

Dear Families and Staff;

It is hard to believe that we are approaching the one-year anniversary of the pandemic lockdown. Over the course of the past year, we have faced and overcome so many challenges as individuals, families, educational professionals, and together as a district. It has not been an easy road, and I am sure there are challenges still to come. But, I am also hopeful and we are working hard to return to pre-pandemic normal as soon as safely possible. I want to take a moment to thank our educators once again for stepping up to this challenge.

On March 15th we will take the first steps in this process. On that date all Seniors who are currently not on remote instruction will return to school following Plan A: all students (grade 12 only) every day for a half day, no lunch schedule (No Cohort). Seniors currently on remote instruction will remain remote until the fourth quarter.

In addition, on March 15th all students at CMS and GL who have an individualized learning plan or an Individualized Education Plan or 504 accommodations who are currently not on full remote instruction have the option of returning to school following Plan A: all students (Accommodations only) every day for half a day, no lunch schedule (No Cohort). Students with individual accommodations have the option to remain on Plan B: 50% of students by cohort in building for half a day, no lunch schedule.

As per Governor Murphy's executive order all students have the option to remain on remote instruction. Mr. Nixon and Mr. Geiger will be reaching out to you soon to communicate their specific building procedures.

March 15th is also the deadline for all students grades 6-12 to inform building administration if they are returning to in-person instruction for the fourth quarter, which begins on April 5th. April 5th is also the deadline for K-5 parents to notify their building principals of their intention to return to in person education.

As I stated at the February 25th Board of Education meeting, I am fully committed to returning the district to a normal full day in-person instructional schedule by the end of the school year because it is best for our students to be in school as much as possible. We are currently exploring different options for a return to a full day (with lunch) in-school schedule. The target date for the next phase of our transition to return to our normal schedule is April 12th. We are currently investigating two options, either Plan A: all students, half day no lunch schedule; or Plan B: 50% of students cohorted, all day with lunch. I am also hopeful that the Governor's announcement that teachers are now eligible to receive Covid Vaccines will help with this process.

Finally, Spring Break is three weeks away! I know many of you are planning on traveling. Please review the [updated procedures](#) for students who travel and your obligations regarding quarantine procedures.

For clarity, the return to in-person instruction information given above is summarized below:

Date	Who?	What?
March 15th	Seniors, students 6-12 with Individualized learning plans, IEPs, and 504s	Transition to Plan A. (Students with IEPs and 504s can elect to stay with Plan B).
March 15th	All students 6-12	Inform Building Admin if returning to in-person instruction for fourth quarter.
April 5th	All students K-5	Inform Building Admin if returning to in-person instruction for third semester.
April 12th	6-12	Target Date for either Plan A (all students, ½ day, no-lunch) or Plan B (50% cohort, all day, with lunch)

For our COVID Update:

<b>New Cases (since 2/22 update)</b>		
<b>School</b>	<b>Staff/Student</b>	<b>Result</b>
MKM	1 Student	Last day in School 2/26 Close contacts notified
CMS	1 Staff	Last day in School 2/19 Close contacts notified
TPH	1 Staff	Last day in School 2/26 Close Contacts Notified

Sincerely,

Dr. Melissa Varley