

Stanwood-Camano School District

Family Communication September 11, 2020

Today is Patriot Day and marks the 19th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Today is set aside to honor those who lost their lives. Patriot Day also provides us the opportunity to consider what we stand for as a nation and how we can work together to make the world a better place for all.

Reopening Updates

On Tuesday, Dr. Christopher Spitters of the Snohomish County Health District announced to school superintendents that schools could begin to reopen in a hybrid model beginning first with younger students. His guidance for schools is as follows:

“In summary, a reasonable approach for the time being is to wait for at least three weeks of observation following both the Labor Day holiday and the re-opening of schools in their current configuration. If at that time COVID-19 activity in the school and community remains stable or improving and a review of the considerations set forth above is favorable, then proceeding with incremental returns of elementary school students to in person learning at your discretion is acceptable to the Health District. I urge you to continue to allow adequate time (e.g., at least three weeks) between increments in order to detect untoward effects prior to making the next move in your planned sequence.”

He goes on to provide additional guidance for middle and high school students:

“Aside from high-needs students in small (e.g., ≤5), cohorted groups attending middle and high school in person, this letter communicates no current recommendation or guidance for returning to in person learning by middle and high school students. The Health District finds that teenage students:

- have higher rates of COVID-19 than younger children;*
- are probably more likely to spread COVID-19 if infected; and*
- as a group, appear to face fewer challenges in remote learning.*

Given these factors, the Health District recommends middle and high schools continue to operate remotely (aside from special- or high-needs students).”

Given this updated guidance, the district will be moving to Step II of our [Reopening Steps](#) and anticipates reopening under the following presumptions:

- If metrics remain constant or go down, students K-3 will be taught in a face-to-face hybrid model beginning on October 5th, 2020.
- If metrics remain constant or go down, students grades 4-5 will begin face-to-face on October 26th, 2020.
- Students will be scheduled in an AA/BB hybrid model by alpha group.
 - Students in the AA Cohort will attend school on Mondays and Tuesdays.
 - Students in the BB Cohort will attend school on Thursdays and Fridays.
 - Students will attend for a full-day (9:00AM-3:30PM) including Kindergarten.
 - Approximately half of students will be in a classroom at a time to minimize contacts.
- Families will be kept in the same Cohort.

- Schools will do their best to accommodate families' Cohort preference (AA or BB).
- Families are asked to commit to either hybrid or continuous learning
- Transportation will be provided following typical district guidelines.
- Masks and social distancing guidelines will be adhered to.

Special Education:

- Beginning September 21st our ASSIST program at Utsalady Elementary will begin in-person instruction for full days on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
- Beginning September 23rd students in the special education resource programs (K-12) will have the opportunity to attend on Wednesdays. This will continue in addition to added hybrid model instruction.
- Beginning October 1st our PBS program at Elger Bay Elementary will begin in-person instruction for full days on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday.
- Beginning October 1st our Pre-school program at Stanwood Elementary school will begin in-person instruction in a two day per week model.

Families will be surveyed regarding their preferences on Monday, September 14.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this information.

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