



Akron Central School District

In Pursuit of Excellence

*Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools*

August 3, 2020

Dear ACS Students, Families, and Staff:

I hope that this letter finds you and your families safe and well. The purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with an update on plans related to the resumption of school and to solicit your participation in an important parent survey.

It is anticipated that Governor Andrew Cuomo will announce his decision on the reopening of schools this week. His decision will determine the manner in which schools reopen while also prompting the enactment of the Akron Central School District Reopening Plan ([Akron Central Schools Reopening Plan](#)). Our plan has been created from and aligned with guidance and mandates we have received from the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), New York State Education Department (NYSED), Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Governor Cuomo. The plan will be updated and modified in response to further guidance from these government agencies, the needs within our community, and evidence of best practice. While it should be considered a working document, the plan will remain steadfast in prioritizing the safety and well-being of the entire ACS community.

We understand that every district will have differences in the planning, health and safety protocols, and instructional delivery models. The reopening of schools cannot be a one-size-fits-all scenario, each district will need to make decisions based on the variables and conditions that are unique only to them. We will continue to work tirelessly to provide the best educational program possible and fulfill our mission and obligation to the students and families of Akron.

The Governor has encouraged us to follow the science and data regarding this pandemic. Data from the New York Forward website indicates that the current 7-day rolling average in WNY for positive test results for COVID-19 is 1%. Our region has realized this rolling average of 1% positive test results since June 10, 2020. Additionally, as reported in The Buffalo News, hospitalizations from COVID-19 in WNY have fallen to their lowest level (28) since the State began publicly releasing numbers on March 23, 2020. Clearly, our community and region have successfully engaged in slowing the spread of COVID-19. This is due to our education regarding the virus and our intentional efforts to be responsible citizens. We all must remain diligent and committed to the rigorous safety protocols that are specified with the reopening plan. Your cooperation and support is appreciated.

In order to facilitate planning and ensure that all children are fully participating in an appropriate educational program, we are requesting that parents complete the [AKRON CSD Parents Reopening Survey](#). In addition to providing an opportunity for parents to ask questions and/or provide input. This survey addresses three key topics:

1. Instructional Program Delivery Model
2. Technology
3. Childcare

Thank you in advance for completing the survey. As we have much to prepare for in a limited period of time, we are requesting that you respond by Friday, August 7, 2020.

Information regarding COVID-19 continues to change at a rapid pace. Please continue to monitor our dedicated COVID-19 webpage at [Akron Central Schools COVID-19](#) our social media accounts, and our automated calling system for additional information, updates, and opportunities to provide further input.

Please note the 1st day of student attendance is Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

On behalf of the Board of Education, thank you for your continued support. Stay well and safe in body, mind, and spirit.

Sincerely,
Patrick D. McCabe
Superintendent of Schools