

February 16, 2021

Dear FCPS families:

With the implementation of the FCPS COVID-19 In-Person Learning Matrix, we pledged to make determinations two weeks in advance and announce decisions every Tuesday to give our community ample time to make arrangements.

Students in kindergarten, first, and second grades were supposed to be on campus the weeks of Feb. 16-19 and Feb. 22-26, but as we shared this afternoon, all students will learn remotely this week because of the weather. One of the reasons we included two weeks for our first phase was to ensure we have the operational staff to support subsequent phases.

Today's review of data with the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department showed that the rolling seven-day average of new cases has fallen to 100, community transmission is trending down, cases among school-aged children are declining, and many of our employees have received both doses of the vaccine.

As of today we can:

- Confirm that students in kindergarten, first and second grades whose families chose in-person learning will return to campus the week of Feb. 22-26, weather permitting, and continue with in-person learning the week of March 1-5.
- **Announce that we anticipate bringing back students in grades 3-5 on Wednesday, March 3.** (This decision will be reviewed and affirmed next Tuesday.)
- Affirm that we are exploring many different scenarios to accomplish the goal of providing in-person learning for all students whose families have selected that option.
- Emphasize the importance of transition factors, including the availability of bus drivers and cafeteria workers, as we plan for other grade levels to return to in-person learning throughout our graduated approach.
- Encourage anyone who may be interested in working as a bus driver, bus monitor, or child nutrition employee to apply at [www.fcps.net/jobs](http://www.fcps.net/jobs).

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Sincerely,

Marlene Helm,  
acting superintendent in Fayette County Public Schools