



Dear Center School District community,

Tonight I made the difficult decision of recommending to start the 2020-2021 school year in Phase 1 of our CENTERed on Learning Re-entry plan; which includes a Full-Time Virtual Learning Plus option for CSD scholars. I also asked the Board of Education to approve revisions to the District calendar including a delay to the start of school until Wednesday, August 26, 2020. I am pleased to share the recommendation has been approved. We will send out more detailed information as it relates to the implementation of the approved re-entry plan in the near future.

Please know, this has been one of the most difficult decisions I have had to make as a superintendent. Along with my team of District leaders, we have heard from students, families and staff who all want to return to school, but are also apprehensive about returning safely if we return to full in-person instruction right away. The CSD Planning Team does not in any way want to compromise the health and safety of our students and staff; nor do we want to fall short of our high expectations for teaching and learning.

With approval and support from our Board of Education, Phase 1, 2 & 3 as outlined in tonight's Board Memorandum, includes the ability to transition through each phase based on guidance from public health officials and the assurance of a seamless transition. A seamless transition is one that takes the academic needs of all students into consideration as it relates to changing course throughout the school year. The transition will need to be intentional and systemic in the best interest of all CSD scholars. We will continue to inform the Board of Education as well as our students and families prior to transitioning from one phase to another.

We want to have the best possible start to this unprecedented school year. Additionally, we have reviewed areas of improvement from last Spring, and therefore, have an enhanced plan in place moving forward. In planning to offer a Full Virtual Plus option to increase the rigorous learning we know our students can achieve, we will also provide training for instructional leaders. We will continue to look at ways to provide supports and tools to help our scholars be successful. More details regarding the Full Virtual Learning Plus offerings will be released no later than Tuesday August 4, 2020.

Thank you for your feedback, engagement and support. We have spent countless hours poring over your thoughts, ideas and concerns and have made this decision alongside you.

Sincerely,

Yolanda M. Cargile, Ed.D
Superintendent
Center School District #58