



July 20, 2020

Dear Canton Local Families,

This letter is to inform you of our Canton Local Schools reset and restart plan for the 2020-21 school year. Based on the current guidelines from Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Education and the Stark County Health Department, we are now able to announce our tentative plan.

Canton Local Schools will be offering two learning formats for students. We will return to school in a traditional format, with appropriate safety measures, five days per week. We strongly believe the traditional school format is the best learning model for most students. The district will also offer an online learning option through the Canton Local Virtual Academy 2020-2021 to families and students who are not able to or choose not to return to the traditional format at this time. Link to more information on the online format can be found at cantonlocal.org. ***If you would like to choose online learning for your student, please complete [the online application form](#) on the district website by Monday, August 3.***

It is important to note the following at this time:

- Canton Local schools are committed to decreasing the likelihood of infection and keeping our community safe through additional hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures. Additional safety precautions will be included in our plan. Please understand that our schools are a public place, and a certain level of risk cannot be eliminated.
- The school district, in cooperation with the Stark County Health Department, could elect, at any time, to return to district-wide remote learning if cases within the school (or county) begin to escalate to a severe risk level.

Juniors and seniors who are enrolled in a South Stark Career Academy Career Technical education (CTE) program in the 2020-21 school year are REQUIRED to attend the CTE program and any related academic courses in person at the school where the program is housed. The knowledge, skills, and hands-on learning experiences in our CTE programs are not able to be adequately substituted by virtual options. If your family would have selected full-time virtual learning without this requirement, you may be able to take your other core classes using your home district's remote learning plan. Any mid-day transportation that is not part of the traditional busing plan will be the responsibility of the family.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the board of education office at 330-484-8010 or contact your child's school administrator or office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Milano".

Steve Milano
Superintendent



Canton Local Schools Reset and Restart Plans 2020-2021 School Year

Please understand that details are subject to change at any time. However, at this time our goal is to share information to help families plan for the upcoming school year.

- The school district will follow the adopted school calendar, which can be found on the district website.
- In high use areas and high touch areas, a daily cleaning schedule and protocols will be followed. This includes buses, cafeterias, restrooms, classrooms- all areas used throughout the school day.
- **Parents are expected to perform a health check each morning** to ensure an appropriate temperature (below 100 degrees) and the child is feeling well and not exhibiting any CDC COVID-19 symptoms before they get on a school bus or are dropped off at school. If a student is exhibiting any symptoms, they are not to attend school until they are symptom-free, without medication, as defined by CDC (*below*).
 - Parents are expected to let the school know if your child(ren) has been diagnosed with or has come in close contact with COVID-19.
- Students should plan on attending school full days, with the following safety protocols and adjustments in place:
 - **Transportation:** Face coverings will be required for all students, grades PreK-12, on bus transportation.
 - **Buildings:** All students PreK-12 will be required to wear face coverings while inside all buildings. Face covering breaks may be given throughout the day.
 - **Social Distancing:** All classrooms will plan to maximize the greatest possible social distancing.
 - **Cafeteria:** Breakfast/Lunch periods and seating will be altered to allow for spacing. In some cases, areas other than the cafeteria may be used. Classrooms may be used in some cases. We strongly encourage parents to lessen the use of cash as much as possible. Food service will follow guidelines such as touchless serving lines, individual packaging of condiments, etc., and spacing in serving lines.
 - **Drinking fountains** will be closed. Students may bring their own water bottles. There will be bottle fillers in all the buildings.
 - **Arrival and dismissal** procedures may be refined to avoid congestion in any one area.
 - **Recess** may be altered so playground areas are utilized safely and with fewer students at one time.
 - **Transitions** (between classrooms, going to the restroom, etc.) may be scheduled as to avoid congestion in the halls and crossover with groups of students. Throughout the buildings, directional arrows and signage may be utilized.
 - **Frequent handwashing** will be part of the daily routine. Hand sanitizer will be readily available in all areas.
 - **Visitor and volunteer** access to a building will be limited.



- Furthermore, expect additional guidance on the following:
 - Reporting requirements in the event positive cases are identified among a staff member or a student. Protocols are in place with local health departments for contact tracing, quarantine and return-to-school guidelines.
- Lastly, we will be sharing information on the following in the coming weeks:
 - Details about open houses and orientations.
 - FAQ about the start of school – detailing items outlined above.

COVID-19 Symptoms

Help prevent the spread of COVID-19

You may have COVID-19 if you experience one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- Loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.

Symptoms range from mild to severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.