



Kindergarten Program Update

A

B

C

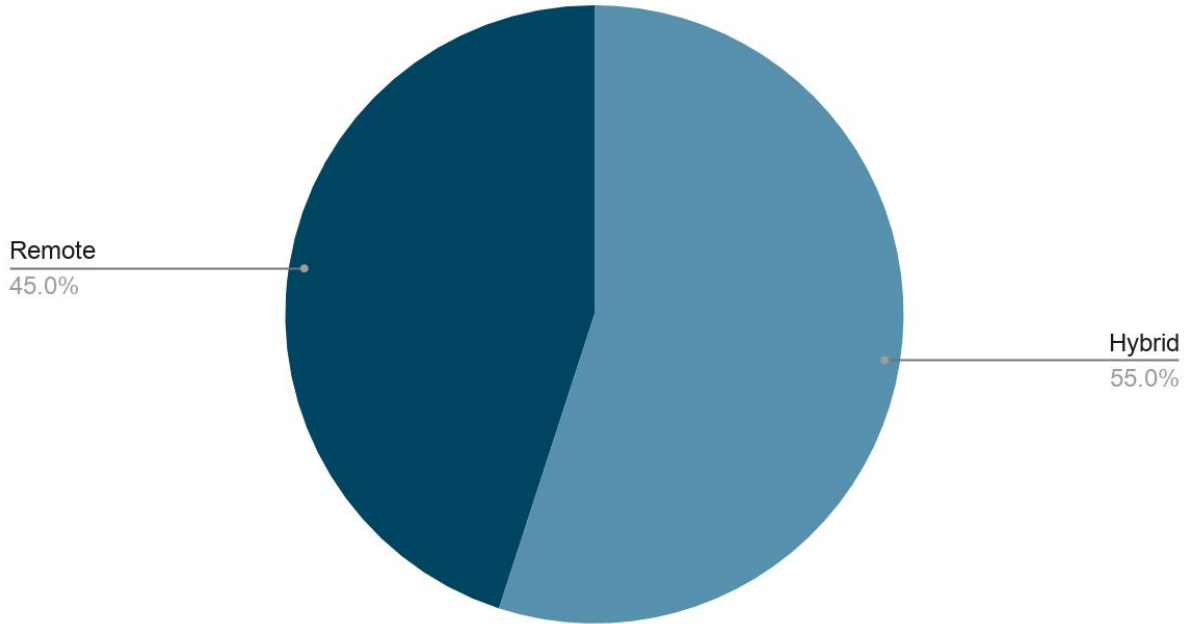
● **Current Kindergarten Instructional Models**

- Both remote and in-person kindergarten currently offer a half-day model
- Students attended school in an A.M. or P.M. session for 2 ½ hours four days per week.
- Half-day Wednesdays are a remote 1 hour session for all students
- Due to the half-day schedule students do not currently receive art, music, or physical education
- The focus of the current kindergarten program has been on developing academic skills in mathematics, literacy, and writing

Kindergarten Instructional Model Survey

- The survey was conducted beginning on March 12, 2021 - March 19, 2021
- Collected a total of 507 responses
- 73% of the kindergarten families responded
- The survey was translated into multiple languages
- School principals followed up with individual phone calls to increase responses

