

August 4, 2020

Hello LES Community Families,

What a beginning! Thank you for all of the support I have received in my entering the principal role at Leverett Elementary School. I am very lucky to participate in such a thoughtful and caring community. In order for us to get to know each other, I am hosting the first Coffee with the Principal on Friday, August 7 from 9:30 - 10:15. This will be our first opportunity to introduce ourselves and get to know each other. Please feel free to come and say hello even if you cannot stay or must come late. Coffee with the Principal will be held on the first Friday of the month from 9:30 - 10:15 throughout the academic year. The access information is as follows:

Meeting ID

[meet.google.com/fcw-ohje-kqn](https://meet.google.com/fcw-ohje-kqn)

Phone Numbers

[\(US\)+1 949-445-1097](tel:+19494451097)

PIN: 592 720 938#

As some of you already know, the School Committee voted last night on our opening model.

Leverett Elementary School School Committee approved the Hybrid Plan Option 1: Phased In Approach (please see [SC FY21 Opening Decision](#) for details.) The first six (6) weeks of school will be remote learning for all students. The first day of school (remote) for students is September 16, 2020. When students are phased in, students will be in “pods” of no more than 10 and with a physical distance of six (6) feet. Masks will be required for all students.

Now that we have a sense of what our Fall model will look like, we can finally spend the required time really training and planning for that time. The Leadership Team are in the initial stages of collaborating on a share out to families for what they can expect for the next year. I will keep you posted as soon as we have more information on when that will be.

School Committee also voted to suspend the in-person Preschool program for the next school year. Please note that this decision was very difficult, and I very much intend to keep the Preschool experience a part of the LES community. We are in the initial stages of developing an optional virtual experience for preschool-age children in hopes to keep these families engaged in and connected to the LES community. More information on this will be forthcoming.

I am aware that many of us have different feelings about our reopening, and I support and value all of those feelings as valid. This is a crazy time and there really are no right answers. I am hoping that the choice to move forward with this model at least affords us the ability to start planning for content delivery in the Fall confident in the space in which it will occur. There are still many questions, and I certainly don't have all the answers. While there are of course many lingering concerns, I am confident that we can move forward with this new information and create something awesome for our students.

Thank you for your commitment to the LES community. I truly appreciate how much effort and emotion you devote to this work, especially now.

Hope to see you all on Friday morning.

Talk soon,  
Annie (and Superintendent Culkeen)