

## **Safety - Cohorts**

**What is a cohort?** Put simply, a cohort is a stable group of people. In the case of schools, cohorting is keeping the same group of people together and not mixing with others so if a virus occurs despite social distancing, it only affects one group and not the whole school.

**How will cohorting be organized?** The hybrid instructional program with a Monday/Tuesday group and a different group coming on Thursday/Friday is designed to a) have a smaller class and b) limit the size of the cohort.

**What else is being done to maintain cohorts?** Specialized services (special education, Title I services, services for English Language Learning students, special courses like elementary PE, and other services where students normally travel to another room) will still exist but will either be delivered through virtual media or by the teacher coming to the room rather than vice versa. Between each room visited, these service providers will practice proper hand washing and sanitizing and they will be wearing protective equipment. Mixed groups will not be together on the playground, the gym, nor the cafeteria unless proper social distancing can be arranged. Lunch, for example, will be delivered and eaten in the classroom on days when social distancing cannot be accommodated in the cafeteria.