

November 20, 2020

Dear Students, Families, and Staff Members of the Rochester City School District,

I am writing to provide an update on the District’s reopening plan. Yesterday, I proposed an updated timeline for all other students in Pre-K – 12, where students will return to school buildings under a hybrid model of instruction.

The Board approved my proposed timeline to offer all students in-person learning, with our youngest scholars having the opportunity to return to school buildings as early as February 2021. This proposal will allow students to have weekly in-person contact with their teachers for two days, with remote learning the other three days. Students in Specialized Programs will have four days of in-person instruction. Wednesday will remain as an independent learning day for all students. You can view the presentation [here](#).

January 4, 2021 - Phase 1	Third Quarter - Phase 2	Third Quarter - Phase 3
<p><b>K–12 Specialized Programs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K–8 Attend Home School (except East and Franklin Lower)</li> <li>• 7–12 Students Attend Edison (including East and Franklin Lower)</li> <li>• All Other Pre-K–12 Students Remain Remote</li> </ul>	<p><b>Pre-K–6 Regular Education and Special Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hybrid Students Attend Home School</li> <li>• 7–12 Students in Specialized Programs Remain at Edison</li> <li>• 7–12 Regular and Special Education Remain Remote</li> </ul>	<p><b>7–12 Regular Education and Special Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hybrid Students, Including Specialized Services, Attend Home School</li> </ul>


I understand that some families may have concerns about sending children to school. We are offering the choice of a fully remote learning option. I met with Principals this morning to discuss their needs moving forward, including the process of asking families to choose their preference – hybrid or 100% remote learning. Individual schools will be reaching out to families for that information within the coming weeks.

I have great confidence in our dedicated staff, who have been working tirelessly to prepare for a safe return to in-person learning. Two guiding principles remain at the forefront of every decision we make – the health and safety of our students and staff and the goal of providing a high-quality learning experience to our students.

We cannot do this work alone and need the support of everyone. Please continue to practice social distancing, frequent handwashing, and wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth. I am also reminding employees to complete the daily health screening to ensure a safe work environment for all.

Thank you for your continued support, patience, and flexibility, as we work together to prepare for a safe return to school buildings.

Sincerely,



Lesli Myers-Small, Ed.D.  
 Superintendent of Schools