

Norton City Schools, Phase III of the 2020-2021 School Year

Parents and Families of Norton City Schools - thank you for your response on our most recent survey, as you made us aware of the percentage of people who would return to in-person learning if the opportunity presented itself. It is helpful.

With that knowledge, and with continued information, flexibility, and a desire to serve our district, Norton City Schools will offer the following educational opportunities beginning **Monday, February 1**. Similarly with Remote Learning at the beginning of the year and our Hybrid plan from October until now, we are not going to put an end date on this next phase. As always, we appreciate your understanding of the year, your flexibility, and your support. Here are the plans

K - 4th Grade - Beginning Monday, February 1 (Please note PRE-K maintains current schedule)

These students may attend in-person learning (5) days per week on full day schedules. These students have been attending in a half-day, Hybrid format, but the full-day school schedule will now be available for their in-person learning.

OR

These students may attend Remote Learning utilizing Norton teachers and Norton curriculum. We have a percentage of students who have been in Remote Learning all year, and this will continue to be offered.

5th Grade - 12th Grade - Beginning Monday, February 1

Hybrid Plus

These students may attend in-person learning (4) days per week, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday plus attend Remote Learning each Wednesday. This is the newest opportunity to double in-person learning time in our buildings.

OR

Hybrid

These students may continue to attend in the Hybrid Learning Model that the district has been utilizing since October 5. Students may attend in-person in their Red or White Learning Cohorts, utilize synchronous teaching, plus attend Remote Learning each Wednesday. We are continuing this because many of you don't want Full Remote or increased In-Person.

OR

Remote Learning

These students may attend full Remote Learning utilizing synchronous teaching on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and Remote Learning each Wednesday. Many of our families have been in this mode all year, and the district will continue to offer it.

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Important Information

- **Students may not alternate in between plans.** The district plans for events such as Science Labs, lunches, Math manipulatives, etc. The district, and the students, benefit from a family decision that is determined and then maintained. The district will not approve of students attending school based on whether they feel like attending that day. We will approve of a student choosing the plans that are made available and committing to those plans.
- Norton City Schools is one of a small group of districts that has committed our teachers and our curriculum to every student, as some districts have moved to outside vendors to teach Remote Learning students. Neither our community nor our teachers wanted that, so we are committed to continuing synchronous teaching. For that reason, Remote Learning on Wednesdays is a must. This time will create a more personalized approach for our Hybrid and Remote students.
- We are proud of our students, families, and employees for the consistency of their year. We were Full Remote from August 26 - October 3 and Hybrid from October 5 until now. We have worked hard to be consistent in our support of an educational platform. That being said, we are offering this while fully understanding flexibility is and will be required for the remainder of this school year. While we hope this is our final change of the year, we also are unaware of the direction of this pandemic. If we need to return to any of our prior plans for the safety of our employees, students, and families, we will.
- Please remember, that all breakfast and lunches in the district will be free until the end of the school year. In addition, we will still be passing out meals at the high school and middle school each Wednesday from 11:00 - 12:30 for all remote students.
- At this point in time, you DO NOT have to indicate which format you will choose for your family unless your building principal requests it.

We've been pleased to provide direction from the Central Office, but at this point, please expect information forthcoming from your child's building leadership. Each principal will release relevant information about the return, and your questions - emails and phone calls - should go to them.

Thank you for your continued support and patience, as our students and employees continue to work through a challenging school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dana Addis, Superintendent