

LYNN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Patrick A. Tutwiler, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Lynn Public Schools Families,

I am writing to update you on matters related to the upcoming school year. This week, we welcomed staff back for the first four of ten total professional learning days. As I have said many times, we are preparing to launch the upcoming school year in a way never done before. This requires significant shifts to the way in which teaching and learning are done and thus thoughtfully facilitated professional learning experiences. I have also said many times that if any group of professionals is up to the task, it is the Lynn Public Schools staff. We had a solid week of learning and will continue in earnest next week.

Devices

Device distribution continues and I am pleased to share that we have distributed more than 10,000 devices. By way of reminder, we currently have enough devices for each student to have one, grades 3-12. Building principals have and will continue to send communication on pick-up dates and times. Please call your student's school if you have not yet retrieved a device. LPS was awarded a significant grant to allow us to purchase additional devices for grades k-2. Those devices have been ordered. It should come as no surprise that there is a global shortage of devices and thus delays in deliveries. Nonetheless, we are crafting a plan to support student learning in grades K-2 while we await delivery. More in short order.

Remote Learning Academy

Lynn Public Schools is offering a Remote Learning Academy **for students who choose to enroll in a full remote learning mode for the entire school year**. The Remote Learning Academy allows LPS students to access a fully online educational experience, which is designed and provided by Connections Academy (also known as TECCA). We administered a nonbinding survey to get a sense for how many families were interested in that option. The next step is to provide those who are interested, whether they indicated as much in the survey or not,

information on the program before a final decision is made. The Connections Academy has provided this [informational video](#) (use code: dqdD=5cB). specifically for Lynn. We are asking those who are interested to make a final decision on or before Thursday, September 10th. A link to a form will be sent on Tuesday, September 8th for those wishing to pursue this opportunity. Be reminded that a decision to join the Remote Learning Academy reflects a commitment for the entire school year.

Staying Updated

As we prepare to open the 2020-21 school year in a way never done before in Lynn, I want to make sure that you are informed and can have your questions answered. Many answers to questions can be found on the [Reopening Safely page](#) on the Lynn Public Schools website. Therein, one will find the reopening plan, a frequently asked questions document, and a technology support space. As we near the beginning of the school year, your first point of contact should be your child's school principal. We always welcome your questions on the dedicated e-mail address lbsreopening-families@lynnschools.org.

Yours in partnership,

Patrick Tutwiler, PhD
Superintendent of Schools