

# LYNN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

James Leo McGuinness Administration Building – 100 Bennett Street, Lynn, MA 01905  
Tel. (781) 593-1680 ~ Fax. (781) 477-7487



*Patrick A. Tutwiler, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools*

July 29, 2020

Dear Lynn Public Schools Community,

I am writing to update you on information related to reopening this fall. As has been the case since March, we remain in a situation that is fluid with new information and guidelines released on a regular basis. Our work involves interpreting the information and guidance and bringing it to bear on our reopening planning. Rest assured that no priority supersedes the health and safety of our beloved students and staff. Our planning continues with this priority front of mind along with input/feedback from you.

Approximately 43% of Lynn Public Schools households participated in the recent reopening survey. Kindly follow these links ( [family:student](#)) to view the results from the family and student (grades 6-12) surveys. I have removed the narrative comments due to the sensitive and private nature of some of them. There are significant takeaways from the responses that help in our planning. Here are a few:

- The majority of parents/guardians who participated in the survey are willing to send their children back to in-person instruction in the fall.
- Relative to messaging, parents/guardians are most interested in hearing about the district's alignment to Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and state health guidelines and how their student will be supported academically.
- A majority of parents/guardians indicated that their students would need support in the area of adjusting to new routines more so than other areas.
- The majority of Parents/guardians ranked the two-day hybrid model as their first or second choice.

I believe deeply in soliciting and responding to input/feedback and will continue to do so.

Relative to reopening, just yesterday, Commissioner Riley released a memorandum indicating that the school year would be 170 days (as opposed to 180) and that all districts must begin their school year by September 16<sup>th</sup>. The first day of instruction must be preceded by 10 days during which staff will receive training. The school calendar must be agreed upon by local unions and the Lynn School Committee. It is my hope to share a school year calendar the week of August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Finally, by way of reminder, I have planned two virtual town halls for LPS families. This is an opportunity to communicate specifics of reopening planning, but also to hear your concerns and, to the extent possible, respond to your questions. The sessions are as follows:

**Health and Safety - Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> 6pm**  
**Teaching and Learning - Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

Links to the sessions are forthcoming. Whether or not you are able to attend, I welcome any thoughts, concerns, or ideas to be sent to [LPSreopening-families@lynnschools.org](mailto:LPSreopening-families@lynnschools.org). I am genuinely interested in your thoughts.

Yours in partnership,

Patrick Tutwiler, PhD  
Superintendent