July 29, 2020

Dear Everett Public Schools families:

I hope you are enjoying this wonderful Northwest summer and are staying safe and healthy even as there seems to be a resurgence of COVID-19 cases in our county. Knowing the situation is changing week to week, we must be able to adapt our plans for the fall while remaining committed to providing quality instruction for our students in a safe manner. We appreciate all of the input we have received from students, parents, community members and staff.

I have stated and remain committed to our desire to have face-to-face instruction in the fall. I understand that is what many of you are wanting as well. Guidance from Snohomish Health District and the Governor, the current community transmission rate data and the evolving science around COVID-19 indicate it is not feasible to reopen school in person in the fall.

At this time, we plan for our students to begin the 2020-21 school year in a 100% remote model, using a staged approach for in-person reentry into school buildings. Remote learning in September will look quite different than it looked in the spring. We heard your feedback loud and clear and are making adjustments and improvements to the remote learning model. You will hear more about schedules, attendance, grading and expectations after the final plan is approved by the School Board in August. There will also be a Parent University later in August to support families’ needs and understand the remote learning model.

The staged reentry to schools will be determined by the impacts of a changing COVID-19 pandemic, available resources, direction from Snohomish Health District, OSPI and our Governor. Having the flexibility and agility to move to different models will enable us to provide the best education possible in whatever scenario presents itself. We will continue to focus on supporting students and families with unique needs, including special education services, English language learners, students experiencing homelessness and others.

There are three scenarios for teaching and learning: 100% in-person learning, hybrid learning, and 100% remote learning. Under these scenarios, there is a breakdown of hybrid stages to allow us to pivot quickly when needed. We have developed a Learning
Model Status page, which describes the different models that will be used throughout the year to indicate which stages the district is in at the current moment.

Stay safe and stay healthy.

Ian Saltzman
Superintendent
Everett Public Schools