

February 22, 2021

Dear caregivers,

Thank you for your incredible patience during this year of virtual instruction. We last wrote to you in January when we decided to delay the opening of schools for in-person instruction – for those families who choose that option – until the start of the 4th quarter. We are excited to let you know that we are definitely moving forward with a return to in-person instruction on March 15.

New cases in Fulton County have steadily decreased, and they now stand at less than 50% of the January peak when we decided to remain virtual. Positivity rates are below 10%. And, most importantly, a considerable amount of research shows that in-person schooling has resulted in very few transmissions. With numerous health and safety precautions in place, we are confident we can safely re-open school doors to our wonderful students.

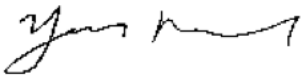
You still have the choice to remain virtual or to return to school for the last quarter of the school year. Below is some important information about how to let us know of your decision:

- If you told us back in January that you wanted to return in-person, you don't have to do anything – we look forward to seeing you in school on March 15!
- If you chose to remain virtual last time, you have the opportunity to make a different decision for the remainder of the year – your school will be reaching out directly in the next two weeks to confirm your preference.
- For those families that choose to remain virtual, we will continue virtual instruction in the same manner we have during the current school year.
- With this decision, you are choosing a learning option through the final nine-week quarter of the school year. The selection you will be making for your child will start on March 15 and run through the end of May. To be clear: if you opt to remain virtual, that decision goes through the end of the school year; you cannot switch to in-person instruction mid-way through the quarter.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and community continues to be our top priority. In preparation for our return to in-person learning, we have adopted a comprehensive COVID-19 safety plan that includes mandatory mask-wearing and social distancing, among many other precautions (your school will have information sessions on specific safety and health practices). APS also provided locations where students, teachers, and staff can get tested (www.atlantapublicschools.us/COVIDTesting).

Thank you again for your ongoing resilience. We are so proud of each and every student who has overcome challenges to stay engaged during virtual learning. We are eager to see students again in the classroom!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yusuf Muhammad', with a stylized, cursive script.

Yusuf Muhammad,
Principal, Carver STEAM