



Date: June 8, 2020

To: Navigator Schools Board of Directors

From: James Dent, Chief Academic Officer

Subject: School Model 2020-21

Objectives

- 1) Review the academic team goals for launching our 2020-21 hybrid model
- 2) Highlight shifts from Phase II to Phase III
- 3) Outline potential scenarios for the 2020-21 instructional model
- 4) Communicate next steps

Academic Team Goals

Information is changing rapidly, but there is one thing we know: we will need to plan for several contingencies and be nimble enough to pivot quickly as guidelines change. Our academic team goals for the 2020-21 school year focus on preparedness for rapid change while ensuring minimal impact to the outstanding service we have always provided to students and families.

1. **Model:** Design a flexible, equitable hybrid model for the 2020-21 school year that meets Navigators goals for academic excellence while honoring social distancing.
2. **Logistics:** Ensure a seamless operational transition from regular classroom instruction to a new hybrid model that leverages the use of technology.
3. **Staff Development:** Develop top tier teams of educators who can bring excellence to our traditional, hybrid, and distance learning models.
4. **Results:** Ensure both traditional classroom and hybrid models are producing phenomenal outcomes as shown by the data.

Model Component Shifts

Navigator leaders and staff are working hard to determine best practices for the design of Phase III. We are using our findings from Phase I and II to help us design a hybrid model that will include face-to-face instruction and distance learning in observance of the recommendations from our state and local governments. Table 1 indicates the major shifts that will occur in Phase III.

Table 1 :

Program Components	Phase I March-April	Phase II April-June	Phase III August
Navigator Distance Learning Homepage	X	X	X
Daily Blended Learning	X	X	X
Google Classroom	X	X	TBD
Student Packets	X		
1:1 Technology	X	X	X
Synchronous (Live) Direct Instruction		X	X
Synchronous (Live) Office Hours		X	X
Student Workbooks			X
R&D of Best Practices	X	X	X
Face-to-Face Instruction			X
Academic Coaching		X	X
Performance Management			X
Zearn/Other K-5 Math Curriculum			X
Eureka 6-8 Math Curriculum			X
Newsela for 3-8			TBD
Additional Early Literacy Online Program			TBD
Data: Tracking Student Engagement		X	X
Data: Tracking Student Growth			X
Data: Grading		X	X

Key questions we are considering as we design Phase III academic model:

There are numerous questions to consider as we plan for an instructional model that can be implemented as full distance learning, hybrid, or full face to face depending on health recommendations. We are aiming at a moving target while designing next year’s model. However, there are a few key questions we can focus on that will help us prepare for all three scenarios:

- 1) What Phase III face-to-face (F2F) student schedule and calendar will best accommodate the needs of our families while staying within the state and local social distance and safety guidelines? (See Table 2)
- 2) How can we keep the daily student schedule consistent in all three variations to help build student autonomy through predictable expectations and routines?
- 3) Will we be able to build in more F2F time for K-1 students to both acclimate to school and learn to read?

- 4) Which instructional components are necessary to do face-to-face and which can be done virtually?
- 5) What additional curriculum adjustments will be needed for a successful hybrid instructional model?
- 6) How will we continue to develop top tier teams of educators with a new set of criteria?
- 7) How will we know if what we are doing is working for all students and how will we use that data to inform next steps?

Two Potential Model Scenarios

We have designed a “Flexible 2-Day Model” draft with a consistent daily schedule that we believe can transition seamlessly in each of the three scenarios as well as a “Half-Day” option that would allow us to deliver our core content F2F four days a week. This [2020-21 Model Drafts Slideshow](#) gives an overview of both model considerations The [Complete Daily Schedule Draft](#) provides an additional level of detail

Next Steps

The following actions are planned to further the 2020-21 academic efforts:

1. Hold a Town Hall for staff followed by a survey to get input
2. Hold a Town Hall for families followed by a survey to get input
3. Continue to refine best practices and codify professional development for those practices
4. Source and purchase appropriate curriculum for existing gaps presented by new distance learning format, and
5. Pilot resources and procedures in summer school and use data and learnings to iterate models for August.