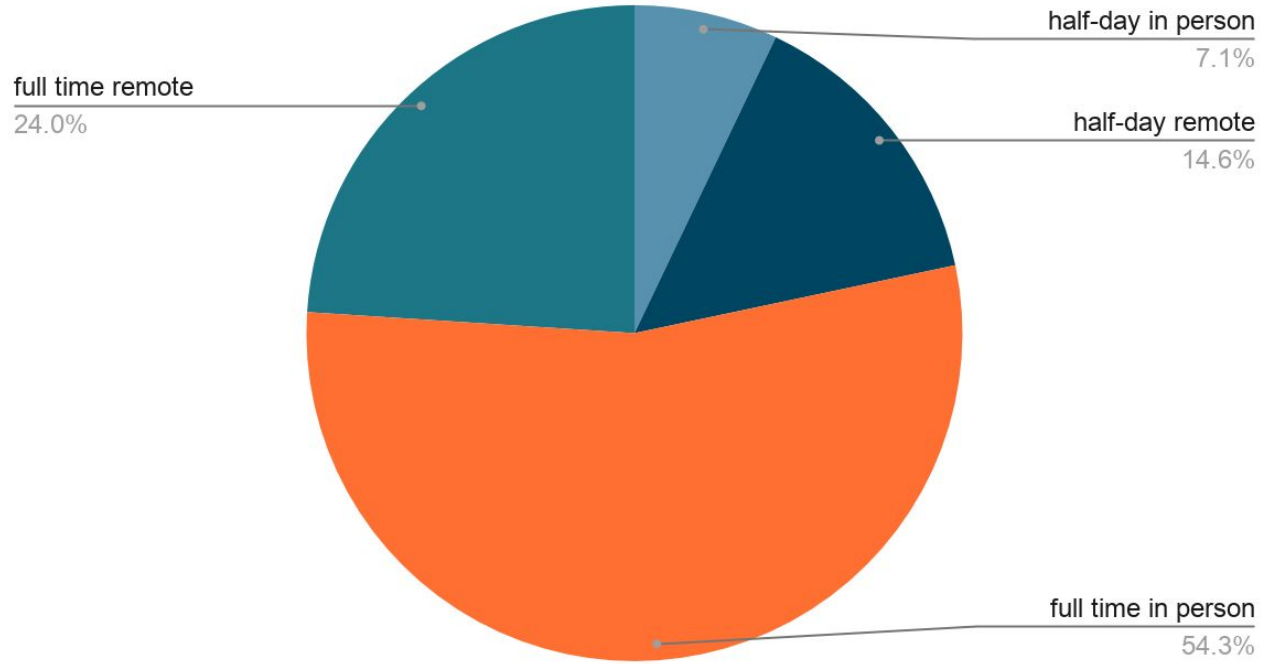
Current Instructional Model



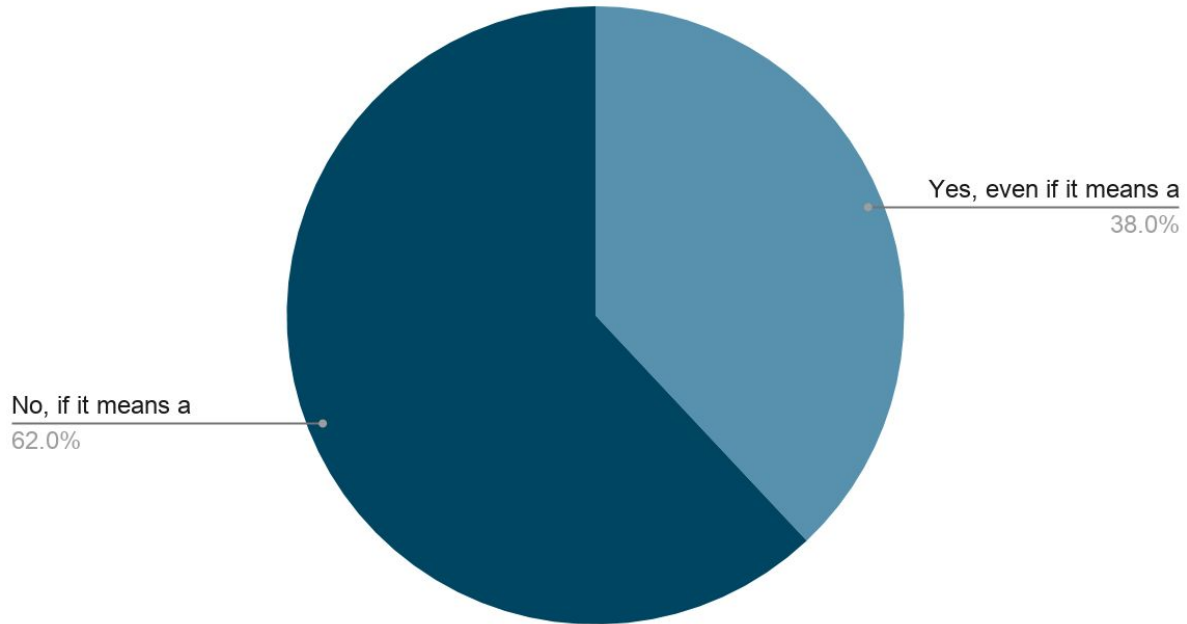
A

B

New Instructional Choice



Teacher change



A

B

Full Day Remote Considerations

- Current class size average is 15 students per session
- 18 remote sessions for Kindergarten would need to be combined into 9 sessions
- The average class size would increase to 33 kindergarten students
- In order to lower the class size we would need approximately 4 additional teaching staff
- This would require a change in teacher for approximately 100 to 153 kindergarten remote students
- Additional remote classrooms would need to be dissolved, which would impact the remote classrooms in other elementary grades

Full Day In Person Considerations



- 33 remote students have requested to come back to full in person across the district
- Without making teacher assignment changes approximately 40% of Kindergarten classes would exceed school committee guidelines
- With teacher assignment changes approximately 153 children would need to change teachers (90 kindergarten students and 63 remote students from other grade levels)
- 6 remote classrooms would be dissolved
- 17 remote classrooms would have new students added to the classroom



B

Other Considerations

- The majority of classrooms would need to move to less than 6 foot distancing
- Additional lunch periods would be needed
- Art, music, and physical education schedules would need to be adjusted for grades 1-5
- Students required to switch teacher's would also be separated from their current classmates
- Support staff would also need to adjust their schedules for grades 1-5 (special education, EL, OT, PT, Speech) to accommodate the return of kindergarten
- Additional paraprofessionals would be needed or would need to be reassigned

Recommendations from the Reentry Task Force

- Consistency for remote families is an important consideration
- Focus on community building activities within our schools that expose students to the larger grade level
- Focus on transitional activities to help students acclimate to the school building
- Consider increasing the time both remotely and in person on Wednesdays
- Summer program activities for rising grade 1 students
- Opportunities for advanced learners in kindergarten to be exposed to advanced curriculum particularly as they transition to grade 1 in the fall

Questions?

