



Lackawanna City School District

Keith E. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Lackawanna City School District Families,

I am hopeful that everyone is healthy, mentally and physically during this pandemic. This correspondence is in reference to our initial re-opening plans for our school district, which now can be found on our District and individual school websites. Personally, I appreciate everyone's patience during this very challenging and stressful time. Please be advised, that we are doing all we can to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all students and staff, while trying to allow for a school day that will be normal, as we are all used to.

I would like to publicly thank our Administrators and other stakeholders for their determination, dedication, and continued collaboration to provide these plans. We are fully aware that there is no perfect plan, whichever plan is decided upon. As of this correspondence, it has been 17 days since we received our directives from the Department of Health and 13 days since we received our **initial** directives from the State Education Department. I reference this, because each district is responsible for having these re-opening plans by this Friday, July 31st and the directives have changed several times in less than two weeks. Ultimately, the Governor will inform us of what we will be allowed to do, during the week of August 1st through August 7th. His determination could change things again.

As you review our initial plans, please note that as a District, we are planning on bringing students back at 25% capacity for September 8th through September 11th (first week of school). A schedule of who will be in on specific days will be sent to you by your building Principal in the coming weeks. Starting September 14, 2020, a set calendar of odd/even days will be utilized. This means, every other day, 50 % of our students will be in attendance. Again, a schedule for your child will be sent by your building Principal in the coming weeks. **This is subject to change after the Governor's decision on reopening schools.**

I am pleased to announce that we will now be a 1 to 1 District for technology. This means, each student and teacher will have a device signed out to them. In Pre-K - 5th grade, an Apple iPad will be provided for students, while grades 6-12 students will be issued a Dell 2-in-1 Latitude (similar to a laptop and tablet combined). Teachers will receive a laptop. In addition to the technology initiative, we are in the process of hiring supplemental cleaners to be available during the school day. Also, the district has ordered additional sanitizing equipment, desks, tables, chairs, and hand sanitizers. We are hopeful that all of the above mentioned items (including the technology) will be available prior to the start of the school year.

Thank you for your continued support, collaboration, and patience.

Warm regards,

Keith E. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools