

March 9, 2021

Dear Fayette County Public Schools families:

Our middle and high schools were a buzz this week with Monday's return of our sixth, ninth, and 12th grade students whose families chose in-person learning! Our students were grinning behind their masks as they greeted their friends and teachers, and quickly got into the groove of class changes and backpacks once again.

The progress our community has made to contain the spread of COVID-19 since January has been simply incredible. On January 9, the seven-day average of cases was 252. On February 8, the seven-day average was 127. Today we are thrilled to report a seven-day average of 49!

Each Tuesday, we also review multiple data points as part of our FCPS In-Person Matrix, and we are pleased to report that all indicators continue to support our return to campus.

Next Monday, March 15, students in preschool, and grades 7, 8, 10, and 11 whose families chose in-person instruction will go back to school at Beaumont, Bryan Station, Crawford, Edythe J. Hayes, Jessie Clark, Leestown, LTMS, Morton, SCAPA, Southern, Tates Creek, and Winburn middle schools and Bryan Station, Frederick Douglass, Henry Clay, Lafayette, Paul Laurence Dunbar, and Tates Creek high schools.

We are still working to solve the transportation challenge for middle and high school students who attend Carter G. Woodson Academy, Eastside Technical Center, Family Care Center, Locust Trace AgriScience Center, Martin Luther King Academy, Opportunity Middle College, Southside Technical Center, STEAM Academy, Success Academy, The Learning Center, and The Stables. We will update our families on next steps no later than March 15.

We look forward to welcoming all grade levels back to campus, and we are grateful to our students, employees, families, and entire community for coming together to focus on solutions that put our students first.

COVID-19 has challenged our community, Commonwealth, and nation in ways few of us ever imagined. As we pass the one-year mark of the pandemic in Kentucky, now equipped with the tools and knowledge about how to fight this virus, I encourage each of us to reflect on the ways we have grown stronger over the past 12 months.

Fayette County Public Schools is a tremendous district with world-class offerings and top-ranked educators and support staff. We serve brilliant and capable students from engaged families who value learning and receive unparalleled support from one of the most highly educated communities in America. Working collaboratively, we can ensure that our best days are ahead.

Sincerely,

Marlene Helm,
acting superintendent of Fayette County Public Schools