

transfinder



# Going Back to School Before the Kids 3.1

## A Return to School Roadmap

# Welcome



- Welcome by Transfinder President and CEO Antonio Civitella
- NAPT Executive Director Mike Martin introduction of panelist
- Presentation
- Panel Discussion/Q&A



# GOING BACK TO SCHOOL BEFORE THE KIDS: Part 3.1

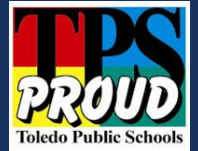
## A Return to School Roadmap

A REVIEW OF THE NEEDED POLICY OPERATIONAL AND SAFETY SUPPORT ELEMENTS



Presented by:

- ❑ Brad Aemisegger, Director of Transportation, Toledo Public Schools
- ❑ Jim Regan, Managing Partner, CAPITALWORKS Consulting Group



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# TOLEDO TRANSPORTATION SERVICE CONFIGURATION

24,000 Students, 78 Square Miles

Bus Ridership: 10,000

- Academies, Career and Vocational Education Schools: 7 (8-2:30)
- K-8 Schools: 40 (9 and 3:15/:30)
- High Schools: 6 (8-2:45) TARTA, the Local Public Transit Agency Transports High School Students

Transportation Budget: \$15m

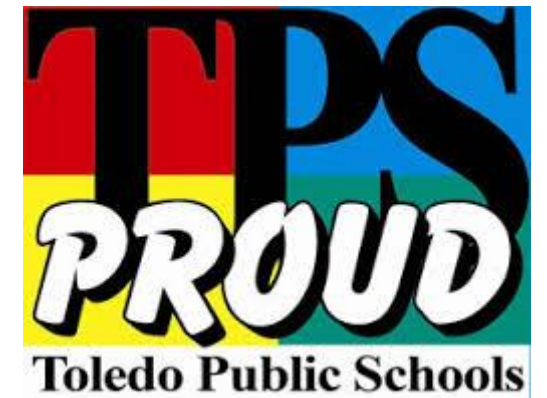
Fleet: 170 vehicles

Drivers/Sub-Drivers: 160 (Union AFSCME)

