



Immediate Release: July 1, 2020

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## Area schools share joint update to the community

Dear Metro Area Families,

On behalf of our school districts, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support throughout this spring and summer as we have experienced the pandemic together. Your unwavering commitment to the children and families in our community as well as our school districts has been tremendous. As we move forward with our Return-to-Learn Plans for the fall, we wanted to send an update to our community:

- Our goal is to bring students back to school as soon as possible.
- Each school district has been required to submit a Return-to-Learn Plan to the Iowa Department of Education by July 1.
- The Return-to-Learn Plans focus on being prepared to deliver instruction and meet all students' needs in three formats: 1) face-to-face instruction, 2) distance learning (including online options), or 3) a hybrid of those two options.
- We will collaborate with Linn County Public Health to support the safety plans and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) recommendations for face-to-face instruction.
- We will keep the safety of our students, families, and staff as a priority in our decision making.

We realize there is much unrest with the “unknown” and that our community would like information as soon as possible about the format in which students will be educated when we return in August. We will communicate with our families and community as soon as possible with those decisions. In the coming weeks, our districts will be sending additional communications with further details to our school districts' stakeholders.

Again, thank you for your continued support of our school districts. Please know that we will continue to collaborate with each other to support our Cedar Rapids/Marion Metro Community.

Sincerely,

Noreen Bush  
Cedar Rapids Community School District  
Superintendent

Douglas Wheeler  
College Community School District  
Superintendent

Janelle Brouwer  
Marion Independent School District  
Superintendent

Shannon Bisgard  
Linn-Mar Community School District  
Superintendent