

Reopening Dates in the Great City School Districts
Compiled by the
Council of the Great City Schools

October 27, 2020

Districts that have not reopened for in-person learning

Albuquerque Public Schools –Will continue with remote learning at least through the first semester, which ends Dec. 18. <https://www.aps.edu/schools/reentry-plan>

Anchorage School District –Started virtually Aug. 20 and will begin in-person for all Pre-K through Grade 2 students Nov. 16. Students will return to classrooms five days a week, face masks will be required and the school day will be an hour shorter than normal.

Atlanta Public Schools – The district opened 100% online on Aug. 24 and will not resume in-person classes until at least January, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases. <https://www.atlantapublicschools.us/cms/lib/GA01000924/Centricity/Domain/25/APS%20FAQs%20on%20Reopening%20August%205%202020.pdf>

Baltimore City Public Schools – Started the school year on Sept. 8 virtually and will begin in-person learning in November for students in pre-K, kindergarten special education and those experiencing homelessness. The district also will bring back students who are showing up less than 20% of the time for online lessons. About 15% of schools will reopen in November. <https://www.baltimorecityschools.org/reopening-plan-letter>

Birmingham City Schools – Schools opened on Aug. 24 100% remote and will remain virtual for at least the first nine weeks of the year.

Boston Public Schools- Due to a rising COVID-19 infection rate in the city, and in support of efforts to contain the spread, all students will shift to remote learning effective October 22. The city’s seven-day average COVID-19 positive test rate was reported at 5.7%, an increase from last week’s rate of 4.5%. Students will remain in remote learning until there are two full weeks of falling infection rates. <https://www.bostonpublicschools.org/reopening>

Buffalo Public Schools- School began with a 100% remote learning model on Sept. 8 and four to six weeks following opening day, the school district will determine next steps.

Chicago Public Schools - The district began the school year with at-home learning on Sept 8 and is committed to remote learning through the first quarter, which ends November 5.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1rEjeaQwG98DhUkmCZfoR5DJhV92fRJ3HMx6TSOulvg0/preview>

Clark County School District – Schools reopened with full virtual learning on Aug. 24 and the school board may vote on reopening schools for in-person learning Oct. 22.

<https://ccsd.net/schools/back-to-school/index.php>

Cleveland Metropolitan School District – Started the school year 100% online on Sept. 8 and will remain in a remote learning environment up to Winter Break, beginning December 21. <https://www.clevelandmetroschools.org/Page/16535>

Columbus City Schools – Started the year with 100% virtual learning starting on Sept. 8 and will remain in a remote learning environment through the end of the first semester, January 15, 2021. Will bring in small, specific student groups who require in-person instruction beginning next month, such as Career and Technical Education students and special education students with specific complex needs in grades Pre-K to 12.

<https://www.ccsch.us/reopening>

District of Columbia Public Schools – Started the school year Aug. 31 with all students learning from home and for Term 2, which begins on November 9, plans to reopen elementary schools.

<https://dcpsreopenstrong.com/>

El Paso Independent School District - The district started the school year virtually on Aug. 17 and in-person instruction will resume on Nov. 6, for identified students in special-education programs, grades pre-kinder through second, as well as sixth-graders and high-school freshmen. All remaining students who opted for in-person instruction would return to campus the week of Nov. 9.

<https://www.episd.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=4&ModuleInstanceID=101&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=36265&PageID=1>

Dayton Public Schools – Started the first nine weeks of the year 100% online on Sept. 8 and will transition from virtual learning to a hybrid model of in-person classes and virtual learning beginning November 9. This hybrid model will involve two (2) days of in-person learning and three (3) days of virtual learning.

<https://www.dpsrestart.com/>

Fresno Unified School District – Started the school year Aug. 17 100% online and will wait for the county to be removed from the State COVID-19 watch list for 14 consecutive days before reopening in-person.

<https://www.fresnounified.org/Pages/covid19.aspx#.XyR-MihKiU>

Guilford County Schools – Started school on Aug. 17 with virtual instruction. Following the advice of health officials, students in pre-kindergarten through second grade, who

were set to return on Oct. 20, will now be considered on Friday, Oct. 23 for a potential return on Monday, Oct. 26. Other grade levels will be phased in using this same process. <https://www.gcsnc.com/Domain/18867>

Hawaii Department of Education-Schools opened Aug. 17 with full distance learning models and will not return to a full in-person learning model until after winter break.

Jackson Public Schools – Schools opened Aug. 17 with a 100% virtual learning model and will remain virtual for the entire fall semester.

Jefferson County Public Schools – Began the school year Aug. 25 with Non-Traditional Instruction (100% online learning) and a date has not been set at this time for students to return to in-person learning. The decision to reopen school buildings will be based on data, consultation with local health officials and a thorough review of the number of COVID-19 cases in the city. <https://www.jefferson.kyschools.us/preparing-for-start-school>

Kansas City Public Schools – Started the 2020-2021 school year completely online on Sept 8 and due to increasing positivity rates in the community will not be returning to in-person learning in a hybrid model for PreK-Grade 3 students on Nov. 9 as originally planned. However, the district will have almost 200 Special Education students who need additional support return to in-person learning on Nov. 9. <https://www.kcpublicschools.org/reopening-kcps/re-entry-plan>

Long Beach Unified School District – Started the school year Sept. 1 will all classes online and will continue offering most of its instruction and related services online through the fall semester, which ends Jan. 28. <https://lbschools.net/Departments/Newsroom/article.cfm?articleID=2892>

Los Angeles Unified School District – Schools started Aug. 18 100% online and will remain until it is safe to open school buildings to allow students to return for in-person learning. <https://achieve.lausd.net/latestnews>

Milwaukee Public Schools – Opened schools on Sept. 1 with 100% online learning. <https://mymps.org/>

Minneapolis Public Schools - The district began the school year on Sept. 1 with 100% virtual learning. <https://b2s.mpls.k12.mn.us/Home>

Newark Public Schools – Schools opened Sept. 8 with remote instruction and will continue to operate remotely for all students until January 25.

Norfolk Public Schools – Reopened schools on Sept. 8 virtually for the fall. https://www.npsk12.com/cms/lib/VA02208074/Centricity/Domain/4/NPS%20Press%20Release_SB%20Votes%20on%20Reopen%20Plan_072220.pdf

Oakland Unified School District – Reopened schools Aug. 10 100% online until the county has been off the COVID-19 watch list for 14 consecutive days. Only then will another option be considered. <https://www.ousd.org/startingstrong>

School District of Philadelphia- The School District will begin offering families the option to transition to a mix of in-person and digital remote learning (hybrid learning) for students, but only if the Philadelphia Health Department and its school readiness efforts support it is safe to do so. This learning option will roll out to families slowly and in-phases, starting with PreK through second grade and is tentatively scheduled for the week of November, 30.

<https://www.philasd.org/coronavirus/schoolstart2020/>

Pittsburgh Public Schools- Began the 2020-2021 school year online Sept. 8 and will return to in-person learning November 9.

Portland Public Schools – Schools opened Sept. 2 virtually and will remain virtual through the second quarter, which ends January 28.

<https://www.pps.net/fall2020>

Richmond Public Schools – Schools reopened virtually on Sept. 8.

<https://www.rvaschools.net/reopenwithlove>

Rochester City School District – Schools opened on Sept. 14 under a remote learning model.

<https://www.rcsdk12.org/reopens>

Sacramento City Unified School District – The district began the school year 100% online on Sept 3. <https://www.scusd.edu/e-connections-post/return-together-update-scusd-distance-learning-plan-and-new-webpage>

San Diego Unified School District – Students began the school year Aug. 31 in a distance learning format and the district will adopt strict new standards to reopen schools developed in consultation with top experts on multiple aspects of the pandemic from the University of California, San Diego.

San Francisco Unified School District – Began the school year on Aug. 17 with 100% distance learning. <https://www.sfusd.edu/services/health-wellness/covid-19-coronavirus-resources-families-students/august-2020-fall-semester-learning-plans/phase-1-distance-learning-all>

Santa Ana Unified School District – Began the school year on Aug. 17 completely online. <https://www.sausd.us/cms/lib/CA01000471/Centricity/ModuleInstance/6157/Supt.%20letter%20to%20all%20parents%20-%20first%20day%20of%20school%202020-21.pdf>

Seattle Public Schools- The district began the school year remotely for students in preschool through 12th grade.

Shelby County Schools – Began the school year Aug. 31 on a fully virtual learning model and is planning for grades Pre-K- 5 and students with exceptional needs to return first in early January. Grades 6-12 would return in mid-January.

<http://www.scsk12.org/safeplan/>

St. Paul Public Schools – Started the school year on Sept. 8 in distance learning for all students and began hybrid learning for Stage 1 students such as those in special education programs on Monday, Oct. 19. On Nov. 16 the district is scheduled to begin hybrid learning for Stage 2 students.

- All PreK-2 including special education
- Montessori E1
- Early Childhood Special Education Program
- Birth-PreK Special Education Program
- Federal III K-12 Autism
- DCD Specialized Classrooms

<https://www.spps.org/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&DomainID=16668&ModuleInstanceID=125552&ViewID=6446EE88-D30C-497E-9316-3F8874B3E108&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=112503&PageID=39690>

Stockton Unified School District – Began the school year with full Distance Learning.

<https://www.stocktonusd.net/cms/lib/CA01902791/Centricity/ModuleInstance/19869/7.13%20Announcement%20to%20Staff%20Regarding%20Fall%202020.pdf>

Toledo Public Schools – Reopened schools on Sept. 8 100% remotely.

<https://www.tps.org/reopen>

Tulsa Public Schools- The school year began Aug. 31 with distance learning. Elementary students will return to in-person classes in November. These students will attend classes at their schools on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Friday and Wednesdays will be distance learning days. Students in junior high, middle, and high schools will remain in distance learning through the end of the calendar year and return to in-person learning on Monday, Jan. 4.

<https://www.tulaschools.org/student-and-family-support/distance-learning>

Districts that have reopened for in-person learning

Arlington Independent School District – Resumed in-person instruction using a hybrid model from September 28 – October 9 and then re-opened campuses for elementary and junior high students for in-person instruction on Oct. 13.

<https://www.aisd.net/return-to-school-2020/>

Aurora Public Schools – Grades K-8 began in-person on Oct. 12 and high school students will begin in-person learning Nov. 13. In order to implement a hybrid model, schools divided their students into two groups. One group attends school in-person on designated “A” weeks (Monday-Thursday). The other group will attend school in person on designated “B” weeks (Monday-Thursday). Fridays will remain remote learning days districtwide. <https://aurorak12.org/back2school/>

Austin Independent School District- Schools opened on Sept. 8 with four weeks of remote learning and on-campus learning on Oct. 5. Students will be phased-in during the second four weeks.

Bridgeport Public Schools – The district reopened schools Sept. 8 for in person learning with elementary/middle schools operating under a full day schedule and high schools operating under a hybrid schedule. In order to increase mitigation strategies during the fall and winter months, the district will now move to a hybrid schedule for all schools beginning November 30. They are planning to run the hybrid schedule until February 16, 2021. The hybrid schedule will be as follows: • All students with the last name beginning in the letters A-L will attend Monday and Tuesday • All students with the last name beginning in the letters M-Z will attend Thursday and Friday • All students will be on remote learning on Wednesday.
<https://www.bridgeportedu.net/Page/15696>

