

**EASTHAMPTON HIGH SCHOOL
PARENT/CAREGIVER Q & A
HYBRID LEARNING**

What is the hybrid model?

In the hybrid model, some students are in the classroom, and some are at home, tuning in to live classes through Zoom. Because there are fewer students in the building, it allows them to maintain proper social distancing.

When will my student be eligible to return to school?

Students will return to the building when the metrics approved by the school committee are met. The return is currently set for *no sooner* than March 8th, although it could be later, based on the metrics.

When will my student be at school, and when will they be home?

Students will be divided into three cohorts:

- Cohort 1: Last names A-L
- Cohort 2: Last names M-Z
- Cohort 3: Students choosing to stay fully remote

Cohorts 1 & 2 will alternate on a weekly schedule (one week in the building, one week remote). In-person learning will be for half-days.

Will the return be staggered by grades?

No. As per the School Committee's directive, all grades in each cohort will return together.

If we decide to return for hybrid learning, what will the daily schedule be?

(See chart on next page.)

- Morning classes (A & B Blocks) will be hybrid (both in-person and remote).
- C & D Blocks will be fully remote.
- Students that are learning in the building will be in school 7:45-10:25.
- A & B Blocks will be 70 minutes each, with a 20-minute outdoor (weather permitting) mask break in between.
- There will be no Flex Block for A & B Blocks.
- C & D Blocks will each have a shortened Flex Block at the end of the respective periods (note: this represents a change for C Block flex—it will occur *after* C Block instead of before).

Time	Period	In-person Cohort	Remote Cohorts
7:45-8:55	A Block	In-Person	Remote
8:55-9:15	Mask Break	Mask Break	Break
9:15-10:25	B Block	In Person	Remote
10:25-11:25	Lunch/ Travel	Lunch/ Travel	Lunch
11:25-12:25	C Block	Remote	Remote
12:25-12:40	C Flex	Remote	Remote
12:45-1:45	D Block	Remote	Remote
1:45-2:00	D Flex	Remote	Remote

Why are students returning for the morning classes and not the afternoon classes?

Although we considered having students attend during the afternoon, the response to our surveys indicated that far more students would be able to attend in the morning than the afternoon.

What about CTEC?

9th & 11th grade CTEC students will attend CTEC in the morning and attend EHS classes remotely in the afternoon.

10th & 12th grade CTEC students will have the option of attending EHS hybrid classes in the morning and then attend CTEC in the afternoon

Will lunches be served?

Grab-and-go lunches will be available as students exit the building, but lunches will not be served in the building.

Will my child get transportation?

Students who live beyond two miles from EHS will be eligible for bus transportation. Bus schedules will be available on the district website, www.epsd.us.

What safety precautions will be in place?

- Masks required at all times (strictly enforced). Note: there will be a mask break between the two classes that will be outside (weather permitting). *Students should be dressed appropriately!!*
- Staggered entrances and exits into and out of the building that ensure one-way flow of traffic.
- Social distancing in classes and during passing.
- Hand sanitizing stations at every entrance, classroom, and bathrooms.
- No eating in the building.
- Students will not be allowed to bring in outside food or beverages (only water). Water fountains are activated for water bottle refills only. We will supply water bottles to students who need them.
- Any person demonstrating symptoms of COVID-19 will be put into an isolation room and be administered a COVID rapid test (with prior written parent approval).

How will the school communicate the expectations to students & parents/caregivers?

1. We will have two town-hall forums (via Zoom):
 - a. Last names A-L: Wednesday, 2/24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 - b. Last names, M-Z: Thursday, 2/25, 5:30-6:30
2. 9th grade parents/caregivers and students will be given in-person tours and orientation sessions as follows:
 - a. Last names A-E: Monday, 3/1, 5:30-6:30
 - b. Last names F-Ma: Tuesday, 3/2, 5:30-6:30
 - c. Last names Mc-Sc: Wednesday, 3/3, 5:30-6:30
 - d. Last names Si-Z: Thursday, 3/4, 5:30-6:30
3. We will also create a series of instructional videos which we will share out to students and families and that teachers will show on the first day back in school.

What if students do not comply with the safety precautions?

While we understand that the precautions will be an adjustment, they *will be strictly enforced*. Students who are judged to be willfully disregarding the safety precautions will not be allowed to stay in the building. These students will be required to be part of Cohort 3 (fully remote).

What if we change our minds about being in a hybrid or fully remote cohort?

Scenario one: *We decide to return to school and then want to change to fully remote*. Students may opt to go to fully remote at any time.

Scenario two: *We decide to stay fully remote and then want to change to hybrid*. After formally requesting the school administration to be part of a hybrid cohort, students must wait a minimum of two weeks before they may return to school.

How will classrooms be set up physically?

Each classroom is set up with all student desks facing in a single direction and spaced 6 feet apart.

How will remote instruction change with the onset of the hybrid model?

During hybrid classes, students at home will see their teacher teaching both to them and to the students in their classroom; they will be able to see the teacher's shared screen and be able to hear them deliver the lesson.