

As you may know, Wake County is planning to return to in-person instruction by October 26th. This is fast approaching. In addition, Governor Cooper has now allowed the opportunity for schools to consider a Plan A approach for K-5. For Sterling, there is much to consider and much to do.

In the summer, a great deal of thought and planning went into our move to virtual learning. A transition back to on-campus learning will require the same effort and thoughtfulness.

Our work for this transition will be done while ensuring our current student instruction also remains a priority. Our teachers and staff are dedicated and remain focused on the best for your students. For these reasons, Sterling is working towards the goal of reopening for an on-campus option (K-8th grade) in January, after the winter break, in addition to offering Kindergarten some transition dates that will occur before the end of the year.

Our decision is to allow for a healthy transition time and to provide thorough and proper planning. In our efforts to ensure the quality Sterling education that our students deserve, we are navigating many complexities including a safety and health protocols, unique student and family needs, evolving needs of teacher, governmental requirements, and our commitment to Montessori practices. All of this, while supporting teachers and students during an ongoing school year and daily instruction.

Thank you for your patience during this time.



OUR GRATITUDE

- To our teachers, you are heroes. You have taken on the monumental task of "building a plane while flying it". You have mastered new learning platforms, adapted lessons, and been willing to adjust to new ways of teaching.
- To our students, you are learners. You are learning new ways to connect, new ways to collaborate with your teachers and each other. You are patient and kind and resilient. You are why this work is important and why we show up everyday.
- To our families, you are full of grace. You have partnered with our teachers to learn new platforms, adapted your lifestyle, prepared learning environments and continue to walk with us through this transitional time.

We cannot thank all of you enough!

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Currently - Return To School plan details are in the working draft stage with teachers and administration
- Early October - LHU Special Board Meeting. Transition and on-campus Remote and Hybrid plans will be presented to the LHU Board for review and approval.
- January 2021 - Current target for implementing on campus learning.



PARENT SURVEY: YOUR VOICE

Our parent survey closed on September 21st. We received over 475 responses. We are grateful for this feedback as it is a critical component of our planning and decisions. We learned that while many families are comfortable with a move to a form of in-person learning, many remain uncertain or not comfortable making the change. We will take all this into account as we develop our plans for return.