October 5, 2020

Metro Families,

Thank you for your ongoing support as we work to make the best decisions for our staff and students. We are now ready to begin transitioning to a Hybrid Learning Model! We have a working plan, but as you can imagine there are a number of factors that we need to address. In light of that, we are pushing our hybrid start date from October 19 to **November 2, 2020**.

As a reminder, our Hybrid/Blended Instruction Plan allows for a group of students on site Monday/Tuesday, a separate group on Thursday/Friday and a fulltime virtual option for those who prefer to continue learning from home. When hybrid students are not in the building, they will continue to log in for classes on Adobe Connect. There may be some restructuring of the scheduled times for online instruction, as we want to ensure that we are doing our best to accommodate the needs of both groups of students (those onsite and those at home).

A few months ago, we asked each family to make a Cohort selection for the semester. If you have not previously filled out the survey, it is imperative that you do so now in order for us to ensure adequate distancing in each of the cohorts per class period. Please submit by Oct. 9!

The link to the survey is here: **https://forms.gle/7uwiSoxeqWDQbLLH8**

Middle and High School students will be split into three groups: • **Cohorts A & B: ½ student body split by last name with blended (in-person & virtual) instruction** • **Cohort C: students who opt for full-time remote virtual instruction M-F**	**Cohort A: Blended - Two in-person days for students with last name between A - L (alternate of Cohort B)** *(grouping is tentative)*
	Cohort B: Blended - Two in-person days for students with last name between M - Z (alternate of Cohort A) *(grouping is tentative)*
	Cohort C: Full-Time Remote Virtual Instruction (Teachers will be equipped with Swivls to accommodate simultaneous teaching of face-to-face students and virtual students)

We realize that many things may have shifted since you filled out the survey (carpools, busing, work schedules, IEP/504 needs, etc). If you have experienced some extenuating circumstances and need to switch cohorts (changing in-person days from M/Tu to Th/F or vice versa), you may fill out the survey again. We will take your last submission as your final choice.

We will need assistance from you and your student to make this a successful transition. When reporting to Metro, students will have their temperature taken. Anyone with a reading of 100.4 degrees or higher will need to return home. We plan to provide a safety training to students, but ask that you also review the protocols below with them:

- **If you are sick or feel sick, STAY HOME:** This is most important. Since the symptoms of COVID can mimic a cold, it is safest to stay home when not feeling well.
- **If you've been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, please stay home: We encourage you to get a test and wait for the results before returning to the building.**
- **Everyone must wear a mask:** Due to the statewide mask ordinance, mask wearing **will not** be optional while in the building. We will take walks outside for mask breaks, but masks must be worn at all times indoors. Students who have difficulty with this expectation will be assigned to the fulltime virtual option.
- **Proper handwashing:** Handwashing protocols will be posted in bathrooms.
- **Hand sanitizing when hand washing is not available:** There will be multiple sanitizing stations throughout the building and one in each classroom. Students will be encouraged to use this while in their classroom setting.
- **Cover your sneezes and coughs:** Sneezes and coughs should be in the elbow of the arm, not in the hands.
- **Maintain social distancing:** Students will be asked to adhere to the direction pointers on floors and to desk arrangements in order to maintain adequate distancing from others.

Please know that we are committed to the health and safety of our students and staff as we finalize plans. Thank you for partnering with us; together we can do this!

Regards,

Meka Pace
Superintendent
Metro Schools