



Littleton Public Schools

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August 7, 2020

Dear Littleton Families,

It's hard to believe that we have just finished the first week of August! September is quickly approaching and we know that with it comes the excitement and anxiety of a new school year, particularly this year when there are still many unknowns. We appreciate your continued patience as we plan for how to best start the 2020-2021 academic year, a year that is going to look unlike any other we have known.

Last evening our School Committee met and made a few important decisions, of which we would like to update you. The first involves the school calendar. As we stated in a previous letter, Commissioner of Education, Jeffrey Riley, recently allocated 10 days at the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year for educator planning and training. This impacts when students will begin the 2020-2021 school year. At last night's meeting, the School Committee approved an updated calendar reflecting those ten days of professional learning and training for educators, thereby making the first day of school for students **Wednesday, September 16th**. You can find the approved updated [calendar here](#). We are still in the process of changing our curriculum and back to school nights and will do so after we know with which learning model we are going to start the new school year. We appreciate the School Committee and community support in allowing us and our educators the opportunity for increased professional development and training at the beginning of the school year.

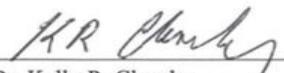
The hybrid learning plans for each school were presented to our School Committee at last night's meeting. This was the third learning plan to be presented as the in-person learning plan and remote learning plan were presented during the July 23rd School Committee meeting. After listening to, asking questions about and reviewing the three plans, the School Committee chose to eliminate the in-person learning plan as an option for the start of the school year. While the in-person plan was not chosen for the start of the school year, Chairman Fontanella made it clear that this learning plan may be an option at some point during the school year should health data trends change in a direction that allows for more in person opportunities.

As a result of this decision by the School Committee, our options are to either start the school year with the hybrid learning plan or the remote learning plan. We continue to seek input from families about the decision of how to start the school year. **As previously mentioned, and stated at last night's meeting, we ask that families complete a third brief survey, which can be found by following this [link](#).** We ask that you complete one survey per child that you have within the Littleton Public Schools. The survey will close on Wednesday, August 12th. Data from the survey will be shared and discussed at our next School Committee meeting on Thursday, August 13th at 7:00pm.

We would like to thank all the attendees and viewers of last night's School Committee meeting, as well as those that attended or watched the Parent Forums that were facilitated by the principals over the past week. As a result of questions asked during the meeting, in the forums and in emails to our administrators, we have created this [FAQ document](#) that we will continue to update as we progress to the start of the new school year. If you have a question that is not on the FAQ, please continue to email us and the principals and we will gladly answer your question and add it to the document. If you were not able to attend the forums or the last School Committee meeting, these meetings can be accessed via the LCTV section on the town's website.

We are very appreciative of the ongoing support and engagement from our community during this difficult process. Your emails and questions during our forums and School Committee meetings have been extremely helpful as we look at multiple sources of data prior to setting direction for the start of the school year. We are thankful for our continued partnership as we work together to offer a learning program that will meet the needs of all students and maximize the safety of students and staff.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kelly R. Clenchy
Superintendent of Schools



Mrs. Elizabeth M. Steele
Director of Curriculum

It is the policy of the Littleton Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, national origin, color, homelessness, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or disability in its educational programs, services, activities or employment practices. Further information may be obtained by contacting Lyn Snow, District Equity Coordinator at 978-540-2500, lsnow@littletonps.org or 33 Shattuck Street, P.O. Box 1486, Littleton, MA 01460.

Our mission is to foster a community of learners who strive for excellence and prepare each student to be a successful, contributing citizen in a global society.