



October 14, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

First, I would like to thank everyone for a successful start to the 2020-21 school year. Staff, students, and families have been supportive of our health and safety measures and have shown flexibility and patience in the support of our hybrid instructional model. While we know that this instructional model has presented challenges for everyone, it was unquestionably the right decision to make to ensure a smooth start to the year.

Over the last six weeks, we have watched COVID case numbers in our region and consulted with state and local health authorities. We have also received feedback from staff, students, and parents regarding the hybrid model and its academic and social emotional implications. With November and December being months that are traditionally interrupted by breaks, we have also reviewed the number of possible face-to-face instructional days across those months remaining in the hybrid, as well as returning to face-to-face instruction on a full-time basis.

At the October 13, 2020, School Board meeting, the Board approved the following plan to **transition PreK, Middle School, and High School students from the hybrid model to a traditional instructional model.**

• **Monday, October 19, 2020**

- Middle and High School students who are *currently participating in the hybrid model* may return to face-to-face instruction every day.
- Students who **do not wish to** return to 5 days must finish out the marking period with their currently scheduled teachers and classes before opting into an alternative program. These students/families should contact their school counselor to discuss the procedures for completing the marking period if they do not intend to return full time.
- GACTC students will follow the TAHS schedule but remain in their current mode of instruction **at the GACTC**, until further notice from the CTC.

• **Monday, November 2, 2020**

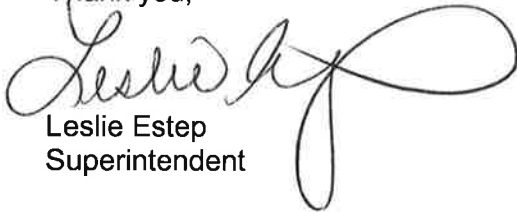
- PreK students may return to face-to-face instruction every day.
- Middle and High School students who are *currently in the cyber program* and wish to return face-to-face may return to their respective building on this day. These students should contact their respective cyber contact (Ms. Musselman, Mr. Kimberlin, or Ms. Barlett) as soon as possible to notify them of the intended change.

Any families wishing to change your child(ren)'s current mode of instruction should contact your child's school counselor as soon as possible, and they will work with you to ensure the best fit for your child as we move into the 2nd marking period, as some blended options may be available. The building principals are also available to answer questions.

As we have continued to state, ***the current health and safety protocols in place in our schools (sanitizing, face coverings, etc.) will continue to be enforced***, and we will evaluate what other changes may be necessary in order to help maintain the safest environment possible for our staff and students. Please remember that if your child is ill or showing signs and symptoms of illness, we urge you to keep your child home and to contact your child's school nurse and healthcare provider for guidance.

Please be aware that the administration will be constantly monitoring both what is happening within our schools and within our greater communities to evaluate our instructional models as we move into the winter months and reserves the right to make instructional model changes as conditions warrant. To limit the spread of COVID-19 in the greater Tyrone area community, we encourage everyone to follow safety precautions at all times, including times when you are away from school and work. A community-wide focus on health and safety will support the students we serve and help us to remain in a more consistent instructional model.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leslie Estep". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name.

Leslie Estep
Superintendent