

Executive Director's Report

April 19, 2021



Charter Renewal Update



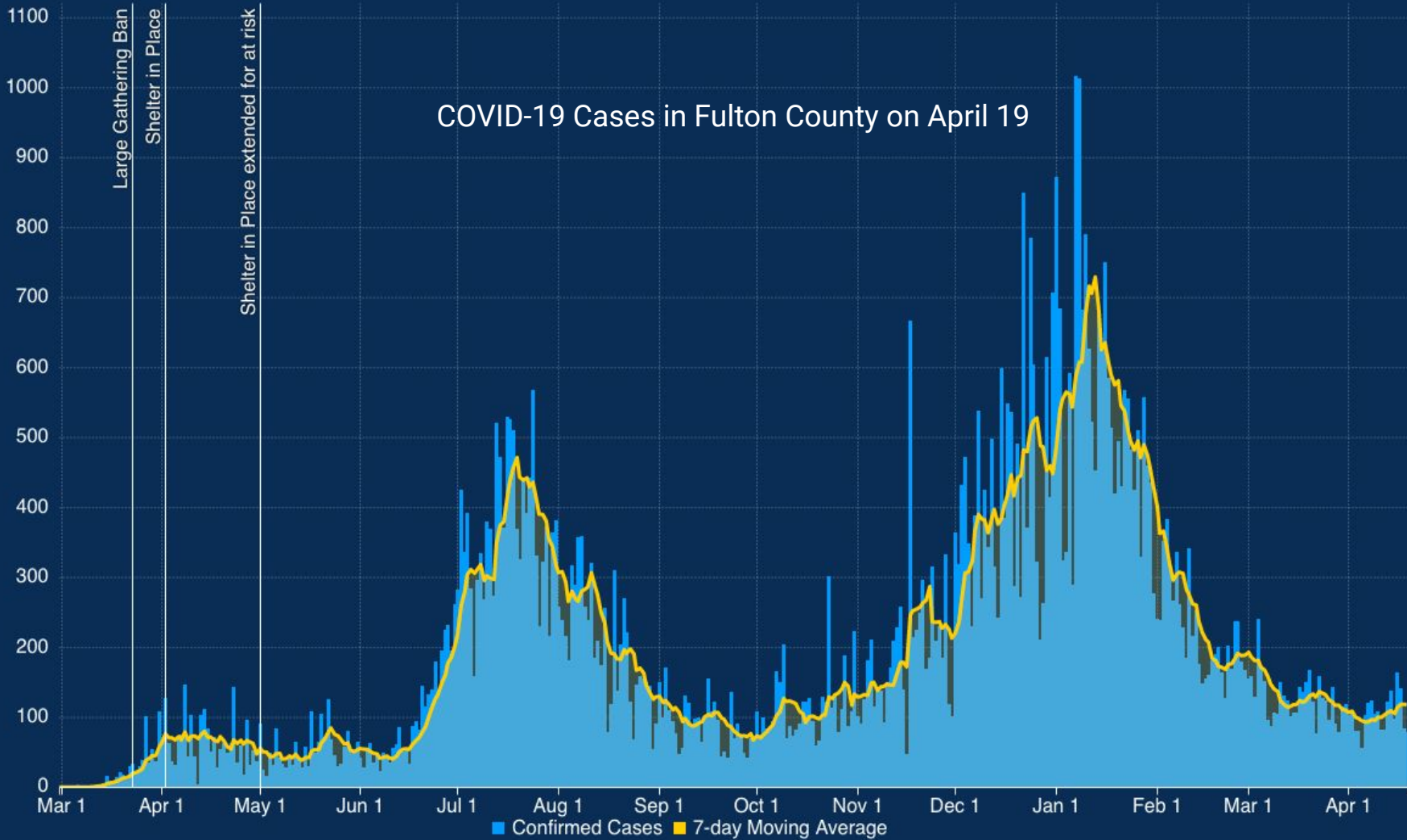
Remaining steps

- Draft contract received from Georgia Department of Education, reviewed by ANCS and APS
- Charter provisions, including new lottery structure, accepted by GADOE
- Final vote to occurred on March 26 - unanimously approved
- Charter contract signed by Governing Board chair; to be signed by chair of Atlanta Board of Education and then chair of State Board of Education

