

Dear CPS Families:

On June 22, 2020, Columbia Public Schools published its return to school plan. Families had the choice of online or in-person instruction.

Columbia Public Schools made this decision after consulting public health leaders, local and state experts, teachers, leaders, parents and community members. Columbia Public Schools made this decision based on the low number of positive cases in our community. In fact, the numbers were promising, but according to [Boone County](#), that has changed:

- **On March 17**, CPS announced it was closing the school district.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was less than 1 (0.6).
- **On April 1**, CPS began working on scenarios for the 2020-21 school year.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 3.
- **On May 1**, CPS continued working on scenarios for the 2020-21 school year.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was less than 1 (0.4).
- **On June 8**, CPS Administration made a COVID-19 presentation to the Board of Education.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 6.
- **On June 22**, CPS released its plan for the 2020-21 school year.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 9.
- **On July 1**, CPS incorporated feedback concerning masks and adjusted the language in its plan to make it clear that masks are expected for students and staff.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 11.
- **On July 13**, the Board of Education held its July meeting.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 32.
- **On July 25**, with one month before CPS is scheduled to begin the 2020-21 school year, teams were hard at work writing curriculum and planning for online and in-person instruction.
 - On that day, the 5-day average of positive cases was 28.

Over the last two weeks, families and faculties have asked a number of questions, which have helped the Columbia Public Schools with its work to update to the return plan with additional information. However, we know additional questions remain.

To prepare for the August 4 Board of Education Special Session meeting on Reopening Schools, we'd like to hear from you::

- What is a question you would like answered about the reopening plan?
- Why is that question important to you?

Please share your thoughts via Thought Exchange: <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/272336346>

You may answer the Thought Exchange in English. Or, you are welcome to answer the questions in your language and email your answer to ELdepartment@cpsk12.org, and we will share your response.

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