

Dear Merrimack Families~

On March 15th, all schools serving Merrimack students in grades K-4 (**Thorntons Ferry School, Reeds Ferry School, Masticola Elementary School**) opened to five day a week in-person learning to those electing that option.

On March 30th at a special meeting of the Merrimack School Board, district administration presented its plan for the reopening of grades 5-12 to five day a week **in-school** learning for those wishing to elect that option. In the plan as presented, the district proposed May 3rd as the start date. The board adjusted this date for 5th and 6th grade to April 19th.

On April 1st, Governor Sununu issued an executive order **requiring all schools** in New Hampshire to offer five day a week in-person learning beginning April 19th. As a result, I am writing to clarify what this means for students in grades 5-12:

ALL schools serving Merrimack students in grades 5-12 (Masticola Upper Elementary School, Merrimack Middle School, Merrimack High School) will be open to five day a week in-person learning for those electing that option on April 19th, 2021, per the governor's order.

There remain many questions that were not addressed in the governor's order or in subsequent communications. At this time, we unfortunately cannot provide answers to some of those questions but will certainly do so as soon as we get them, particularly around matters of choice for parents and students electing to remain in the concurrent learning model, an option that remains part of our original plan.

As always, please reach out to your individual school or schools with questions.

Stay well.

Mark McLaughlin
Superintendent