

Dear ONE Troy,

The challenges facing our community because of COVID-19 are impacting all of us. Our lives have changed in many ways and we are all craving some sense of normalcy. We understand that school can provide that, but we also must be mindful that normalcy cannot come at the expense of the health and safety of our students and staff.

Last night, the Troy Board of Education voted to approve Administration's recommendation to begin the 2020-21 school year in a virtual setting for all students. Here is a link to the presentation used in the meeting: [BOARD PRESENTATION](#). Please understand that this decision is for our initial start to the year and our goal remains to return students to our classrooms, though parents will always have the option to continue to have their children learn from home.

What does this mean?

- It means that your child will be assigned to a classroom teacher from your child's school (or at the secondary level, a set of subject area teachers as they typically would.)
- Your student will receive a set schedule of daily live instruction, live interaction with teacher(s) and peers, regular feedback, academic and emotional supports and a sense of classroom community.
- All students K-12 will receive an ipad and students in grades 3-12 will receive a keyboard to use for their schoolwork. No more sharing devices with siblings.
- Lessons will be recorded so you can go back at any time to revisit material.
- A common learning management system (Schoology) K-12 will be used to make it easier to track assignments, see calendars and manage workload. Signing into zoom meetings/classes will be embedded into this system to provide an extra layer of protection for students.
- Parents learning sessions will be available to help with Schoology and other technology your student will be using.

Please watch this video to get a sense of what virtual learning will look like as we start the year:

VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/ZLW0Tv9qKrg>

What can you expect from here? The week of August 24th, you will receive:

- Student Class Assignments
- Finalized Schedules
- Information on Material Pick Up

- Information for welcoming students in Sixth Grade and Ninth Grade
- Information on a Special Welcome for our ONETroy Kindergarten Families

In addition, we have committed to:

- Review the decision five weeks after the start of the school year.
- Work to address challenges that students receiving Special Education services face
- Explore solutions for students who need childcare
- Survey parents to assess ongoing needs and feedback
- Continue to convene Task Force teams to and continue to monitor and plan for Transition

We understand that you likely have many questions and we will work to answer them as quickly as we can. We have created a section on our district website where you can access district updates, presentations, videos and frequented asked questions: <https://www.troy.k12.mi.us/home-covid-19/extended-learning>

We also understand that members of our community have strong views and that not everyone will agree on the best way forward. We also recognize that certain plans may be difficult for some families. In the end, our priority must be the safety of our students and staff as we navigate through unprecedented times with many uncertainties. These decisions are not easy, but it's important to remember that what we are experiencing right now is temporary. We will eventually get back to our classrooms and our normal routines. Throughout it all, our focus on the education and well-being of your children will not waver, and we are confident that we will all get through this together.