



Mayfield City Schools

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

October 16, 2020

Dear Mayfield Families and Teachers,

As you may be aware, the Ohio Department of Health on October 15th moved Cuyahoga County from a Level 2 orange zone to a Level 3 red zone as part of its Public Health Advisory Alert System.

At this time, Mayfield City Schools will continue to provide in-person and remote learning options for our students.

As I have stated throughout our Return to Learn communications, there is no hard and fast threshold for a decision to revert to full remote learning. The “red” designation is but one indicator that I consider in making the decision to remain in school with a remote option or, if conditions warrant, close the schools down.

I have taken into account the following, when making the decision to continue to offer in-person and remote learning options at this time:

- As reported on the Mayfield City Schools COVID-19 dashboard, we had 20 positive cases through August 31, prior to the start of school. Since we returned to in-person learning on September 21, we have had 7 positive cases.
- None of our positive cases have been traced back to originating in school.
- At this time, our safety protocols and practices are proving effective as evidenced by the fact that none of our positive cases have originated in school. We continue to work with the County Board of Health on all cases and use their guidance on contact tracing methods and quarantining decisions.
- Recently - experts are finding that schools are not the super spreader once thought. *The Atlantic* reported Oct. 9 in an article titled, [Schools Aren't Super Spreaders](https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/10/schools-arent-superspreaders/616669/) “schools do not, in fact, appear to be major spreaders of COVID-19.”<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/10/schools-arent-superspreaders/616669/>
- The overall county data does not necessarily reflect the pandemic trends of the communities in our area.
- There is a growing body of evidence suggesting the importance of being in school as it relates to social and emotional well-being.

- The Governor has not closed schools as he did in March. For now, that decision resides with local school boards and superintendents.
- We will continue to closely monitor the local, county and state pandemic trend data. A decision to shift back into full remote is always an option, but not required at this time.

I want to stress this point, if you are not comfortable sending your child to school, we offer well developed, organized, technology-based remote learning options and academic plans for all K-12 students that will allow your child to continue to advance through the school year. If you would like to move your child from in-person to remote online learning, please contact your principal.

As we have from the beginning of the pandemic, we will continue to share updated data as it becomes available. We remain Mayfield, together.

Sincerely,
Keith Kelly
Superintendent