



June 11, 2020

Dear Everett Public Schools families,

As we enter the final week of the 2019-20 school year, you are probably wondering what school might look like in the fall. Although we are putting our full efforts into finishing this year strong, we have started planning how to come up with the best scenario for the fall.

Learning is a social activity, and it is imperative students get as much face-to-face time with their educators and peers as possible. However, we know we will have to make some changes to keep our students and educators safe and healthy, and school will look a little different because of those changes.

Our top priority is to get schools opened back up in September in a way that protects the health and safety of our students and staff. The first step was to wait for the guidance OSPI committed to provide. A few weeks ago, State Superintendent of Public Instruction Chris Reykdal appointed a workgroup to begin researching and suggesting guidance for schools for the fall of 2020. The workgroup consisted of 120 people from different sectors of education who worked quickly on this huge challenge. The guidance was announced this morning, June 11.

As students return to classes in our buildings this fall, there may be some school buildings that cannot meet physical distancing requirements. OSPI has given three concepts which we can adapt and build from if we need to limit face-to-face instruction. They include:

1. Split or rotating schedules with distance learning,
2. Phased-in opening with continuous learning, and
3. "Continuous learning 2.0" – a more effective remote learning system.

Schools that meet in person will be required to follow the Department of Health's health and safety guidelines, including requirements around physical distancing, face coverings, and personal protective equipment (PPE).

Now that we have received this guidance, district staff will work in partnership with families, students, community and staff to plan what the fall should look like. We will be gathering input through July and expect to announce the completed plan for the fall the first week of August.

Visit our web site for more information and ongoing updates on [Fall 2020 planning](#).

Thank you and be well,

Ian Saltzman
Superintendent
Everett Public Schools