



# *Akron Central School District*

*In Pursuit of Excellence*

*Patrick D. McCabe  
Superintendent of Schools*

May 17, 2021

Dear Akron Students, Parents, Staff, and Families:

**The purpose of this correspondence is to inform you of the decision to transition to 4 days per week of instruction for all 6th -12th grade students beginning Monday, May 24.** This allows the District to operate with a consistent schedule for children in grades K-12 while maintaining a remote Wednesday. Those students that participate in fully remote instruction would be allowed to continue to do so and the hybrid model will no longer be used for the remainder of the school year. If you have any questions about your child's schedule or want to move to 100% remote, please contact your child's counselor immediately.

On Friday, the Erie County Department of Health announced reported cases of COVID-19 had fallen below 100 new cases per 100,000 residents over a seven-day rolling average. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) thresholds for community transmission, Erie County has now moved down from "High" to the "Substantial" category of COVID-19 risk. This change allows students in grades 6-12 to attend school with 3 feet of social distance in the classroom while maintaining 6 feet in physical education settings, cafeterias, common areas, and while singing or playing a wind instrument.

We would like to thank all of the parents that completed the brief survey last week. The data indicated that 70% of respondents want to see their children attend more days of instruction and were in favor of the move to the 4 days per week model. This issue is very complex; there were a wide range of responses and/or requests provided in the comment section. While it may not be possible to satisfy every request, we do believe that the 4 day model provides us with the best opportunity to meet the needs of all of our students whether they are in-person or fully remote.

**Regarding Transportation:** We need your help in order to maintain social distances and reduce possible contact tracing on school buses. If you transport your child now, we ask that you continue to do so for the remainder of the school year. Parents are also encouraged to drop off and pick up students if possible. Please contact the Bus Garage at 542-5026 if you intend to change your transportation needs. We appreciate your assistance.

**In order to effectively prepare the campus and allow teachers an opportunity to revise instructional plans, Thursday, May 20th, will be a remote day for 6-12 students.** Our goal is to maintain consistent programming and minimize the impact on students' schedules. That said, students may experience room changes and alternate locations for meals. More information on this will be provided by the building principals.

On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you for your trust, support, and partnership in the education of our students. This has been a uniquely challenging school year for everyone. Administrators, teachers, staff, parents, and students, have worked hard to maintain a positive environment and the high standards of Akron CSD. We are excited to have the opportunity to safely welcome our students back, finish the year in a more familiar format, and to reunite as a school community.

Sincerely,  
Patrick D. McCabe  
Superintendent of Schools

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