



Monroe Local Schools

Superintendent: Kathy Demers ■ Treasurer: Holly J. Cahall, CPA

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September 29, 2020

Dear Monroe Parent/Guardian:

At our Board of Education meeting last night, I presented an update on Monroe Local School District's hybrid model and our learning model for the second quarter. After reviewing data from the first quarter and discussion with the Board, we have elected to begin the second quarter with a five-day return to in-person learning. All students, except those enrolled in Monroe's Virtual Learning Academy, **will be attending school five days a week starting on Tuesday, October 20**. There will be **no school for students on Monday, October 19**, to allow our team to prepare for the transition.

Our leadership team looked at several state and local resources for health data and considerations, consultation with other school districts, and feedback on our academic progress before making this decision. We believe the protocols we have implemented will continue to provide a safe and healthy environment and improve our students' learning opportunities.

CHANGING INSTRUCTION MODELS (Deadline 10/2)

Students who are currently attending the hybrid model and students enrolled in the Virtual Learning Academy will be provided the opportunity to change their instruction model for the second quarter. Due to staffing constraints, there will be limited spaces for students who wish to switch to the Virtual Learning Academy in the second quarter.

Parents must complete the online form linked below by **11:59 pm on Friday, October 2**, to move your student for the second quarter. If you wish to transfer your child from the Monroe Virtual Learning Academy into full-day in-person learning OR have your child's name placed on a waiting list to move from the in-person learning to the Monroe Virtual Learning Academy, please complete this form: [Monroe Change of Placement Form](#).

To learn more about Monroe's Virtual Learning Academy, [please click here for a video orientation/overview](#) shared with parents at the beginning of the school year.

If you wish to leave your student in their current learning environment, you do not need to submit a change of placement form. Students who are currently attending in person will transition from two days per week to five days a week starting on October 20. The schedule for Monroe's VLA will remain the same.

HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

When we return all students to a full-day, everyday model, we will continue to take steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We will continue requiring face coverings for students and staff, encourage frequent hand washing or sanitizing, and ongoing cleaning of high-contact surfaces. With all students returning and limited space in our buildings, social distancing will become more challenging. The district will do its best to maintain the recommended social

distancing of 3 to 6 feet; however, due to capacity and space, this may be difficult to do at all times throughout the day.

With a full-return, there may be times the district must transition to remote learning if our health data changes and a significant number of staff or students need to be quarantined. With limited availability of substitute bus drivers, teachers, and food service workers and potential staffing issues, the district may have to shift to remote learning with little notice.

THANK YOU

We could not be more appreciative of our families and their support of Monroe Schools to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and community. Students came to school in the first quarter and wore their masks, and practiced physical distancing and proper handwashing without missing a beat. Our staff, families, and students have been tremendous through these challenging times. We appreciate your flexibility, patience, understanding, and support of Monroe Local Schools.

Sincerely,

Kathy Demers
Superintendent