

In-Person Learning Status Update– August 24, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On August 10, the Board of Education approved a decision-making tool for the 2020-21 school year. This tool, known as the Learning Mode Matrix, uses a 14-Day COVID Tracker to objectively determine which in-person learning model Columbia Public Schools will use. [The Learning Mode Matrix and the 14-Day COVID Tracker can be accessed on the district's website.](#)

School starts on September 8, and families want to know which in-person learning mode Columbia Public Schools will be using. If school were starting today, Columbia Public Schools would be in In-person Hybrid:

In-Person Hybrid: In an effort to observe social distancing recommendations, students enrolled in the in-person option will receive instruction two days a week in person and three days a week online. Students already enrolled in the online programs (CPSElementary@Mizzou and CPS Virtual) will NOT be impacted by this model.

The last five days have been alarming. The individual daily case rates alone would have been at levels that would put Columbia Public Schools in a completely virtual model (note – these are the number of new positive cases in the zip codes that make up the school district's boundary):

August 19 – 55 new cases

August 20 – 58 new cases

August 21 – 74 new cases

August 22 – 72 new cases

August 23 – 40 new cases

Please understand it is still possible that the numbers could change the in-person learning mode again prior to the start of the school year. We are going to continue monitoring the rates and will announce any changes to the in-person learning mode. You can also check the district's website or your child's school website to view the Daily Mode Indicator, which will give you a daily learning mode status update.

Information on your child's assigned group for In-Person Hybrid learning and back-to-school information will be sent to you this week.

We will continue to work with our public health department to make the best decision for the safety of our children, their families, our teachers, and our staff.

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