Bus Aides: 80

Mgt. Supervisors, Trainers and Support Staff: 15

Maintenance Staff: 9



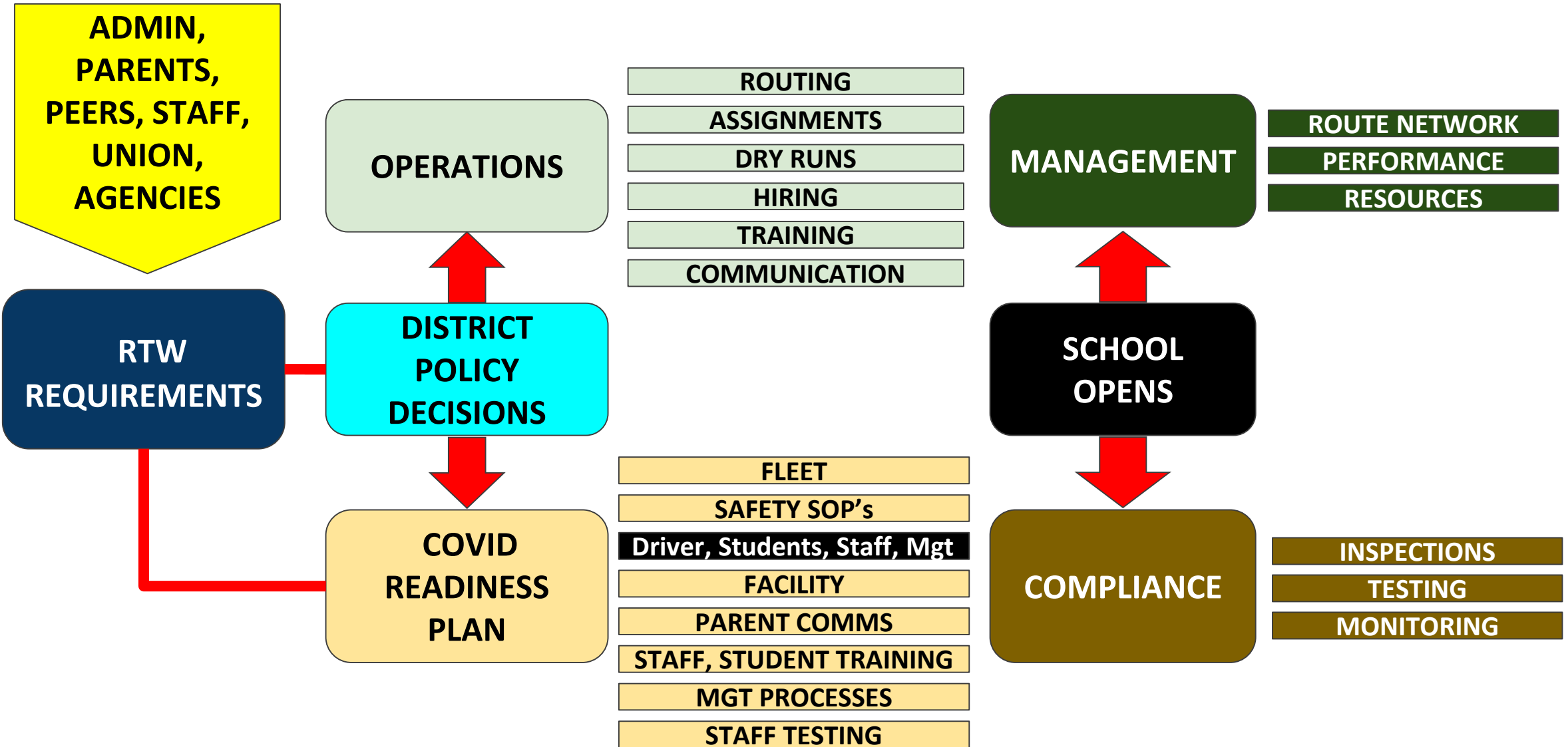
## BACKGROUND AND CURRENT SITUATION

- Toledo Public Schools has been compliant with the OHIO Governor's mandate regarding school closings. The closings occurred in three stages: an initial closure (Mid-March to April 6th), followed by a monthlong closure (April - May 1) , then the full school year closure.
- While nothing is certain with regards to the fall, the current assumption is that schools will reopen in some format this fall.
- Therefore, the school district administration requested the Directors of its operating units to develop RETURN TO WORK (RTW) requirements and readiness plan.
- The focus of the readiness plan and roadmap is on COVID related practices .



# ROADMAP OVERVIEW

# ROADMAP OVERVIEW



# OPERATIONS SCENARIOS





# OPERATIONAL PLANNING SUMMARY

Schools will be different. We are looking at 2 scenarios.

## **SCENARIO 1: SOCIAL DISTANCING applied across the district**

- If so, this will reduce class size at all schools
- Smaller classes = limited number of scheduling options
  - Split schedules by Grade or Class
  - 6 Day School Week with Alternative Days for Groups

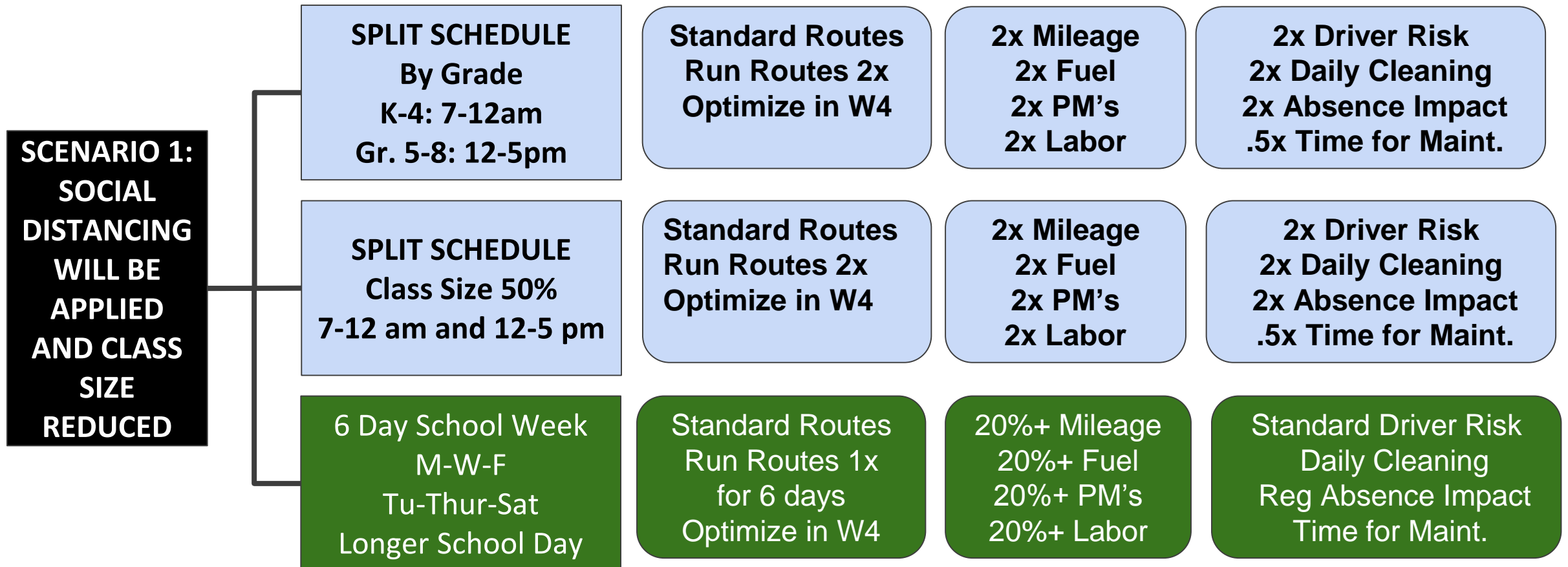
For all the options, route design and mapping should continue as the designed routes would be run with lower ridership and on a different schedule.

