

# RETURN TO LEARN: WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT SECOND SEMESTER

During the month of December, our Department of Innovation and Learning has been working on revisions to our Return to Learn plan that would take effect second semester, which begins January 5, 2021. Revisions were based on feedback received throughout the first semester.

In late Fall 2020, the District was exploring how to begin increasing in-person learning opportunities for our secondary students with the start of the second semester in January 2021. The recent spike in Covid-19 cases in our local community will now most certainly cause us to delay this original goal. Looking ahead, you will find the proposed revisions to the plan as we prepare for January 2021 and the beginning of second semester in LPS:

- Elementary level (grades PreK-5) students will continue to be provided in-person learning opportunities Monday-Friday. One change for elementary in-person and virtual learners during the second semester is that elementary schools will be on a two-hour early release schedule every Wednesday during the second semester. This will provide needed professional development and time for our elementary teaching teams to collaborate.
- Liberty Virtual School will continue in its current format for the second semester with the only change being the two-hour early release on Wednesdays for elementary school. Any families interested in participating in this 100% virtual learning opportunity are encouraged to visit the LVS website at [www.lps53.org/lvs](http://www.lps53.org/lvs).

- Secondary level (grades 6-12) students will continue with the current flexible learning model that was in place first semester. Following recent feedback, there will be a focus on both increased learning on virtual learning days for hybrid students and an increase in engagement and learning on virtual Wednesdays. Additional details will be shared with families as we begin second semester.

It is important to share that the District continues to prepare for scenarios in which we can increase in-person learning opportunities for our secondary learners, but will only do so when Covid-19 related data begins trending in a more positive direction, making it safe to do so.

This continues to be an extremely fluid situation and one that is likely to continue evolving in the coming days and weeks. Please know that the safety and health of our students and staff remains our top priority in LPS. We also cannot stress enough the gratitude we have for our students, staff, and families for your patience, grace, and flexibility during this unprecedented time.

