



## EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN AND HEALTH SERVICES

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2930 Airways Blvd • Memphis, TN 38116 • (901) 416-5600 • Fax (901) 416-7634

November 5, 2020

Greetings Parents of Students with Disabilities,

On Monday, October 19, 2020, Superintendent Ray discussed a proposed plan to return to in-person learning in January during the Academic Performance Committee. Be assured, the safety of our students, staff and families continues to be our highest priority in every decision we make. We will continue to follow the Health Department's guidelines and we are confident in the steps we've taken to make our schools safe for learning. We are collaborating with the City of Memphis to provide optional nasal swab testing for students and teachers as they return. Also, we must remember that each of the dates listed is contingent on favorable health data and positive experiences in the steps that precede it.

As part of the proposed reentry plan, all students with disabilities will have an in person learning option that mirrors their general education peers. On Monday, January 4, 2021, in person learning will be available for all students, including students with disabilities in grades PreK-5. Beginning Tuesday, January 19, 2021, in person learning will be available for all students in grades 6-12, including students with disabilities. The decision for students with disabilities to return to school with their grade bands did not come without consideration of special factors and feedback from various stakeholders. In summary, all students with disabilities, including those in self-contained classrooms will return to school along with their peers in the same grade bands: grades preK-5 (January 4, 2021) and grades 6-12 (January 19, 2021).

Regardless of the learning option (in person or virtual) selected for your child, rest assured that direct and related services (occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy) will be implemented. For those students who are attending in person, nursing services will be available and students attending virtually will continue to receive their wellness checks as noted in their IEP. As a parent, your right to request an IEP meeting remains whether your child is receiving instruction virtually or in person.

Thank you for your support and patience as we strive to provide flexible high-quality learning options for students with disabilities. Click [here](#) to access important information to support student learning and success in school.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's special education teacher or call the Department of Exceptional Children and Health Services at (901) 416-5600.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Celia Moore

Executive Director  
Exceptional Children and Health Services



## Key Points for Reentry of Students with Disabilities

- As part of the proposed reentry plan, all Students with Disabilities (SWD) will have an in person learning option that mirrors their general education peers. On Monday, January 4, 2021, in person learning will be available for all students, including students with disabilities in grades PreK-5.
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- The decision for students with disabilities to return to school with their grade bands did not come without consideration of special factors and feedback from various stakeholders.
- In summary, all students with disabilities including those in self-contained classrooms will return to school along with their peers in the same grade bands: grades preK-5 (January 4, 2021) and grades 6-12 (January 19, 2021).
- Parents of SWD will continue to have the option for their children to receive virtual instruction.
- Transportation will be provided for students as indicated in their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).
- Direct and related services (occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy) will be implemented per the IEP.
- For those students who are attending in person, nursing services will be available and students attending virtually will continue to receive their wellness checks as noted in their IEP.
- As a parent, your right to request an IEP meeting remains whether your child is receiving instruction virtually or in person.
- Click [here](#) to access important information to support student learning and success in school.
- Parents are encouraged to contact their child's special education teacher or call the Department of Exceptional Children and Health Services at (901) 416-5600.