New COVID-19 Cases (7 days avg. per 100K pop)	Percent Test Positivity	New COVID-19 Hospital Admissions (7 days avg. per 100K pop)	Percent COVID-like illness hospital ED visits
Connecticut	6.8	1.7%	0.6	1.7%
Fairfield	5.4	1.9%	0.5	2.1%

Questions & Discussion

