

August 20, 2020

Dear RSU 25 Families,

Tuesday evening the RSU 25 School Board voted to adopt the fall return to school plans based on the information we received from the recent surveys and the latest guidance from the Maine Department of Education framework for a safe return to school, beginning Tuesday September 8, 2020:

#### **Grades Prek -4**

The students in grades pk-4 will return with in person instruction M-F (level 2) beginning Tuesday September 8th ( Fridays students will be dismissed at 12 noon ). There will also be a dedicated virtual classroom in kindergarten, grades 1/2, and grades 3/4. Students have been assigned to in person or remote classrooms based on parent choice.

#### **Grades 5-12**

Students in grades 5-12 will be returning in a hybrid model (level 3) with cohorts designed alphabetically by last name. The A-J cohort has been designated as the purple cohort and the K-Z cohort has been designated as the Gold cohort.

The purple cohort will attend classes in person on Mondays and Wednesdays and sign into classes remotely on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The gold cohort will attend classes in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays and sign into classes remotely on Mondays and Wednesdays.

On Fridays, both the purple and the gold cohorts will work with their teachers remotely from 8 am - 12 noon.

Students attending HCTC programming will do so in person on the days their assigned cohort will be in person. More information will be shared regarding the HCTC programming schedule.

**Notes on cohorts:** Cohorts will be assigned by student last name; in blended families students living at the same household address will be accommodated in the same cohort. RSU 25 reserves the right to move students to a different cohort based on the district's need to balance particular grade levels. Questions regarding cohorts should be directed to school principals.

Students participating remotely as part of the hybrid model, or who have chosen a full remote program will be expected to participate on a daily basis based on the class schedule.

**Transportation:** Transportation runs are being designed based on parent feedback on the survey and buses will be limited on the number of students they will be able to transport on each run. Students on buses will be assigned to one student per seat, unless they live in the same household. Bus runs and times will be shared in a future communication.

Families will be receiving more information from the building principals.

Sincerely,

Jim Boothby

Superintendent