



# *Akron Central School District*

## *In Pursuit of Excellence*

*Patrick D. McCabe*  
*Superintendent of Schools*

April 16, 2021

Dear Akron School District Students, Staff and Families:

We are pleased to inform you that the updated NYSDOH guidance now allows elementary students to return to school while maintaining a distance of at least three feet in classrooms. Throughout this week, District staff have been carefully assessing parent survey data as well as our capacity to meet student learning and safety needs while maintaining the high-quality educational program our community expects. **After hours of discussion and thoughtful consideration, we have determined that it is in the best interest of all of our elementary students (remote and in-person) to transition to a 4-day per week model and maintain a remote Wednesday beginning Monday, April 26, 2021.**

We have put a great deal of thought into this matter and want to express to families how important remote Wednesdays are for us here in the District during this period of the pandemic. Each Wednesday, teachers, and staff are able to meet the needs of in-person and remote learners often by bringing both groups together to learn and feel connected. Wednesdays also allow our staff to address social, emotional needs and develop meaningful instructional lessons for remote learners. Finally, they provide an opportunity for our facilities department to conduct additional deep cleaning and disinfection, which we believe has contributed to our remarkable ability to control viral spread here on campus.

Unfortunately, based on CDC requirements related to transmission rates in our area we are still required to maintain six feet of social distancing at the Middle and High School level. Thus, those buildings will continue to operate in the current hybrid instructional model.

While our District has been planning and preparing for this opportunity, there is more work to be done before we can safely welcome elementary students back. We appreciate your patience as we move our plans forward. The District has been engaged in formal discussions with teachers this week and additional planning meetings are scheduled for next week. **Please see the table below for important changes to our hybrid model on April 22 and 23.** We recognize that these changes may present challenges to families and we sincerely apologize for the inconvenience. Our goal is to ensure that we can provide an optimal learning experience for all students while ensuring student and staff safety.

An updated reopening plan will be added to the District website next week. In addition to the revised plan, the District will provide an informational presentation to families on Monday, April 19th. This will be posted on our website and will include an opportunity to submit questions. All questions and responses will be posted as a Q&A document on the District website by Tuesday.

For over a year now, we have made decisions based on prudence and responsibility, always putting the safety of students and staff first. We continue to follow that practice as we move through any possible changes in our instructional delivery model. Please note the table of important dates at the bottom of this letter. **This table affects elementary families only.** We will continue to provide updated information in the coming days.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. McCabe  
Superintendent of Schools

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Important Elementary Dates to Note	
Monday, 4/19	Community Update: Video released containing District-wide information and specific details for elementary families outlining the plan for return. Questions can be submitted following the video for response by administrators.
Wednesday, 4/21	Remote Learning AM - NO in-person student attendance. Teachers not available after 10:00 a.m.
Thursday, 4/22	<b>Special Remote Learning Meetings in the morning - Our counseling staff will be meeting with all students virtually to prepare them for the changes under a full in-person model. NO in-person student attendance.</b>
Friday, 4/23	<b>Remote Learning AM - NO in-person student attendance. Teachers not available after 10:00 a.m.</b>
Monday, 4/26	Elementary Students return to in-person learning 4 days per week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)