



*a world of possibility*

4640 S. 144th St. Tukwila, WA 98168 | (206) 901-8000 | [tukwila.wednet.edu](http://tukwila.wednet.edu)

## Message from Superintendent Herndon

October 2, 2020

Tukwila School District Families and Staff,

As we close out the month of September and our first few weeks of school, I'd like to thank all of the staff for their hard work and perseverance in supporting our students and families. I'd also like to thank and appreciate all of our students and families for attending classes and supporting our schools. This is not the school year that any of us wanted or imagined, but it is where we find ourselves.

Although the school year started with remote learning, we continue to monitor county health metrics to determine the potential for providing in-person learning for our students. King County has an infection rate per 100,000 residents, as shown by Public Health – Seattle & King County's (PHSKC) key indicators of COVID-19 activity (data is updated weekly here: <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/covid-19/data/key-indicators.aspx>), that has been on a decreasing trend. The current rates place the county in the moderate range for COVID-19 activity (25-75 cases/100K residents over a 14-day period). When a county reaches the moderate range, school districts can consider in-person learning for elementary students and students that receive special education services in accordance with the [Washington State Department of Health's Decision Tree for the Provision of In-Person Learning](#) during the COVID-19 Pandemic. While we know that this rate may fluctuate throughout the year, we are constantly monitoring the changes over time.

### What this means for the Tukwila School District

Based on these recommendations and guidelines, Tukwila School District staff are starting to develop plans for the potential return of our early learners and examining what this experience might look like. Part of the planning process is knowing whether families have a preference to have their students return for some in-person learning or to stay with a distance-learning option. Currently, we have not established a timeline for when that return may be. However, just like in August, we will be asking for information about family preferences on a monthly basis. There are a small number of students with support services already being served at our schools and we will continue to monitor how that has been progressing.

Meals (breakfast and lunch) continue to be available at all of our school sites between the hours of 10am and 12:15pm and beginning Monday, October 5th at Cascade View Park from 12pm – 12:15 p.m. Students do not need to provide identification and meals are available to any student under the age of 18.

We are preparing for the eventual opening of school buildings by updating health and safety protocols, creating transportation plans, and addressing a range of other necessary tasks and services. We will also continue conversations with employee groups regarding the potential return to in-person learning and what that means for Tukwila.

We will continue to update you via email, our website, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Thank you again for all you do and your support in making Tukwila a fantastic place for our students, families and staff.

Flip Herndon, Superintendent  
Tukwila School District