



February 10, 2021

Dear WISD families,

Last night, the WISD Board of Education voted to continue remote instruction through February 26, 2021, with the expectation that WISD student programs begin planning for classroom students to return to in-person instruction beginning March 1, 2021, should local COVID-19 metrics remain stable or improve. This decision was made based on a recommendation from the district's Instructional Governance Committee of program supervisors and staff and the Executive Administration team.

The decision to start planning to bring some students back on March 1, 2021, was not taken lightly and was made with consideration of many factors, including our current ability to follow safety protocols, provide necessary PPE and physical distancing, improve ventilation in our classrooms and buildings, and offer vaccination opportunities to classroom and ancillary service staff.

We recognize that just as each WISD student has individual strengths and needs, so does each WISD student program. Our High Point, Progress Park, Red Oak, Young Adult and YAP, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Local-Based, and Court-Involved Youth Classrooms are all planning to see students face-to-face beginning March 1st. Program schedules will be unique in order to best meet the needs of students while prioritizing health and safety during the pandemic. Schedules may also be dependent on facility availability based on local school districts. Due to the current risk level associated with home-based services, our WISD Early Childhood Home Visiting programs will remain virtual unless an accommodation is required by a child's IFSP/IEP.

Our WISD Board of Education will formally vote on our return to in-person instruction at their next meeting on February 23rd as long as our local COVID-19 metrics remain stable or improve, but we want to be sure families are aware of our plans and anticipated timeline so you can have adequate time to plan and make any necessary arrangements. Please watch for additional communication over the coming weeks from the District and your child's program supervisor.

As we prepare our return to classrooms, WISD is committed to using every strategy to we have available to us to keep students and staff safe and reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. We ask that our families also remain diligent and continue taking precautions that keep our WISD community safe. We hope you will join us in following all COVID-19 prevention strategies including wearing a face covering, maintaining physical distancing, practicing good hygiene habits, self-monitoring for any symptoms, and if and when you are able, getting vaccinated.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please reach out to us using [Let's Talk](#).

Please take good care.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Naomi Norman".

Naomi Norman
Interim Superintendent
Washtenaw Intermediate School District