



August 13, 2021

Dear Lawrence Public Schools families,

I hope you continue to enjoy summer, and are getting as excited as we are for the start of the new school year. I have some more important reminders and updates today:

- School starts for K-12 students with a half day on Wednesday, September 1st. This includes kindergarten, which is once again full day for all students. Pre-kindergarten begins on Tuesday, September 7th. [Pre-k and kindergarten enrollment](#) are still open! All Massachusetts districts and schools will open the school year in person and full-time for all students. There is no remote learning option entering the 2021-22 school year.
- As you may know, last week the Lawrence Board of Health issued an executive order requiring face coverings inside city-owned buildings, which includes LPS schools. In keeping with this order, as well as other updated public health guidance, this fall masks will be required for all LPS students, staff and visitors when inside school buildings or using LPS transportation (unless eating or on an approved mask break). We will also of course continue to implement numerous other health and safety protocols, including an extensive cleaning regimen, hand-washing and sanitizing stations, and available COVID testing.
- A reminder that with our full return to in-person learning, LPS is resuming its regular uniform policy. Please see the uniform standards for [grades K-8](#) and [grades 9-12](#) for details on what your child needs.
- Please RSVP by this Monday to join one of my [virtual coffee hours](#) next week -- I would love to see you and answer any back-to-school questions you may have!
- Our English Learner Department, in conjunction with the English Learner Parent Advisory Council (ELPAC), is hosting a district-wide, in-person [event to welcome newcomer students and their families](#) to LPS and our community. It will take place Thursday, September 16th from 4:00-7:00pm at the Lawrence Public Library. All are welcome!

I will continue to share frequent updates as the first day of school approaches, but please feel free to regularly check LawrencePublicSchools.org for the latest information, or reach out to our Back-to-School Help Line. Call 978-722-8040 or email LPSHelp@Lawrence.k12.ma.us any weekday from 8:00am-4:30pm.

Cynthia Paris
Superintendent of Schools