



August 2020

Dear LPS families:

We miss you, and we can't wait to engage your children in learning again this fall in the safest way possible.

As you may know, on Wednesday, August 12, the Lawrence Alliance for Education (LAE) will vote on our path forward -- to either begin the school year with all students participating in remote learning, or to bring students back to classrooms in a limited way using a hybrid model. A hybrid would mean that students split their time between learning in school -- in smaller groups, wearing masks and practicing social distancing -- and learning from home.

We understand that even as we plan for a safe return for all of our students, many families have concerns, whether it be the health of their student or that of another loved one in their family. That is why -- even if we proceed with a hybrid model -- you have the option to enroll your student in full remote learning. I am writing today to share important information about that model and the enrollment process.

Full remote learning for students will include all the elements of a regular school day -- whole class time, independent work time, specials like gym or art -- all taught virtually by teachers assigned to your child's remote class. Unlike the emergency remote learning that took place March through June, fall learning will include new grade-level content, a return to grading tests and assignments, and taking attendance in all classes. Returning students will access learning through the devices we distributed last spring, and new LPS students will be contacted by their schools about receiving a device to be used for these purposes.

You can read much more about our draft plans for both hybrid and remote learning [here](#). If the LAE determines LPS will move forward with a hybrid model, your children will automatically be enrolled by your school into their groupings, as Cohort A, B or C. If you decide to opt out of this model and enroll your child in full remote learning, please complete the online form linked below, and submit it by August 26. Please remember to submit one form for each child you wish to enroll in remote learning.

[Enrollment Form for Full Remote Learning](#)

For questions about the process, please be sure to contact our Back to School Helpline at (978) 722-8040 or LPShelp@lawrence.k12.ma.us, or join us for one of our [Virtual Coffee Hours](#) with families and students next week.

As always, thank you for your partnership, support and patience. We will continue to provide important updates as the first day of school approaches on September 16.

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools