Dear Bellevue Learning Community,

Thank you for engaging with us as we plan for fall. We appreciate the support of our learning community as we create a plan for the return to school that takes into consideration government guidance, research, and data. Between now and the start of school, the district will provide regular updates. Future communications will address athletics, childcare, choice and language schools, closure protocols, contingency planning, electives, lunch, recess, special education, technology, transportation, and other aspects of our reopening plan. These planning updates apply to the first semester of the 2020-21 school year. Later this fall, we will communicate plans for second semester based on the most up-to-date information available.

**Intent to Enroll Form**
Thank you to the families who completed our Intent to Enroll form. We understand that expressing your intentions for fall enrollment without knowing every detail is difficult and we appreciate the support of our planning through submitting the form.

- Over 70% of families expressed their intent to have their children return to school buildings, whether full-time or part-time.
- While we want to offer flexibility for families as we approach the start of a new school year, we will need to balance change requests against other constraints, including class size, building capacity, and student safety, and may not be able to accommodate all requests.

**What Will School Look Like This Fall?**
We understand that attending school in-person with peers is important for our students’ academic success and emotional health. Our goal is to return to a model where all students are attending each day in person. However, current public health data indicates that a return to full-time, in-person instruction in September is unlikely. With the recent rise in COVID-19 cases in our area, we have decided not to offer a 100 percent in-person school option for all students for the beginning of the 2020-21 school year. With that in mind, the district is planning for two scenarios:

- A hybrid model that includes both in-person and at-home learning with some students (pre-K – grade 2 and some students with specific needs) attending full-time in person; and
- A BSD Virtual program centered on full-time at home learning

We are also developing a plan that would allow us to move quickly between the hybrid instructional model and full-time learning at home. This Temporary Full Remote plan will be used if school buildings cannot open due to the pandemic.

Read more about the instructional models on our [Planning for Fall webpage](#).

**Building a Plan with Health and Safety in Mind**
The Bellevue School District is committed to maintaining learning environments that protect the health and safety of our students, educators, and staff. We are asking for the entire community’s support in this effort. Being diligent about face coverings, hand washing, and physical distancing offer us all the greatest opportunity to start and continue in-person instruction. The district needs to be ready to adjust our plans based on the changing health conditions and risk factors within our community. Like many states around the country, we have seen an increase in COVID-19 cases in Washington and we are monitoring the changing environment daily. We are planning for personal health and safety practices to be implemented across the district. BSD is also taking extraordinary measures to ensure our facilities are conducive to a safe and healthy learning environment. Our efforts follow CDC guidance and are
informed by the Harvard Healthy Building Program for Schools. Learn more on our Planning for Fall webpage.

We thank you for your partnership as we finalize the details for our students in the fall. We know that we have not answered every question that our families have about the fall. Please continue to submit your questions, insights, suggestions, and feedback to us through Let’s Talk! – we are utilizing these to help with our planning process and communication efforts.

With gratitude,

The Bellevue School District