



Dear Families,

I am so proud of how students are showing up and engaging in remote school and how our community continues to demonstrate its strength and resilience during this challenging time. My deepest gratitude to you for all of your support of your student and of Excel.

In an effort to be as transparent as possible as we all try to plan for the future, I wanted to share our current process for considering when we might be able to return to some level of in-person instruction. We are operating under a [phased approach](#) to reopening schools and are currently still in Phase 0. Throughout this crisis our priority has remained to maximize the number of students who are able to be on campus safely. Unfortunately, our communities have some of the highest Covid-19 rates in the state. Given these conditions it is unlikely that we will be able to move into Phase 1 before November 13.

Covid-19 Cases in Our Community (Updated 9.24)

New Daily Cases per 100,000:

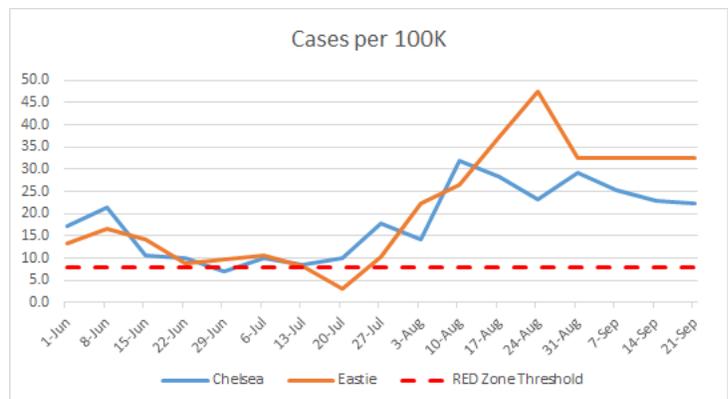
Chelsea: 22.38 (RED)

East Boston: 32.4 (RED)

Weekly Positive Test Rate:

Chelsea: 4.02%

East Boston: 5.1%



Data from [Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) and [BPHC.org](https://www.bphc.org)

In order to move into the next phase, cases in Chelsea and East Boston would first need to fall below the 8 cases per 100,000 Red Zone threshold and stay there for a minimum of 2 weeks. At that point, we would start considering moving to a different phase but would not be required to do so. Once we do make a decision, we would provide at least 3 weeks notice to staff and families that we are moving into the next phase of our reopening. During that 3 week notice period, cases would need to remain under the Red Zone threshold.

We will continue to monitor conditions across the community, seek input from families and staff, and look at guidance from local, state, and federal health officials as we move forward.

This remains a turbulent situation, which continues to require us to be flexible in our planning and coordination. We can only hope that cases continue to go down and that we can all be back together soon.

With Gratitude,
Owen Stearns