

Good afternoon,

Thank you for patiently waiting for the East Windsor model for returning to school. I have determined that we will be returning in a hybrid model due to multiple factors, which are included in the attached document. I do appreciate that anything but a full time reopening will create day care challenges for some families. That is one of the reasons we are working hard to keep older and younger siblings on the same schedule. My decision to use a hybrid model was based on health and safety and the use of mitigation strategies across the district.

Please read the attached plan, which provides the overall picture of our reopening for school. You will receive more information before school starts including:

- * pick up and drop off of students at all schools
- * adjustments to the curriculum for all levels to address the learning loss we expect occurred during the school closures
- * expectations for access to online instruction for each level
- * how you can get technology support, including a computer if needed
- * how lunches and breakfasts will be provided - including for days that students are not physically in school
- * updates on fall sports and extracurricular activities
- * information about how we would handle classroom or school closure should that be needed - we are waiting for the Department of Public Health to provide this information and are very anxious to receive it.

It is critical that all families update your contact information and respond to the questions about whether your child will opt out or return to in person classes as soon as possible. The form was emailed to all families on Monday. If you did not receive it, please contact your child's school or Freddie Rodriguez at frodrigues@ewct.org. I realize the power outages have made completing the form this week difficult or impossible so we ask that you please try to do that by Wednesday Aug 12. After that time, we will be better able to determine which portion of the alphabet will attend Monday/Tuesday and which Thursday/Friday. In general, we will have the front of the alphabet return on Monday/Tuesday.

Please share any questions that you may have and I will create a Question and Answer document that will be added to our website. I'm quite sure that if one family has a question that it applies to many others. I urge you to reach out to me or your building principals with questions as that is the only way we will be able to share accurate information. I know that thinking about starting back to school in whatever form can create anxiety for parents and students. We will continue to provide more detail and resources and hope those help.

In addition, I am attaching several documents you may find helpful in talking with your children about COVID 19 and how to help your child get more comfortable wearing a mask. They will be added to the Starting School 2020-2021 page of our website - which is currently under construction.

We realize that not all specifics have been provided in this document but want to remind you that additional details will be shared starting next week.

I hope you have a good weekend and stay healthy.

Christine