

Date: September 3, 2020

Dear Sunset Ridge, EHMS, EHHS & CIBA Families,

Thank you for your support as we have ReOpened our schools in alignment with Phase I of the [ReOpen EHPS Plan 2.0](#). While we are just over one week into the process, we are pleased with the commitment to safety that we have seen as we have incrementally started our school year. Already, communication levels between teachers, students, and parents promise success as we work to navigate the challenges of our current context.

Adaptation to Reopening Plan: Implementation of an EHPS Reduced Enrollment Hybrid Model:

I am writing to you today to let you know about an adaptation we will need to make to our [ReOpening Plan](#) to continue to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and community. Based on the fact that the current number of families selecting In-Person Learning (IPL) Program has substantially grown over the past week to nearly 80%, our class sizes have exceeded the standards to safely socially distance students at Sunset Ridge, EHMS, EHHS and CIBA. As such, East Hartford Public Schools (EHPS) will implement a hybrid model called the EHPS Reduced Enrollment Model for ALL IPL and Remote Learning Experience (RLE) students, effective Monday, September 14. This Reduced Enrollment Model will allow for more effective social distancing of our IPL students in our hallways, classrooms, buses, and common areas.

As detailed in our original plan, the EHPS Reduced Enrollment model will follow an A-B day on a 10-day rotation. A [calendar for Quarter 1](#) which itemizes each day has been linked to this document for your convenience. All IPL and RLE students will participate in the Reduced Enrollment model, as several teachers provide instruction in both settings. Students will be categorized as an “A Day” or “B Day” students based on the following parameters:

- A Day Students: Students with last names beginning with the letters A-L.
- B Day Students: Students with last names beginning with the letters M-Z.

On their assigned day, IPL students will attend classes at their school. On the alternate day, IPL students will remain home and log into Google Classroom to receive, complete, and submit independent learning assignments from each of their teachers (***Note:** CIBA students will sign into the Google Meet conferencing app to view a live streamed version of their class from home on their alternate day). In a similar manner, on their assigned day, Remote Learning Experience (RLE) Program students will virtually attend classes with “live,” synchronous instruction with their teachers using the Google Meet conferencing app. On the alternate day, RLE students will log into Google Classroom to receive, complete, and submit independent learning assignments from each of their teachers (***Note:** CIBA’s RLE students will sign into the Google Meet conferencing app to view a live streamed version of their class from home every day). Students will have new tasks every day, whether they are learning “live” or “independently,” and teachers will update their Google Classroom pages daily for each class period.

Reduced Enrollment Model Transportation Overview

In the Reduced Enrollment Model, student transportation will be available to all IPL students who are eligible to receive this benefit. Buses will run the same routes, regardless of whether it is an “A Day” or a “B Day.” Students should arrive at their assigned bus stop approximately 15-minutes before their

scheduled pick-up time each morning.

Reduced Enrollment Food Services Overview

EHPS will continue to provide a free breakfast and lunch program to all students who are enrolled in the IPL/RLE Program both on “live instruction” and “independent learning days.” Meal pickup will be offered at the rear of East Hartford High School (EHHS) and will be distributed outside/under tents daily from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Breakfast (for the next day) and lunch will be provided at one time.

Two-Day Orientation Program for In-Person Learners: September 10th and 11th

As planned, our schools will welcome our IPL Program students back to the building for half day orientation sessions on September 10th and 11th. These sessions are designed to provide your child with an orientation to the building’s new health and safety guidelines. In the same format as the Reduced Enrollment Model, IPL students will participate in the orientation on the designated days.

- Thursday, September 10th: A Day Students (Last names begin with the letters A-L)
- Friday, September 11th: B Day Students (Last names that begin with the letters M-Z)

Transportation will be provided for those students who are eligible to receive a bus to and from school. On the day your student is not participating in the orientation session, he/she should log into Google Classroom to receive his/her independent learning assignment from each of their teachers. Students in the Remote Learning Experience (RLE) Program will also be asked to log into Google Classroom to retrieve and submit their independent learning assignments from their teachers on this day.

Please note that this adaptation to the hybrid model is only for children attending Sunset Ridge, EHMS, EHHS, and CIBA. At this time, all other district schools will follow the original five day/week schedule of the EHPS ReOpening Plan. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s counsellor, school principal or my office directly. Thank you for your continued support of East Hartford Public Schools as we seek to return your children safely back to learning.

Sincerely,



Nathan D. Quesnel
Superintendent