



Monday Memo

From Supt. Dr. Joylynn Pruitt-Adams

Oct. 19, 2020

Important links:

- Our website page with [COVID-19 and school reopening updates](#)
- [Reimagine Education OPRF 2020-2021](#), the district's Board-approved learning plan for first semester
- [Video of Oct. 5 town hall](#)

Updated FAQs

[Click here](#) to see a new section of frequently asked questions about our learning plans, based on questions received at the Oct. 5 town hall.

Roughly 80 students learning on site, more to come

Since August, about 80 students have gradually been brought back into the building. These include those participating in Driver Ed behind-the-wheel instruction, Auto Tech and Woodworking labs, and learning labs with teaching assistants for diverse learners, as well as students who need wifi connectivity or other specific support. In the next few weeks, Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) and Engineering Design and Development (EDD) also will begin in-person rotations. And finally, our barbering and cosmetology students soon can begin on-site learning at Erskine Reeves' Barber School and Ms. Roberts' Beauty Academy, as those programs have established protocols for in-person learning that satisfy our in-house criteria.

Hybrid plan in development

OPRF committed early to a remote learning plan for the entire first semester because it was the best option for protecting the health and safety of students and staff while allowing as much preparation and as little schedule disruption as possible. With much more now understood about COVID-19 transmission, as well as demand from the community, the Reimagine steering committee is drafting a hybrid plan. The district *may* be able to implement hybrid instruction during second semester--but that decision will be driven by COVID-19 metrics, which currently are on an alarming upswing. Families would have the choice for students to opt in or opt out of some level of on-site learning. A draft of the plan will be presented to the Board on Nov. 19, with a final plan to be presented for Board approval on Dec. 3.

Advisory committee providing input

A new advisory committee that includes parents, students, teachers, staff from all bargaining units, and a variety of medical experts is providing input and feedback as the hybrid plan is being developed. The list of members is available by [clicking here](#).

District reviewing proposal for saliva testing

Administrators are in the process of reviewing a proposal to conduct saliva testing. This type of testing does not diagnose cases of COVID-19, but it can be an effective way to identify persons who may be infectious even if they have no symptoms. To listen to an NPR interview with the LaGrange District 102 parent/Board member/Loyola University immunologist who developed the process for his district, [click here](#).