



--sent 12/2/20--

LPS Families,

The Board of Education met Tuesday morning, December 1, 2020, for their monthly study session. As part of the agenda, our Department of Innovation and Learning provided the Board with an update that included minor revisions to our current *Return to Learn* plan that would move the District into the second semester beginning January 5, 2021.

A few weeks ago, the District was exploring how to begin increasing in-person learning opportunities for our secondary students with the start of second semester in January 2021. The recent spike in Covid-19 cases in our local community will now most certainly cause us to delay this original goal. Looking ahead, you will find the proposed revisions to the plan as we prepare for January 2021 and the beginning of second semester in LPS (*Note: All revisions are pending final Board approval*):

- Liberty Virtual School will continue in its current format for the second semester. Any families interested in participating in this 100% virtual learning opportunity are encouraged to visit their website, which can be accessed by [clicking here](#).
- Elementary level (grades PreK-5) students will continue to be provided in-person learning opportunities Monday-Friday. One change for elementary in-person learners during the second semester is that elementary schools would be on a two-hour early release schedule every Wednesday during the second semester. This would provide needed time for our elementary teaching teams to collaborate around learning and spend time with professional development critical to virtual learning. Understanding the potential challenges this might cause some elementary families, information regarding after-school care for students on Wednesdays will be released soon.
- Secondary level (grades 6-12) students will continue with the current flexible learning model that has been in place this semester. Following recent feedback, there will be a focus on both increased learning on virtual learning days for hybrid students and an increase in engagement and learning on virtual Wednesdays as well. Additional details will be shared with families prior to the conclusion of the first semester.

It is important to share that the District continues to prepare for scenarios in which we can increase in-person learning opportunities for our secondary learners, but will only do so when Covid-19 related data begins trending in a more positive direction, making it safe to do so.

Liberty Public Schools remains in close contact with local health officials as we navigate through the remainder of this first semester. While we are aware that cases have increased in our local community in recent weeks, causing some large metro districts to pivot to virtual learning, we are hopeful to be able to complete this semester without any significant disruptions. In the event

we would need to pivot to a fully virtual model, we remain committed to sharing information with you in a timely manner. This continues to be an extremely fluid situation and one that is likely to continue evolving in the coming days and weeks. Please know that the safety and health of our students and staff remains our top priority in LPS. We also cannot stress enough the gratitude we have for our students, staff, and families for your patience, grace, and flexibility during this unprecedented time.

Thank you for your attention, and have a nice evening!

Office of Communications
Liberty Public Schools