HOWL Hybrid Update



COVID-19 Cases in Fulton County on April 19



Confirmed Cases 7-day Moving Average

COVID-19 Cases in Fulton County

February 22:	248 cases per 100,000
March 15:	169 cases per 100,000
April 19:	142 cases per 100,000

The vaccine is currently available to all adults without an appointment.

COVID-19 Mitigation Update

- Nine total cases - the highest number reported at any point so far - reported during the quarantine week
- Participation in surveillance testing remains low
 - 45 participants on Saturday, April 17
- Still no known instances of community transmission

Learning Options: April 19 Checkpoint

89% of elementary campus students are participating in in-person learning

81% of middle campus students are participating in in-person learning

- Virtual learning will remain an option through the end of the school year
- Cohort hybrid format will remain in place through the end of the year
- Hybrid support staff will remain in place through the end of the year

Looking ahead to the 2021-2022 school year

April 16 memo from APS

- Charter schools are expected to provide full in-person instruction for all students
- A virtual learning is no longer a requirement
 - Decision must be made by May 4
- Masks will be required
- Daily COVID screenings must continue
- Physical distancing must continue
- Until further notice, field trips will not be permitted
- COVID case reporting will continue

Included in committee reports:

- Educational Excellence
 - Summer learning opportunities
 - Special education lead role
 - Testing timeline
- Finance/Operations
 - FY22 budget

Summer Supplemental Learning

- Extended School Year (ESY): A blend of virtual and in-person Instruction for our special education students
- Digital learning tools: A core team of teachers will coach students with identified needs through a series of online learning platforms. Teachers can schedule in-person coaching/support sessions as needed. These same platforms will be available to all students, but without the same intensity of teacher support
- Tutoring: A select list of faculty will be available to tutor students over the summer; financial support will be provided to families as needed
 - Teachers can tutor individual students or small groups in the buildings during ESY hours

Revising/Expanding Special Education Role

- Ashley Deck is leaving after 14 years of service to the school
- Prior to the COVID-19 closure, the leadership team began work on expanding the special education lead role
- We plan to post that position with expanded responsibilities and an evolved approach to student support
 - Leverage curriculum and pedagogy to support consistent growth among students at all levels of academic achievement
 - Support the gathering, interpretation and application of student data to be used to inform differentiation and personalized instruction
 - Effective leadership and coordination of the special education faculty, programs, and resources with ultimate responsibility for compliance with all applicable laws.

Testing Timeline

- Submitted a request to APS & GADOE (along with Westside & Drew) to replace Milestones with MAP
- Submitted a request to APS & GADOE to shift the Milestones schedule to match the cohort hybrid rotation

- Measure of Academic Progress testing: Week of April 26
- Milestones Testing(Arctic Wolves): Week of May 3
- Milestones Testing (Temple of Zoom): Week of May 10

FY22 Budget Overview

- Understated revenue projections
- Focusing on the whole child
 - Permanent addition of a school nurse
 - Expanding counseling services at both campuses
 - Reinstating/expanding farm and garden programming
- Continued investment in teachers and school staff
 - Salary increases for all faculty and staff
 - Restoring professional development funding
- Continued COVID vigilance
 - Retention of limited number of additional staff
 - Sustained expansion of cleaning and sanitizing in both buildings

FY22 Budget Overview (continued)

- Classrooms and academic programs
 - Restoring revenue and expenses to FY20 levels
 - Restoring classroom and curriculum budgets to FY20 levels
- Diversity, equity and inclusion
 - New funding commitment for strategic investments in DE&I and outreach
- Funding for a school vehicle to support student transportation needs and the nutrition program
- Work underway to propose a slate of summer projects to the Governing Board