



February 5, 2021

Good Evening Upper Darby School District Families:

This is Dr. Daniel McGarry, Superintendent of Schools, reaching out to you with another update regarding our plans to reopen schools. As I stated in an earlier communication, it is our intent to provide notification to families as close to two (2) weeks in advance as possible. My team and I held a Districtwide Reopening of Schools update meeting with teachers and staff last Friday to review our plan, and we wanted to communicate those updates with you at this time. I want to thank our teachers and staff for their commitment and hard work during the pandemic. It truly takes a team to accomplish everything we have been able to during this pandemic. I am thankful to you, parents and families, for remaining engaged with the District and for your support throughout this pandemic as well.

Our goal remains the same: To bring back as many grade levels and students as possible in the cohort/flexible/in-person instruction model while still providing the option for virtual learning for parents who do not feel comfortable transitioning their students back into buildings at this time. Thus far, we have successfully transitioned our students in grades K-3 and low-incidence programs (Autistic Support, Multi-Disabilities, and Life Skills) back on January 19th for in-person instruction at 6ft. We are grateful that our staff and administration are equally dedicated to our efforts to expand in-person opportunities for more grade spans. **As a result, we have decided to expand in-person instruction to Grades 4 and 5 with a return date of March 1st. We will continue to expand to other grade levels on March 22nd. On March 22, we will transition our 6th grade students back for in-person instruction in cohorts as well as our 12th grade students.**

We will continue to monitor positivity and community transmission rates as we make decisions about bringing back additional grades. We will also continue to communicate

any updates to our plan as close to two (2) weeks as possible to allow you and your family as much planning time as we can.

Please find below a timeline of our next steps in our reopening plan. Also find linked in this document the following:

[UDSD Daily Symptom Screening Tool](#) - This tool is meant to help families determine whether or not students should attend school each day and to help families identify when a child is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Please reference it regularly.

As always, our priority is to provide all of our students with the safest, most engaging educational experience possible. Please remain vigilant in your safety efforts and encourage your child to maintain social distancing, to wash hands, and to wear his/her mask. We intend to continue to support students as they adjust to their in-person return and students who are continuing in virtual learning. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through our plans to return students to our schools for in-person instruction.

Thank you and have a good evening.

Dates	Event
Monday, March 1, 2021	Students in Grades 4 and 5 return for cohort/flexible/in-person instruction
Monday, March 22, 2021	Students in Grades 6 and 12 return for cohort/flexible/in-person instruction

Cohort/flexible/in-person instruction will continue for the following students:

- Grades K-3
- K-12 Low Incidence Programs in Autistic Support, Life Skills Support and Multi-Disability Support return for cohort/flexible/in-person instruction

Virtual/at-home learning remains an option for parents who do not feel comfortable transitioning their students back into buildings at this time.