

Hello Nooksack Valley!

As many of you know, the metrics that are used by the health department in their guidance to us, have been steadily improving over the past several weeks. So much so, that they are preparing to release new guidelines sometime this week. We are anticipating that these new guidelines will include the following:

1. Continue to start remotely, with the addition of small numbers of students in our schools soon thereafter. This initial number of students will include some students with special needs as well as some that have poor or no internet connectivity from their homes. The number will be limited to start.
2. Every several weeks (3-4?) the health department would review their metrics, and ensure we are able to meet the health and safety guidelines for distancing, sanitizing, etc. If all of that is still “pointed in the right direction”, we would be able to add additional numbers of students at each interval.
3. We have the potential to add students back over time, leading to a full hybrid model.

As a reminder, our guiding principles from the outset have been to a) follow the guidelines set forth by the health department for the health and safety of our students, staff, and community, and b) maximize in-person learning. Once these new guidelines are official, we will be putting together a sequencing plan that moves Nooksack Valley to a hybrid model over time, that is, if our guiding principles hold true and the health department metrics remain optimistic. Remember also that we must follow the health department guidelines as per our insurance risk pool.

With this news brings new levels of optimism. Optimism and hope that we can get our awesome young people back into our schools and classrooms with our outstanding staff. Stay tuned and stay healthy.

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