

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

Dear PPS Parents,

This evening, the Board of Directors voted to pass a revised resolution regarding the District's plan of instruction. The approved resolution maintains the Remote Instruction Plan currently in effect until the beginning of the fourth quarter of the 2020-2021 school year, April 6, 2021, immediately following Spring Break. In the revised resolution, the Board approved the following actions:

- Immediately conduct a current assessment of student need for support, building health and safety protocols, transportation service availability, and staffing levels.
- Administer a parent/guardian survey no later than February 15, 2021, to gauge how comfortable families will be with in-person learning and transportation.
- End the AA/BB/C/D learning cohorts under previous plans of in-person instruction as of January 27 and establish new learning cohorts.
- Ensure that students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) who require in-person instruction for FAPE (free, appropriate public education) receive that in-person instruction pursuant to the Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on the resolution, we will move forward with the steps listed above, survey families before February 15, and establish new cohorts based on a comprehensive assessment of student need for support, building health and safety protocols, transportation service availability, and staffing levels. Please continue to stay engaged by visiting www.pghschools.org/parents and checking your email for communications through Peachjar.

Wednesday - Modified Full Learning Days

Modified learning days have been added to the District calendar so staff can participate in Professional Development on Wednesday afternoons while also providing students with additional time to complete assigned activities at their own pace. These modified full learning days are in addition to Early Dismissal Days and Full Asynchronous Days. Modified Full Learning Days are scheduled for February 10, February 24, March 3, March 17, April 7, June 2, and June 9. An updated District calendar is available for viewing and download at www.pghschools.org/calendar.

Tech Support Centers Resume Normal Schedule

Beginning on Tuesday, February 2, Technology Support Centers will be reopened at Carrick, Obama, and King each week on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Saturday appointments are available from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM on the South Side at 1305 Muriel St – 15203 (use entrance located on S. 13th Street). Prescheduled appointments are strongly encouraged, but walk-ins are welcomed. Visit www.pghschools.org/techsupportappt to schedule a date and time that is convenient for you.

Virtual Conference: Early Literacy, Libraries and You

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) is hosting a virtual early literacy conference starting on Monday, February 15. The sessions will provide activities, resources, and research that will allow you to raise lifelong readers through expanded early literacy practices. We welcome educators, caregivers, and families of children aged birth-5 to this conference! It is free of charge, and attendees are welcome

to register for one or more sessions. More so, educators will be able to receive continuing education hours. All sessions will be held via Zoom. To read more information about each session and to register, visit our website here: <https://www.carnegielibrary.org/early-literacy-virtual-conference/>.

Second Quarter Grades Available in HAC by February 5

On Friday, February 5, families can access their child's second-quarter grades in the Home Access Center (HAC) online at www.pghschools.org/hac.

I appreciate those of you that shared your thoughts through the Public Hearing process or other means over the past several weeks. Please know that I have heard our families, students, staff, and community. I understand the ongoing challenges the decision to continue educating students under the remote instruction plan presents. The administration will continue to work with our school leaders and staff to ensure that they have the resources they need to support students in remote instruction.

Yours in education,



Anthony D. Hamlet, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

**Pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, State educational agencies (SEAs), local educational agencies (LEAs), and schools must ensure that, to the greatest extent possible, each student with a disability can be provided the special education and related services identified in the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) developed under IDEA, or a plan developed under Section 504. (34 CFR §§ 300.101 and 300.201 (IDEA), and 34 CFR § 104.33 (Section 504).*