




Opening Florida's Schools to Re- Open Florida's Economy

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2020



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org



“Our number one goal is to ensure the safety and security of students and to provide a great education.”
- **Governor Ron DeSantis**

Education Recovery

- The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) is working to help Florida's entire education family return to the schools that enable Florida's talent pipeline and help fuel Florida's economy.
- *“The Florida Council of 100 commissioned a recent survey showing that nearly two-thirds of employed parents of minor children in Florida say that school closures and/or lack of childcare have either somewhat (41%) or greatly (23%) hurt their ability to fully perform their job responsibilities during the pandemic.”*

FDOE's Guiding Principles for Crisis Response

- Urgently transition Florida's schools to distance learning to give Florida's students the greatest access to the best education possible.
- When confronting any difficult decision, always show compassion and grace.

FDOE's Guiding Principles for Recovery

- Eliminate achievement gaps, which have likely been exacerbated by this crisis.
- Prepare our schools and programs to reopen safely and ready for success.

FDOE's Indicators of Success for Recovery

- Keeping Florida's entire education family safe and healthy.
- Giving confidence for Floridians to return to school campuses safely and ready to succeed.
- Focusing on student-centered outcomes, especially closing achievement gaps.
- Elevating educators and equipping them to succeed.
- Enabling parents of school aged children to return to the workforce.

Recovery Timeline

- Finishing the spring 2020 semester (April to early June).
- Summer programs usually begin late May to early June.
- Will we use June to August for additional educational recovery?
- The 2020-2021 academic year begins in August.

Considerations: Spring 2020

- Continued communications and technical supports for school districts, public charter schools, private schools, state colleges, technical colleges and early learning coalitions and providers.
- Students' and teachers' access to devices and Internet.
- Supporting our health care workers and first responders with access to child care.
- Building new tools to track absenteeism.
- Promotion and retention decisions.
- School accountability without testing and school grades.
- The 2020 Senior class.
- Bright Futures.
- The mental health of our students and their families during this period of distance learning.

Considerations: Summer 2020

- Safely returning to school campuses.
- Implementing new social distancing best practices on campuses.
- Summer programs.
- Supporting absentee, low-income and struggling students with recovering lost time and closing achievement gaps.
- Reconnecting supports for students with special needs (IEP plans).
- Developing a new strategy for increasing attendance and engagement.
- Getting teacher certification back on track.
- Upgrading instructional continuity plans.
- Growing the FLVS safety net.

Considerations: 2020-2021 School Year

- Progress monitoring, especially early grades, to empower teachers to close achievement gaps.
- Using data to drive success for low-income students.
- Providing every school with the tools needed to keep students, teachers and staff healthy.
- Fully implemented protocols to address future incidents of infection.
- Helping students and teachers learn to distance learn.
- Help 2020's seniors transition into postsecondary.
- Implementing new tools to connect learners to career pathways.
- Developing quicker pathways into recovery-focused and high ROI pathways.
- Sports and social distancing.

Considerations: Systemic

- Recognizing Florida's new subgroup of students – students without access to a device and/or Internet.
- Renewing Florida's foundation in literacy (reading).
- Teacher professional development in virtual education.
- How to achieve 1:1 students to devices.
- [CDC Guidance for Institutes of Higher Education](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs](#)

Thank You!

- www.fldoe.org/em-response
 - Free Resources for Families & Teachers: www.fldoe.org/em-response/resources-families
 - Best Practices for Distance Learning: www.fldoe.org/em-response/distance-learning
 - Recursos en español: www.fldoe.org/em-response/spanish