



August 3, 2020

Re: NCDPI Updated Attendance Guidelines for Charter Schools

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\***

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction just issued their guidelines regarding attendance for the 2020-2021 school year.

A significant portion of Sterling's funding and COVID-19-related support will remain based on the **attendance count of our initial 20 days of instruction**. Any "no-show" or withdrawals during this period will have a serious financial and logistical impact on our school. If you have any questions or concerns about joining or returning to Sterling Montessori for the 2020-2021 school year, please contact us immediately.

According to the NCDPI, in order for your student to be accounted for as "present off-site" and attending Sterling Montessori starting August 17, 2020 "a positive two-way communication is required between the student/parent/family and a school official designated by the school. For instance, a documented phone call or Zoom meeting. If an email is used to communicate, the date of the response from the student is considered the date of the initial enrollment. NOTE: An **evidence of work is not sufficient for the initial date of enrollment.**"

Sterling attendance will be done daily and based off of student attendance in morning meetings.

Per [Initial Enrollment and Attendance](#), State Board of Education, Department of Public Instruction), after the initial day of enrollment:

- "Attendance must be taken each day of the school year in PowerSchool for on-site and remote instruction days.
- A student is considered present for the purposes of daily attendance during a remote instruction day and with the exception of the initial enrollment day as described above:
  - **If a student completes their assignments** for each remote instruction day, either online or offline; **and/or**
  - **If a student has a daily check-in**, a two-way communication, with the appropriate teacher(s):
    - In grades K-5, homeroom teacher
    - All other grade levels, each course teacher as scheduled."

We thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions about attendance, please contact [dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:dkimball@sterlingmontessori.org).

Josie Spreher  
Executive Director