



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

Engage. Inspire. Prepare.

July 24, 2020

Hello PCSD Community,

We are thrilled to be starting the school year on August 3, 2020, and we are especially pleased to be able to offer parents an instructional choice for their children – either the traditional in-person option, or the online virtual option. A great deal of planning has gone into offering these options, and it could not have been accomplished without your tremendous support and input.

This process has been fluid throughout, and under the extraordinary circumstances that have impacted us all over the last several months we have been ready to adapt as the environment has changed. With that understanding, and because we want to ensure the plans we put in place are working as designed, **we are announcing a modification to the first week’s schedule as follows.**

	MONDAY AUGUST 3	TUESDAY AUGUST 4	WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5	THURSDAY AUGUST 6	FRIDAY AUGUST 7
IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule	Regular Schedule	DIGITAL LEARNING DAY	DIGITAL LEARNING DAY
VIRTUAL ACADEMIES	Orientation	Orientation	Orientation	DIGITAL LEARNING DAY	DIGITAL LEARNING DAY

Students will attend their chosen option for instruction on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, but Thursday and Friday will now be Digital Learning Days where all students participate remotely. School will resume on Monday, August 10th under the regular schedule for both the in-person and virtual options. *This schedule change will not impact the school calendar for the remainder of the school year.*

This first-week schedule modification will allow the district to assess how the new format is working and make adjustments as needed. In-person instruction will truly be a unique experience for students and staff, with significant changes to accommodate social distancing, ensure safe bus transportation and car drop-offs, new procedures for class changes and transitions, meal delivery and consumption (including in classrooms), and adjustments for music, P.E. and gym classes, among many other details. At the same time, in order to implement the Virtual Academies and meet the demand for that instruction, the district will shift approximately 200 teachers across all grade levels. The first three days of instruction under the virtual option will serve as an orientation period for both students and staff.

The Digital Learning Days on Thursday and Friday will give students and parents an opportunity to familiarize themselves with Canvas, logging in, exploring the format and becoming acquainted with the resources available. It also will allow the district to assess technology availability across the district and assist families who may have technology needs.

We apologize if this schedule change causes any inconvenience, but believe it is necessary to ensure the long-term success of our instructional models in this unprecedented time. Thank you for being flexible with us as we all adapt to this “new normal”.