



September 25, 2020

SLSD Parents and Guardians,

As you are aware, we needed to change from our original hybrid plan at the secondary to a fully online program for the start of the school year. We have been working to resolve issues that necessitated this decision and at this time the Southern Lehigh School District has secured the necessary staff to facilitate the physical return to school for all interested secondary students. Students who had elected for full time remote will be able to continue in that model.

Staffing challenges that exist as a result of the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) will continue and so there may be substitute staffing in place to cover positions where needed. Upon the physical return to school, SLSD will have situations where District staff are completing instruction remotely to students who are physically in the secondary school buildings under the supervision of substitutes. Moving away from fully remote and into the hybrid model will present a range of challenges. We will need to be flexible and adapt daily to changing circumstances if we are to continue in a hybrid model and appreciate your support and understanding. We are implementing an education program in the midst of a global pandemic and so we may see disruptions in staffing, classes and events as we follow Department of Health guidance around exposure to and positive tests of COVID-19. Outlined below is the timeline that the District will follow for the physical return of secondary school students

- **Week of October 5th** - This week will serve as a transition week for all secondary students. SLMS and SLHS will transition from the currently used fully remote schedule to a schedule that matches the Hybrid Instructional Model. All students will log into virtual classes according to the schedule provided by building administration.
- **Week of October 12** - This week will serve as an in person transition for students in 7th and 9th grades who are entering a new school building. They will attend school in person on October 13, 14, & 15 according to the Hybrid Model Schedule based on last name. In school students and at home students will attend classes according to the schedule provided by the building administration.
- **Week of October 19** - All secondary students who have elected in person learning will return to their assigned school buildings in the Hybrid Model Schedule based on last name.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
A-L	In School	At Home	In School	At Home	Asynchronous Learning Day
M-Z	At Home	In School	At Home	In School	Asynchronous Learning Day

In order to minimize changes for students, if for any reason we are forced to return to a fully remote environment, the students will follow the daily schedule outlined in the week of October 5th, which is a return to the regular school day timings.



Kathleen T. Evison

Superintendent

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As a reminder, when students attend in-person instruction, all mitigation procedures outlined in the [Southern Lehigh School District Health and Safety Plan](#) will be in effect and must be followed. More details and information about the physical return of secondary students in the Hybrid Instructional Model will be distributed to families via communications by building administration at Southern Lehigh Middle School and Southern Lehigh High School.

These are incredibly difficult times for our students and it will take all of us pulling together with kindness and understanding, working in partnership to support them through the challenges they face. We continue to be thankful for the patience, cooperation, and support of the Southern Lehigh School District community as the District navigates the various challenges put forth throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

Kathleen T. Evison

Superintendent