



July 13, 2020

Good Afternoon, LRSD School Community:

Thank you for your continued support and patience as we have worked toward releasing our **Ready for Learning Plan** to safely reopen Little Rock School District campuses in the 2020-21 school year. We are appreciative of Governor Asa Hutchinson's decision to delay the start to the school year until the week of August 24<sup>th</sup>, which has allowed us to continue our planning in partnership with you. As we pledged, we are releasing [a working copy](#) of LRSD's plan today, which provides details for all stakeholders, and flexibility to parents to make informed decisions about what is best their student(s). We hope you will see that we have given thoughtful consideration to input from parents, staff and students, and that every aspect of the plan has been developed with the safety of our students and teachers in mind.

Safety, sanitation, social distancing, rigorous academic instruction, and response to potential health concerns, as well as expectations, are outlined in the attached 24-page document in LRSD's options for virtual and in-person learning. Please take time to thoroughly review the plan and share your feedback in these forms: [Click here for Parents](#) or [Click here for Staff](#). After reading the plan, if you would like to update your selection or have not completed the survey, you may do so [here](#). Your latest response will be recorded and will help us better prepare for the school year. As we also shared, should you change your mind about your preference once school starts, a process is in place to help with that transition.

Additionally, we are providing new proposed calendar options, which reflect adjustments based on the August 24<sup>th</sup> start date. Please review the following respective student and staff calendars and share your preference in the survey linked to the options.

**Parents**

**Option 1:** Students will start school on August the 24<sup>th</sup>. Three days have been removed from the Thanksgiving break so that the semester can end prior to the winter break while still maintaining a two week break for the holidays. The last day for students will be May 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Option 2:** Students will start school on August the 24<sup>th</sup>. Three days have been removed from the Thanksgiving break so that the semester can end prior to the winter break while still maintaining a two week break for the holidays. The last day for students will be May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Staff**

**Option 1:** Teachers will report to work on August 11<sup>th</sup> with 8 days of Professional Development, collaborative team planning and working time. This will allow time for teachers to receive technology training customized to their needs and ability level, Social and Emotional Learning support and training and time to prepare their classrooms for students. **(More details in survey)**

**Option 2:** Teachers will report to work on August the 13<sup>th</sup> with 6 days of Professional Development, collaborative team planning and working time. Teachers will receive more general technology training, Social and Emotional Learning support and training and some time to prepare their classrooms for students. **(More details in survey)**

As we all focus on keeping ourselves and our families safe and healthy, our District is committed to listening to you and making changes to our plan as necessary to ensure the best possible outcomes for students. We will keep you informed throughout the process, providing you with options in how you receive information via [ParentLink](#) notification from LRSD: call, email, text, and LRSD App or a combination of those options. We will also post updates to our website under the COVID tab and through traditional/social media. Please help us by making sure your contact information is up-to-date at your child's school.

Words cannot express the gratitude that I have for each of you in the demonstration of care and support for our students, teachers and staff during this difficult time. I look forward to our continued work together.

Sincerely,

Mike Poore  
Superintendent of Schools