

# LYNN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Patrick A. Tutwiler, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools*

December 4, 2020

Dear Lynn Public Schools Students & Families,

I am writing to all of you today to share some changes that the Lynn Public Schools will be putting in place for the remainder of the month of December 2020. These changes are designed to prioritize everyone's safety, while also ensuring minimal impact on our students' educational experience. There will be no interruption of either remote learning or of food services because of these adjustments.

As you know, COVID-19 is surging across the state and the country, with the City of Lynn experiencing one of the highest positivity rates in Massachusetts. Yet, the Lynn Public Schools has been a model of safety in the midst of this increase. To date, we have had no known instances of transmission on site, and minimal need for anyone to quarantine due to exposure in an LPS building. Because cases are currently rising, we have decided to make some adjustments for staff on-site schedules, so that we can continue to have this safety record. My commitment to you is to ensure we continue to operate safely, while also ensuring that our students continue to receive an excellent education. All of the decisions I make are with those priorities at the forefront.

The changes we are making are being implemented to reduce the number of staff in the building. **Beginning December 7<sup>th</sup> until December 23<sup>rd</sup>, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, all LPS staff will work remotely. FOOD SERVICES WILL CONTINUE —YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE SAME PROCEDURE FOR RETRIEVING MEALS AS YOU HAVE BEEN.** Administrators and teachers will still be available to you via email, though not via phone. **On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, most staff may choose to work remotely, but principals, nurses, technology specialists, parent liaisons, and clerks will be in the building.** If you need to speak with anyone via phone, or schedule an appointment to go to the school to resolve a technology issue, pick up materials, or for any other agreed-upon reason, you will be able to do so on those three days. We will continue to observe the safety protocols that have been in place all year.

In the midst of all of the changes this school year has brought so far, I continue to be inspired by and grateful for the constant that I see every day: the consistent commitment of LPS staff, students and families to dedicate themselves to teaching and learning, regardless of the mode of instruction. It is, as always, a privilege to work in partnership with you in this pursuit.

Respectfully,

Patrick Tutwiler, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools