



Hello Lowell families and community!

Last week we shared that we are possibly facing a transition to distance learning for all grades. For some students and families, this would mean business as usual. For others, it will mean big transitions and additional challenges both educationally and at home. For this reason, and because we want to continue to have students in our buildings as much as guidelines allow, we are monitoring the conversations and decisions being made at the county and state level. Unfortunately, no definitive decisions have been made.

This brings us to our current situation. We are in a county that remains designated "Extreme Risk" and has growing numbers of individuals testing positive for Covid-19. The current mandate is that our ability to have in person learning for students in Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will end January 4<sup>th</sup>, because of this designation and these growing numbers. If our state leaders make changes to that decision, we will continue to have as much in person time with our students as possible.

We, like you, would prefer to have answers today. We want to know what tomorrow brings and how to plan for the future. But we have also learned that 2020 just isn't going to allow that! We are still hoping to keep our students in class and opening the doors to more students in the future. However, we are still planning for transitioning to distance learning. We have procedures for technology, instruction and schedules. The one thing we don't have is definitive answers to share with you.

We would encourage you, if you have a student in grades kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup>, to start assessing your current situation. How would you make the transition in your household if we are mandated to begin distance learning? What can Lowell School District do to help you make that transition?

Our commitment remains the same. We will communicate any and all changes to you as soon as they are available to us. We will monitor the discussions being had and the decisions being made by those who guide and regulate us.

As far as what is happening in Lowell School District, we have some updates for you. Wednesday, Lowell Jr/Sr High School will be sending out progress reports. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the teachers and administration. They welcome the opportunity to assist their students.

Thursday, December 17, 2020 is the last day of school for the 2020 year! While students will not be in classes, either virtual or in person, staff will continue to work behind the scenes and communicate with our families.

Thank you parents, families, students and community for your grace and patience during these times.

Please stay safe, healthy and kind!