

March 11, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians of Elementary Students in Transitional Learning,

Last night at the public meeting of the Board of Education, trustees approved the extension of the Transitional Learning program in its current instructional format to the end of the current school year.

As you know, many of the students in the Transitional Learning Program have not attended school in-person since March, 2020. Your children are important members of their school community and their presence at school is missed. We are hopeful that as the weather improves and the COVID-19 vaccine becomes more available, more families will choose to send their children back to school where they can benefit from very important in-person interactions with their teachers, friends and peers. **The school district strongly encourages parents to consider having your children return to in-person learning at any time between now and the end of the school year.**

For those who have not yet returned to in-class instruction following spring break, you can anticipate contact from your school regarding options for reconnecting your children with school before the summer break. This reconnecting may look different across our elementary schools and it is the intention of the district to offer a variety of opportunities tailored to suit the needs of our families. As part of the home and school connection and in preparation for the return to in-person learning in September 2021, it is important to us to reconnect with you and your children in person at the school if at all possible.

Our school district continues to be fully committed to providing a safe learning environment. After seven months with over 17,000 students attending school in-person, there have not been any documented cases of transmission of the COVID virus in any school in our district. The great majority of our students continue to wear masks as do our staff. Our safety plans are working well and Richmond staff, students and families are taking seriously the responsibility of keeping each other safe. Our community has much to be proud of.

Please do not hesitate to contact your children's principal if you have any questions or would like to explore arrangements to have your children return to in-person learning. Schools will be working with families on a case by case basis to do everything possible to encourage and enable students in the Transitional Learning program to return to in-person schooling in a way that maintains the health and safety of your children and those already attending school in-person. Should you decide to have your child return, please allow the school a day or two to make arrangements for a smooth and safe re-entry for your children. Your child's principal will be pleased to work alongside you. We look forward to welcoming your child back when you are ready.

Sincerely,



Scott Robinson
Superintendent of Schools