



ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

August 10, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope you are well, and I'd like to thank you for understanding how school reopening is such a rapidly changing situation. Based on parental input from a recent parent survey, feedback from the reopening@ansonia.org email, and in consultation with public health officials, **we have decided to reopen our schools utilizing a hybrid model**. Students will be assigned into one of two cohorts, with Cohort A attending in-person classes Monday and Tuesday, while Cohort B attends Thursday and Friday. The other days of the week will be distance learning. Our school and district instructional leaders are finalizing the details; therefore, specifics about the hybrid model will be announced later this week so families can finalize their fall schedule.

We have received numerous requests to view the Ansonia Public Schools Re-entry Template, which we submitted to the Connecticut State Department of Education recently. This template is available on our district website, www.ansonia.org. Please note this is a working document.

I also want you to know that I will be asking the Ansonia Board of Education to amend the 2020-2021 school calendar, **changing the first day of school for students to Sept. 2, 2020**. We will operate a 177-day schedule for students. As part of the reopening plan, staff will participate in a variety of professional development and protocol training prior to the first day with students. The revised calendar will be posted to the District website next week.

Since March 13, 2020, your life and that of your children have been disrupted in unimaginable ways. You have made major changes and in your life with each one a sacrifice. Unfortunately, there are no easy answers to reopening schools safely. Planning guidance changes frequently and, at times, from one day to the next. Please know that our planning process has always been anchored to health and safety for students and staff. Thank you for your partnership during this extraordinary time. Please stay healthy and remain Ansonia Strong!

Warm regards,

Joseph DiBacco, Ed. D., *Superintendent of Schools*

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