



--sent 2/24/21--

LPS Families,

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a wide-range of views from many of our families within our school community, and we have listened to each throughout the 2020-2021 school year. All of the input offered has been heard, respected, and appreciated. We know that all of our families have varying needs and challenges that have emerged over the course of the past year, and we want to do our best to accommodate these needs.

As we have shared from the beginning of this challenging time, we remain committed to providing as many in-person learning opportunities for our students as possible, as long as these opportunities can be provided in a safe and healthy learning environment, while adhering to public health guidance.

We commend our staff for their efforts in getting us to this point in the school year. Important mitigation efforts have allowed us to keep the District, and each of our schools, open since the start of the school year on September 8, 2020.

As was shared in my update earlier this month, we are developing a plan that would allow for certain secondary students to receive in-person learning later this semester. We are also developing a plan that would allow all secondary students to attend in-person learning. Please know that this is dependent upon local public health guidance.

Another extremely important area of focus we are committed to, is ensuring that school staff who choose to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, are able to do so. This has yet to occur, but we remain hopeful it can happen for us in the coming weeks. Earlier this morning, we provided staff with an update from the Clay County Public Health Center, encouraging those interested in receiving the COVID-19 vaccine to register in advance on the portals provided.

It has been encouraging in recent weeks to see the decline of COVID-19 cases within our school community. We are hopeful that this trend will continue and will soon lead to a return to normal. It is our plan to share an update with families in the coming days that will provide our next steps. We also continue to work closely with the Clay County Public Health Center, along with the KCMO Health Department, and will be exploring ways to adjust our plans should their guidance be revised.

As always, we thank you for your patience, grace, and support as we navigate through this unprecedented time. Have a nice evening!

**Dr. M. Jeremy Tucker**

Superintendent - Liberty Public Schools