

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MEMO

TO: PCCS COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: PHASE 4B IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

DATE: OCTOBER 20, 2020

Dear PCCS Community

We present to you our <u>Phase 4B Blended/Remote Learning Implementation Plan</u>. While the plan is near final, we are calling it a draft until we have the results of our *Parent Commitment Survey* and have conducted our *Phase 4B Town Hall Listening Sessions*.

While we believe that the plan as presented will continue to keep our students and staff safe, while providing a blended form of in person instruction, we also know that the implementation of Phase 4B can be stalled and even reversed based on the most current information from our data sources. As an example, based on the data as shown on <u>this</u> <u>website</u>, PCCS would not be transitioning to Phase 4B on November 16 and remaining in Phase 4A as the number of incidents rates for the last 6 days (as of October 16) are well above the recommended threshold rates for hybrid learning.



"With the incident rate metric, virtual learning is recommended at rates above 14 per 100,00 and hybrid learning is recommended for rates between 7 and 14 per 100,000... In order for a change in phase to be indicated, incidence rates must be in a certain threshold for at least 7 days. Prior to 7 days in a threshold, a waring will appear indicating a phase transition. It is recommended that schools begin planning and transitioning to the next indicated phase..." As background, the <u>Return to School Metrics</u> developed by the Lake County Health Department, encompass two metrics (incidence rate and diagnostic testing turn-around time). PCCS relies heavily on these health department *Return to School Metrics* and considers our limitations in relation to our facilities, adequate learning spaces, resources, and infrastructure, to guide our instructional model decisions for the start of the second trimester and beyond.

Please note, in the event the health department metrics support transitioning to hybrid learning on November 3rd, those metrics will need to continue to support hybrid learning through November 16. If both metrics align to recommend blended learning on November 3rd, we will plan to implement the Phase 4B plan for the second trimester beginning on Monday, November 16.

In the event that the health department metrics no longer support hybrid or blended learning for November 16, or any time after we transition to Phase 4B, PCCS will revert back to Phase 4A Remote Learning, possibly with minimal notice. PCCS will work very closely with the health department before making any final determinations about transitioning between phases.

We understand that there is no perfect plan, and that absolute compliance of any plan's implementation is improbable. We have built this plan under the framework that any back-to school strategies must be flexible and nimble such that they can be quickly revised and adapted depending on the level of viral transmission in the school and broader community.

Our efforts focus on taking reasonable steps to decrease the risk to our students, families, and staff by providing the best learning plans as possible within the infrastructure of our campus and that follow the LCHD/ISBE/CDC guidelines, thresholds and their recommendations.

Sincerely, Prairie Crossing Charter School

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Executive Director