



# *Akron Central School District*

*In Pursuit of Excellence*

*Patrick D. McCabe  
Superintendent of Schools*

January 13, 2021

Dear Families,

The purpose of this correspondence is to provide you with information related to requesting a change in the instructional model for your child, who to contact, and some of the criteria associated with accommodating requests at this point in the school year.

As you know, we have been operating with a hybrid, in-person/remote program while also accommodating students whose families elected a fully remote learning model. In-person class sizes remain capped at a level that is within the maximum number of students permitted by the NYSDOH guidelines. At the same time, critical staffing decisions, teacher/staff assignments, class size, and use of the physical space was determined based on the initial instructional model selection by families.

We understand that changing realities and information during this pandemic may cause families to rethink their child(ren)'s instructional circumstances. However, it is also important that the District ensure any change will not jeopardize the learning experience for students or the ability to employ our established and successful health and safety guidelines. Accordingly, any families wishing for a change in their child(ren)'s learning model are asked to contact the applicable building office by January 19, 2021 to request a change in model for the upcoming marking period.

Key Dates:

- January 19- Parental contact to building/principal
- January 21- Principal notification of program placement
- January 25- MS/HS 3rd quarter period begins
- February 22- ES 3rd trimester period begins

In order to meet the necessary New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) guidelines and provide the current level of programming to our students, it is necessary that programming changes be kept to a minimum as we enter the new semester. Requests for a change in model will be considered where there has been a significant change in circumstances precipitating the request. Even in those cases of significant change, requests must be evaluated in light of class sizes, available space, and the ability to maintain a student's schedule and participation in required courses and electives. Building principals will review individual circumstances and will do their best to approve changes as needed. If approved, the change will become effective at the start of the next marking period and, absent any extenuating circumstance, the switch will be expected to remain in place. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation with this requirement.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 guidance for schools and our ability to meet all learning standards. Classes will remain socially distanced with desks 6 feet apart, wearing masks are required for all, polycarbonate dividers will be utilized in all classes, and bussing is capped at approximately 50% ridership capacity.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience as we continue to navigate the challenges presented this school year.

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