

Dear School Families,

Superintendent Dr. Anthony Lewis announced during last night's school board meeting that following spring break, the district will shift from its current Hybrid model to In-Person learning.

Dr. Lewis shared his appreciation for students and school families and the extra burdens they have carried this year. He commended district staff for the tremendous amount of work staff has done to provide safe and healthy learning environments for students. "We know we need to do more," he said.

Noting a downward trend of reported COVID cases and quarantines among students and staff, he shared that during more than 400 classroom walkthroughs, the staff has seen an average of 90% adherence to school safety measures. The district will continue to look at ways to enhance safety measures and mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spread.

All Lawrence schools continue to examine student academic, social-emotional, and behavioral data and invite identified students back to school for in-person learning four days a week based on student needs, available space, and prioritizing primary students. The high schools will expand their Hybrid learning model, doubling in-person school days, beginning February 15.

Dr. Lewis announced that following spring break, the district will bring PreK-5 students back to school in-person five days a week beginning March 15. After the end of the third-quarter and parent-teacher conferences, students in grades 6-12 will return to in-person learning five days a week starting March 29. Students whose families chose to enroll in distance learning for the remainder of the school year will continue to learn remotely.

This timeline enables more district staff to get vaccinated. It gives the district time to complete its air validation study and work to install new air filtration devices designed to improve air quality and reduce the spread of the virus. In addition to taking care of other logistical needs during the coming weeks, the district will order food supplies, move classroom furniture to accommodate as much physical distancing as possible, adjust bus routes, and review any other necessary improvements in mitigation strategies.

After sharing this spring timeline, Dr. Lewis announced that the district also plans to provide in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year with a virtual learning option for families.

Additional information will be shared with school families during the coming weeks. Thank you for your patience and continued partnership.

Sincerely,
Julie Boyle
Executive Director of Communications
Lawrence Public Schools



Julie Boyle

(she, her, hers)

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