The Andover School District intends on hosting a 5-days / week in-person learning model throughout the 2021-2022 school year. The ASD (aka “District”) will not offer concurrent remote or hybrid options for families to choose from. Should the District have to pivot to these models of instruction, similar to 2019 - 2020 and 2020 - 2021, administration and personnel will be ready.

This Stay Open Framework attempts to provide a macro-level perspective on how the ASD will operate in the 2021 - 2022 school year with respect to health and safety protocols and with the primary goal of 5-days / week, in-person learning in mind. The ASD is extraordinarily grateful for the efforts of students, families, teachers, administrators, and staff as they have navigated hybrid learning, remote learning, in-person learning, and the layers of health and safety measures in place during the end of the 2019 - 2020 and the entirety of the 2020 - 2021 school year. The ASD believes that the majority of students flourish in an engaging in-person learning environment.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is still impacting our community. The ASD will abide by the recommendations of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS).

This Stay Open Framework focuses on:

- **Health and Safety** (for all)
- **Equitable Access**
- **Educational Engagement and Quality**

Discrete details regarding the school’s schedule and plans will be finalized over the summer and communicated prior to the opening of the 2021 - 2022 school year.

**Health and Safety**

*Daily Health Screening / Questionnaire (PickUp Patrol - PUP)* -

The District is asking parents to continue to screen and monitor their child’s health on a daily basis. As part of our effort to maintain a safe and healthy environment, please keep your child home if they are exhibiting / experiencing new or unexplained symptoms, such as cough, chills, sore throat, nasal congestion, headache, fatigue, nausea / vomiting, diarrhea, or a fever greater than or equal to 100.4. Each school requires parents to complete the PUP questionnaire **ONLY** when their child is experiencing any of the aforementioned symptoms. If there are any doubts, parents should complete the daily health questionnaire so that a school nurse can provide guidance as necessary.

*Masks / Face Coverings* -

1. It is our sincere hope that masks will not be required in the 2021 - 2022 school year.
2. Using a locally designed decision making matrix, the ASD will follow New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) recommendations in regard to the use of masks.

3. Based on the ASD matrix, should masks be a requirement, exceptions will be made for students / staff with documented medical reasons.

4. What type of masks can be worn?
   - Disposable Medical Mask
   - Adjustable and fitted masks that include 2 or more layers of cotton / cloth
   - Neck Gaiters that include 2 or more layers of cotton / cloth.
   - Scarfs, handkerchiefs, fleece balaclavas, and bandanas are not permitted

5. Masks must:
   - fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face (a mask that is too loose results in breathing more unfiltered air around the mask)
   - be secured with ties or ear loops, masks with adjustable ear loops may be best for students
   - allow for breathing without restriction
   - be made of a fabric or material that can be laundered without damage or change to shape (using a small mesh laundry bag to wash can help)
   - cover the nose and mouth
   - masks with exhalation valves are NOT allowed, as they do not filter exhaled air
   - porous masks are not useful or allowed
   - abides by the school dress code
   - the school will have appropriate masks for use if there is a challenge to these guidelines

6. Other PPE including but not limited to face shields, can be worn, but not in place of wearing a mask / face covering

**Physical Distance Guidelines** -
Physical classroom layouts will be distanced to the greatest extent possible.

**Classroom Sanitizer & Wipes** -
Hand sanitizer stations have been installed throughout the school, including in classrooms. In addition, each classroom will have access to a stock of disinfectant wipes for wiping down hard surface areas.

**Cleaning / Sanitizing** -
Throughout the day, the custodial staff will sanitize / disinfect high-traffic common areas. Additionally, restrooms and other high-priority areas will be cleaned and disinfected regularly each day.
**Buses**
- Masks on all ASD and MVSD buses are required per federal mandate.
- Moving around on the bus will be prohibited.
- All buses will have accurate seating charts.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus.
- Each bus will be cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis.
- Weather permitting, all windows will remain open throughout the bus ride to provide airflow.

**HVAC and Air Flow**
The AEMS HVAC system has been cleaned and is regularly maintained. All components are functional and where possible, filters have been upgraded to MERV 13. In any classrooms without acceptable airflow, portable air purifying and filtration units have been deployed. Weather permitting, windows will be open and fans will be used to increase airflow.

Outdoor learning spaces will be utilized often and at all buildings. Students should come prepared with clothing and supplies suitable for outdoor activities.

**Social Emotional Learning (SEL)**
Social Emotional Learning is a priority for the ASD. In a typical year, this is a focus; however, on the heels of a pandemic, the focus is even more elevated. In addition to the skilled counseling staff at AEMS, the District has the support of a Student Assistance Program (SAP) through a partnership with Second Start.

**Equitable Access**
If for any documented medical or special education reason, a student is unable to access the ASD in-person learning model, the District will work with families to ensure individualized educational needs are met and that all appropriate accommodations are provided.

Should the entire District or a cohort of students be compelled to move to a remote learning model (or if any student’s ability to attend school is temporarily impacted by COVID-19), educational supports and access to learning will be available.

Depending on the grade level and circumstances, students may be taking a District-issued technology device home on a daily basis. Through the Student Information System (SIS), Alma, and use of platforms like Google Classroom, access to instructional resources is available to all with internet access. Additionally, access issues can be proactively mitigated by making resources available offline, by printing materials, or through the use of mobile hotspots (if...
available and appropriate). Synchronous learning applications like Google Meets and / or Zoom may also be used to deliver instruction. All of this will be clearly communicated.

Engagement and Quality
The ASD strives to effectively connect with and motivate all learners. Whether in-person or online, ASD instructors and support staff are dedicated to crafting high quality educational experiences for their students. Throughout this past school year, and this summer leading up to the 2021 - 2022 school year, teachers / staff at all levels have been and will continue to strategically develop lesson plans and assignments that engage learners. ASD administration is focused on supporting highly effective teaching and learning. Continued Professional Development (PD) will be planned and implemented.

The partnership between the school and home is integral in this pursuit. The ASD values our relationships with parents as we work together to educate our students.

Athletics, Clubs, and Activities (Extracurriculars)
The ASD recognizes and believes in the importance of providing students with extracurricular activities throughout their K - 8 experience.

Clubs and Activities -
ASD clubs and activities will meet during the 2021 - 2022 school year at all buildings. Schedules will be established and communicated as each season draws closer.

Athletics -
ASD athletic tryouts, practices, and events will take place in 2021 - 2022 and will follow NH DHHS, New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletics Association (NHIAA) recommendations and guidance.

Moving Forward
This document will be revisited and amended (if necessary) by the ASD School Board at any duly posted Board meeting.

Constituent Feedback Opportunities: The “Stay Open Framework” has been on the District's website since it was approved by the Board prior to the opening of the school year. Additionally, before that vote, stakeholder feedback (on the plan) was solicited via an established webpage and associated email address (on the District's site with a draft of the plan). Moreover, the District held an emergency Board meeting to gain further feedback on the stay open plan before any adoption took place. The Board continues to accept public feedback via email correspondences and public comment at regular Board meetings.