

Dear ECASD Families,

I am writing to provide you with an update as we continue to address important issues related to the start of the 2020-21 school year. This message focuses on learning cohorts for in-person instruction, along with more information on the virtual learning platforms we will use moving forward.

Earlier this week, we sent out information on how cohorts will look this school year. If you did not receive this information, please contact your child's school office as soon as possible.

Our teachers are returning to work on Monday. They are excited to continue their preparations and welcome back students on September 1. In the meantime, our staff will take part in a full week of workshops that include professional development, collaboration time among grade levels and subject areas, and updates on the processes we are implementing to minimize risks in our buildings.

When it comes to online learning, we will use the Seesaw platform for grades K-2 and Canvas for grades 3-12. Both platforms allow students to access their assignments, links to videos, extra resources, and quizzes and other assessments. Students can also chat and email with their teachers.

Finally, we will be using Microsoft Teams to allow students and teachers to connect virtually with one another. Teams can be used for whole-group lessons, small-group projects, partner work, and one-on-one conferences with teachers. This will provide a more personal experience for students learning online, while allowing students to receive extra help as needed.

For more information on our 100% virtual option, [please visit this link](#).

Once again, we sincerely appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we take the steps necessary to protect students and staff this school year. Please continue to check our [COVID-19 webpage](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document for further information and updates.

Sincerely,

Michael Johnson, Superintendent
Eau Claire Area School District