



# Livingston PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Families:

We are pleased to inform you that we are continuing to make progress with regards to our transition to the hybrid model of instruction in the Livingston Public Schools. We began moving to the hybrid model of instruction this past Monday as our youngest students and self-contained classes returned to our facilities. Based on our current staffing efforts, we are confident that we will be able to bring our students back on the following schedule:

**October 5, 2020** - Grades 3-5 students will begin attending elementary schools on the hybrid schedule. Additional information will be sent by your principal next week.

**October 5, 2020** - A “Commitment Form” will be sent to all secondary school families asking whether students will participate in the in-person aspects of the hybrid model, or whether they will choose to remain remote while in-person instruction is provided. These forms will be due back to the district by Thursday, October 8, 2020.

**October 19, 2020** - Grade 6 students will transition to a hybrid model of instruction at Mount Pleasant Middle School.

**October 26, 2020** - Grades 7-12 students will transition to a hybrid model at Heritage Middle School and Livingston High School.

**Grades 6-12** - When we begin hybrid instruction, students will return in-person in three cohorts (A, B, and C), with each student attending in-person instruction every third day, meeting with all teachers in-person over a six day period. Cohort information, as well as a newly-created three-cohort hybrid schedule, will be sent to secondary school families by the end of next week. Other school-specific logistical information will be provided by each school principal as the transition to hybrid learning gets closer. Included in the school-based communications will be guidelines for those students who may opt out of the in-person elements of the hybrid model. Teachers will also be providing information directly to students prior to the hybrid transition.

**Please note: We believe it is important to limit the number of scheduling transitions for our students and staff. Since we are now moving to a hybrid schedule in October, we will NOT move to the rotating drop schedule on Tuesday, September 29th. Instead, we will plan to continue with our current secondary AM/PM schedule for the week of September 29 - October 2. Future schedules and calendars will be communicated directly from building principals next week.**

*Livingston Public Schools: Empowering all to learn, create, contribute, and grow.*

<b>September 28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>October 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Yom Kippur Schools Closed</b>	<b>LHS - AM HMS - AM MPM - AM</b>	<b>LHS - AM HMS - AM MPM-PM</b>	<b>LHS - PM HMS - PM MPM-AM</b>	<b>LHS - PM HMS - PM MPM - PM</b>

SECONDARY STAFFING - We continue to work every day to solidify the staffing situation at our middle and high schools. The challenge is most prevalent at Heritage Middle School and Livingston High School. As indicated above, we have set the date to move to hybrid at those two schools as October 26, 2020. It is our goal to be able to secure the requisite level of staffing by that time. We believe this is a realistic timeline based on current circumstances. This issue will continue to be a primary focus. We are committed to transitioning to hybrid learning on the dates identified, provided our community spread numbers remain low, and we have sufficient staffing to open our schools safely. Despite our best efforts, and our strong desire to bring our students back, it is important to recognize that some of the issues pertaining to personnel are unique to individuals, fluid, unpredictable, and may be beyond our control.

BUSING INFORMATION - Passes for mandated busing will be mailed early next week for grades 3-5, and for secondary students by October 14th. We are including a letter outlining the procedures that are being followed for the cleaning and disinfecting of all vehicles (these procedures can also be viewed on the District website). If your child receives busing as part of a special program, drivers will contact parents regarding coordination of services.

ELECTION DAY - November 3, 2020 - The Governor signed an executive order in August declaring that all school facilities must be closed on Election Day this year even if those schools are not polling places. Therefore all Livingston Public School facilities will need to be closed on November 3, 2020. We were advised this morning by the Department of Education (DOE) that we will be able to hold school remotely that day. As a result of the guidance from the DOE, **all instruction will occur remotely on Election Day**, and LPS school facilities will be closed to students and staff. We will provide a reminder of this to families as we get closer to November 3rd.

As we continue to transition to hybrid learning, we need to continue to be prepared to pivot our in-person learning schedules as circumstances dictate. If COVID-19 cases arise within a school, it may require partial or complete facility shut-downs, and schedules may need to be adjusted without significant notice.

We are very excited to continue welcoming our students back to our facilities for in-person learning during the month of October!

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

Sincerely,



Matthew J. Block  
Superintendent of Schools