

Phillip Thompson, Ed.D.
Superintendent



Haywood Hand, M.Ed.
Assistant Superintendent

October 16, 2020

Good afternoon,

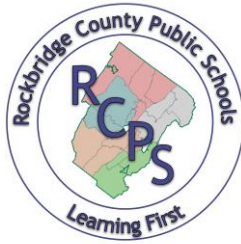
This morning, the Rockbridge County School Board met to discuss and take action on the learning plan model we will be implementing at the start of the 2nd nine-weeks which begins on Tuesday, November 10th. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the physical, mental, social and emotional health of everyone remains extremely important to us and we do not take this responsibility lightly.

The learning plan the School Board adopted today is what was labeled the Option 2 - "Staggered Hybrid Plan".

Here are the key components of this newly adopted plan:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The current learning plan will remain in place through the end of the first nine-weeks (November 6).
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Beginning on November 10, Pre-K, K, and 1st graders will continue to be offered in-person 4 days/week.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Additionally, we will also offer in-person learning to grades 2, 3, 6, & 9 in the hybrid model using two groups. One group will attend on Monday and Tuesday while another group will attend on Wednesday and Thursday. Friday will be an all virtual day with no students in-person. (AABBV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On November 30, 2020, all other grade levels will return in the hybrid model using two groups. One group will attend on Monday and Tuesday while another group will attend on Wednesday and Thursday. Friday will be an all virtual day with no student's in-person. (AABBV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An all virtual model will remain in place for any family that does not wish to return to in-person learning.

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This Staggered Hybrid Learning Plan allows for a cautious return of students to our schools. This plan will allow more student needs to be met by in-person learning. It will also allow educators the opportunity to potentially try new techniques on a smaller group of in-person students before the return of a majority of our students on Monday, November 30th.

As we further prepare for this transition, we will be seeking additional information from our families. Please be on the lookout next week for a survey requesting preferences for in-person or virtual learning, transportation needs, etc.

We recognize that since schools were abruptly closed back in March, the challenges have increased with time. Please know that we greatly miss our students and are committed to seeing them all return as soon as it can be done safely.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Phillip Thompson'.

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