- You are still taking the same students to a given school and the variables are who rides and when. Ridership will be lower = space students out on the bus (3 to a row max = 1 per seat with middle student alternating by row.)
- You can operate the full route to start the school to ensure coverage
- After 4 weeks you can optimize routes



# OPERATIONAL SERVICE PLANNING

## SCENARIO 1: DISTRICT WIDE SOCIAL DISTANCING overview:



# OPERATIONAL SERVICE PLANNING SUMMARY

**SCENARIO 2: SOCIAL DISTANCING could be applied ala carte** based on the number of infections at a given location. Each school would be like a state and have its own plan. District invests in infrastructure support activities at schools that could include:

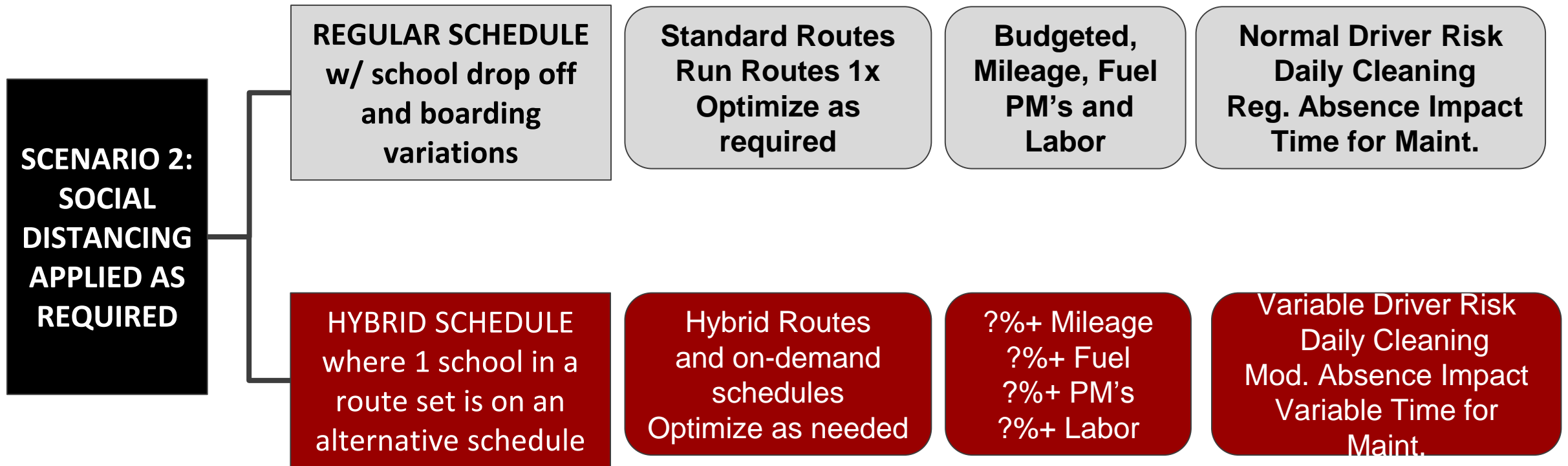
- Wearing Masks
- Temperature taking
- Isolation Rooms
- Desk Barriers
- Hand Washing Stations
- Classroom Lunches
- Staggered Bus Arrivals and Departures at Varying Entrances



If cases are below the threshold at a school, district will run schools with some variations. If cases rise above a threshold at a given school, SCENARIO 1 is activated until cases drop. School reopening plans will vary by state, district & by possibly by school. There is no 1 size fits all scenario.

# OPERATIONAL SERVICE PLANNING

SCENARIO 2: SOCIAL DISTANCING ala carte by school:



A sound routing system is required for both scenarios. Prepare for volatility. Let's review the elements that form the baseline for Toledo's readiness plans.

# POLICY REVIEW



# POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The following is a list of POLICY REQUIREMENTS to enable a smooth RTW for transportation.

Priority is based on the lead time required to manage the policy outcome.

For example, class size and schedule impact routing which normally starts in May for the following school year.

