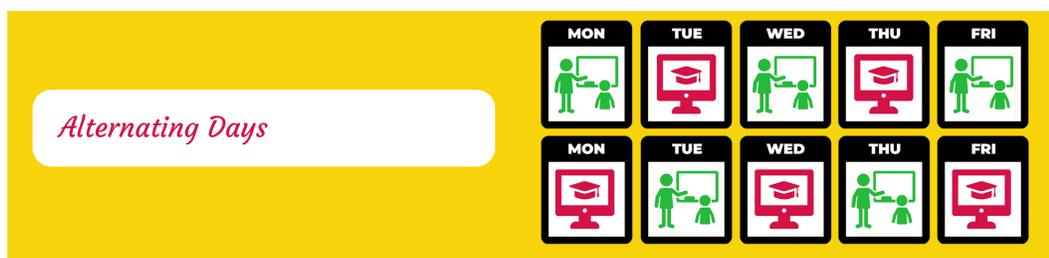


Sept. 9, 2020

Dear PPSD Families of Middle and High School Students,

Last week, we announced that the school district would begin the school year following a partial reopening model. Under a partial reopening, Providence Public Schools will phase in an alternating schedule for middle and high school students over the first month of school. We chose this model to keep building capacity to no more than 50 percent and to maximize the days of in-person learning for every student.

Here’s how an alternating schedule works: Students will be divided into two groups—Group A and Group B. Group A will attend school in person on a Monday. Group B will attend school remotely on that same Monday.



On Tuesday, the groups will switch. Group B will attend school in person and Group A will attend remotely. It will alternate back and forth like this for two weeks, then start again, with Group A attending in person and Group B attending remotely.

We made sure that siblings were always in the same group, so families would not have to contend with different schedules.

Because we want to ease everybody into this new schedule—and the new routines that come with a partial reopening of schools—we are staggering the in-person start dates for different grades.

	Sept. 14	Sept. 29	Oct. 13
6	Alternating Days	Alternating Days	Alternating Days
7	Distance Learning	Alternating Days	Alternating Days
8	Distance Learning	Distance Learning	Alternating Days
9	Alternating Days	Alternating Days	Alternating Days
10	Distance Learning	Alternating Days	Alternating Days
11 - 12	Distance Learning	Distance Learning	Alternating Days

Grades 6 and 9

On Monday, Sept. 14, sixth and ninth graders will start the school year on an alternating schedule. Students will be divided into two groups—Group A and Group B. Group A will attend school in person on Monday, Sept. 14. Group B will attend school remotely on Sept. 14. On Tuesday, Sept. 15, the groups will switch. Group B will attend school in person and Group A will attend remotely. It will continue to alternate for the full two weeks before the cycle starts again.

Grades 7 and 10

On Monday, Sept. 14, all seventh and tenth graders will start the school year with two weeks of distance learning exclusively. It is important that students have access to a Chromebook or other computer, as well as access to the internet, to start the school year. Please connect with your school as soon as possible if you lack needed technology.

On Tuesday, Sept. 29, seventh and tenth graders in Group A will report for in-person learning, while seventh and tenth graders in Group B will attend remotely. On Wednesday, Sept. 30, the groups will switch. Group B will report for in-person learning and Group A will attend school remotely.

Grades 8, 11 and 12

On Monday, Sept. 14, all eighth, eleventh and twelfth graders will start the school year with four weeks of distance learning exclusively. It is important that students have access to a Chromebook or other computer, as well as access to the internet, to start the school year. Please connect with your school as soon as possible if you lack needed technology.

On Tuesday, Oct. 13, eighth, eleventh and twelfth graders in Group A will report for in-person learning, while all eighth, eleventh and twelfth graders in Group B will attend remotely. On Wednesday, Oct. 14, the groups will switch. Group B will report for in-person learning and Group A will attend school remotely.

Multilingual Learners and Students with Special Needs

Certain but not all multilingual learners and students with special needs will attend every day and will not follow an alternating schedule. They will also start their fully in-person schedule on the first day of school, Monday, Sept. 14.

What group am I in?

To find out your group, you need to log into the Skyward Family Portal. You can access it by visiting our website, providenceschools.org, and clicking on the Skyward icon in the upper right of the homepage. If you do not remember your Skyward log-in information, please email skyward@ppsd.org.

If you are a sixth or a ninth grader and you log into Skyward today, you will see one of three options: A, B or A+B. The first two options are pretty self-explanatory. A+B is for students with particular education requirements that require them to attend in-person learning every day.

If you are in any other grade and you log into Skyward today, you will see either A+B or R. If you see A+B, that means you have particular education requirements that require you to attend in-person learning every day, starting Sept. 14. If you see an R for “remote,” you are not supposed to report in person yet.

For seventh and tenth graders, that R code will change to an A or B right before the end of your two weeks of distance learning.

For eighth, eleventh and twelfth graders, that R code will change to an A or a B right before the end of your four weeks of distance learning.

To recap: On Sept 14, students with an A or an A+B code report to school. Everybody else follows distance learning for that day. We will update Skyward when you are almost ready to transition to an alternating schedule.

Both the school and the district will communicate regularly to each group about which day will be in-person learning and which will be distance learning.

We look forward to a great school year with our students. We have missed you and can't wait to see you.

Sincerely,

The PPSD Middle and High School Team