

July 28, 2020

Dear APS Community,

I hope you are having a safe and restful summer. As we move forward into the final stages of planning for the start of the school year, you can imagine that there are many options facing us as a school district with returning to school. Since last spring we have been working and planning for what school will look like this fall.

Governor Whitmer released the [Return to School Road Map](#) which outlines the steps that Michigan school districts must take for re-opening. As a region, we are in Phase 4 of the Governor's Plan. This phase allows schools to be open for face-to-face instruction, but also has the most requirements with student/staff safety measures for local districts to implement and plan for upon returning to school.

The official return to school plan is still being crafted with our Return to Learn Committees here within APS and in cooperation with the Lenawee County Health Department and the Lenawee ISD. Feedback from parents in the recent APS Family Survey indicated a strong desire to return to school for face-to-face instruction and a strong desire for an online or virtual option.

The APS Plan for this fall will include having both a face-to-face option for parents and also a virtual option for parents that are not ready to send their students back to school at this time.

School will look different this fall, for both face-to-face and virtually from what we are accustomed to in the past. Having both options helps the success of all of our students and teachers. Next week more information will be shared on what the options will look like and how parents will select to opt their child into face-to-face or virtual learning.

It is our plan to provide both options during the entire school year. We will work on guidelines that would allow parents to move from one option to another if it is in the best interest of the student during the school year. Also, we are well aware that our region could be moved into Phase 3 of the Governor's Reopening Plan that would take all instruction back to online instruction.

I want to thank all the parents that completed our Return to Learn Survey, your input is greatly valued and helps APS create a plan that is reflective of our community wants and needs.

Please look forward to more information next week, but I wanted to share with you that we will be offering both a face-to-face and virtual option in the fall.

Go Maples!!!

Bob Behnke

Superintendent