#	ELEMENTS IN PRIORITY ORDER	APPROVAL TIMING
1	CLASS SIZE	MAY
2	SCHEDULE	MAY
3	CDC COMPLIANCE FOR STAFF	MAY
4	CDC COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS	MAY
5	OHIO COMPLIANCE FOR STAFF	MAY
6	OHIO COMPLIANCE FOR STUDENTS	MAY
7	POST INFECTION PROCESS FOR STUDENT and STAFF	JUNE
8	EARLY CHECK IN FOR DRIVERS	JUNE
9	INFECTED STAFF TIME BENEFIT	JUNE
10	DAYCARE RELATIONSHIP POLICY	JULY
11	SPED STUDENT POLICY UPDATES	JULY
12	PUBLIC TRANSIT POLICY ALIGNMENT	JULY
13	STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY UPDATES	JULY



## THREE ATTRIBUTES

We built the RTW Plan to have 3 attributes:

- 1. COMPLIANCE.** Any RTW Plan will have to be in compliance with Federal, State and District guidelines
- 1. AGILITY.** The environment in which school transportation operates has and will continue to change and on-going responsiveness and adaptability is required.
- 1. SUSTAINABILITY.** The assumption is that there will be a host of new practices that will comprise the “new normal” so many of the changes being considered will become permanent





## FACTORS CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPING THE PLAN: **Industry Practices**

- **Local status of COVID 19 cases** (think urban NYC with 10K deaths vs rural Winkler County Texas - 0 Deaths. Toledo is in Lucas County is in the top 3 for most cases in the state - so the situation here is serious.)
- **Guidance from health and government officials** (Think CDC, ODE, Federal, State and Local Government Guidelines)
- **Operational readiness** - (Think Sun Tzu and the *Art of War: Rely not on the likelihood of the enemy's not coming, but on our own readiness to receive him*)
- **Community sentiment** - (Think “Build a field, **WILL** they come?”)



**Source: Starbucks  
Store Re-opening  
Criteria**

# CUSTOMERS OF THE READINESS PLAN

- **The school administration.** Does the plan address the administration's **risk** perception and readiness criteria?
- **The drivers and staff.** Does the plan establish a **safe** operational infrastructure that will give drivers, bus aides, mechanics and staff the confidence to return to work?
- **The parents and students.**
  - Does the plan communicate the features of the new operational infrastructure in such a way to instill sufficient **confidence** in parents that their child will be safe while on the bus?
  - Does the plan have a collaborative student education program that involves parents, schools and community leaders?



## CDC GUIDELINES

We assume that the plan will have to comply with CDC PUBLISHED GUIDELINES. These will be integrated into the policy recommendations and readiness plan.

Guidelines can be viewed at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/guidance-business-response.html>



# FEDERAL GUIDELINES

TPS TRANSPORTATION will also integrate the policies and practices outlined in the Federal PHASE 2 Re-Opening Guidelines.

These can be viewed at:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/openingamerica/>



## STATE GUIDELINES

TPS TRANSPORTATION will also integrate the policies and practices outlined by the State of Ohio and the ODE

These can be viewed at:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>



# READINESS PROGRAM OVERVIEW - EIGHT MODULES

The Readiness Plan follows “a day in the life” of the department and walk in the shoes of every staff role. The result was a plan that has eight (8) modules:

1. **Facility** Requirements
2. **Vehicle** Requirements
3. **Driver Safety** Requirements
4. **Student Safety** Requirements
5. **Shop Safety** Requirements
6. **Department Management** Requirements
7. **Additional Fleet** Requirements
8. **Parent and Community** Requirements



The activities within each of the modules have been formatted into a project plan with a master timing chart. Next week we will go through the details of each module.



## SUMMARY

- If you assume CDC Guidelines will apply: **start developing new SOP's now**
- Identify longest **lead-time items and make them a priority** (i.e. workstation relocation for workplace social distancing which will be a CDC requirement)
- You need policy clarity: **work with your administration now**
- Policies on **student size and schedule are critical**
- COVID management will be a **new discipline, Google “school reopening” every day**
- Above all, whatever your plan is, It will **change**: as answers to new questions are developed, the plan has to adapt

This presentation will be shared after this session. Feel free to add your comments and ideas and send your version back to the NAPT. They will compile the results and make this a living document which they will continue to update and share.

Thank You - now to the Q&A



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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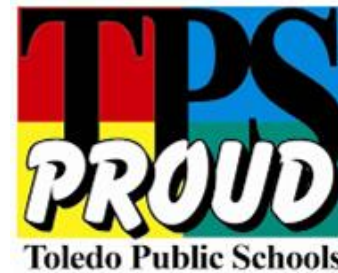
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*WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK  
TRANSFINDER FOR PARTNERING  
WITH NAPT IN HOLDING THESE  
"BEST PRACTICES" WEBINARS.  
<https://tinyurl.com/COVID19BestPractices>  
Transfinder.com*



# Discussion Panel



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Do you have a story?

[mystory@transfinder.com](mailto:mystory@transfinder.com)

# Questions



Tune in Next Tuesday, May 12 for  
**Going Back to School Before the Kids 3.2**  
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