Broward County Public Schools – Schools started 100 % virtual on Aug. 19 and welcomed students for in-person learning on Oct. 9.
<https://becon.eduvision.tv/directplayer.aspx?q=3SfVi13wT7SULLzBUmNHinfJBhsJkHGh7orwU%252f0YSf3WOC50cfs%252fA%253d%253d>

Charleston County School District – The district opened September 8 with both in-person and at-home/remote learning. Since that time, additional wait-listed students have returned to in-person, and currently around 55% of the district’s students are attending in-person five days a week.
<https://www.ccsdschools.com/cms/lib/SC50000504/Centricity/ModuleInstance/488/Safe%20Restart%20Plan%20Implementation%20Guide%208.26.20.docx.pdf>

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools –Pre-K students returned to in-person learning on Oct. 12, elementary school students will return on November 2, middle school students will return on November 23 and high school students will return on January 5. Elementary students will attend classes in-person twice a week every week. K-5 grade students will be split into two groups and Group A will attend in-person classes on Monday and Tuesday, while Group B will attend in-person classes on Thursday and Friday. All students will learn from home on Wednesdays. Students in grades 6-12 will be split into three groups with one week of in-person learning followed by two weeks of virtual learning. <https://www.cms.k12.nc.us/backtoschool/Pages/default.aspx>

Cincinnati Public Schools - Schools reopened for in-person learning on Oct. 12. The district phased in Group A and Group B for Blended Learning determining which days a child comes to school for in-person learning and which days the child studies at home. <https://www.cps-k12.org/news/backtoschool>

Dallas Independent School District – Schools opened on Sept. 8 with 100% distance learning and opened for in-person learning on Oct. 5. According to district officials, 53% of students returned to classrooms.

Denver Public Schools – Elementary schools opened the week of Oct. 19 and middle and high schools will not open for in-person and will continue in remote learning for most students for at least three weeks into the second quarter, through Friday, Nov. 6.

Des Moines Public Schools - Students provided with two options, fully virtually or participate in a hybrid learning model. The current plan is to begin the hybrid learning model on the following dates:

- October 12: PreK
- October 19: Elementary Schools (grades K-5)
- October 26: Middle Schools (grades 6-8)
- November 10: High Schools (grades 9-12)

In a hybrid learning model, students attend school for face-to-face instruction on a rotating schedule to reduce the number of students in a building on a given day. Students will attend in-person classes 2-3 days each week, with virtual learning on days that aren't in person.

<https://www.dmschools.org/hybrid-virtual-learning-options-for-dmps-students-families/key-hybrid-learning-dates>

Detroit Public Schools Community District – The first day of school was Sept. 8 and the district offered students face-to-face learning as well as the opportunity to take classes virtually. Most schools will operate below 50% capacity based on the face to face or online learning option. This will mean much smaller class sizes and groups of students in schools and in areas such as cafeterias or auditoriums.

<https://www.detroitk12.org/cms/lib/MI50000060/Centricity/ModuleInstance/24221/DPSCD%20Reopening%20Plan%20F2F%20Learning%20FAQ%20Updated.pdf>

Duval County Public Schools –The district reopened its schools for in-person instruction on August 20. Elementary students attended class daily while middle school and high school students began on a hybrid “bridge” schedule, attending school part of the week and learning from home on the other days. The district transitioned everyone fully in-person by September 17. <https://dcps.duvalschools.org/domain/11723>

Fort Worth Independent School District- The district started school Sept. 8 with virtual instruction and reopened schools for in-person instruction on Oct.

5. <https://www.fwisd.org/Page/24281>

Hillsborough County Public Schools – Schools opened with in-person learning on August 31.

Houston Independent School District – Schools began on Sept. 8 with virtual instruction and face-to-face instruction on campuses began on Monday, Oct. 19.

<https://www.houstonisd.org/reopening>

Indianapolis Public Schools – Schools opened Aug. 17 with full-time remote learning and on Oct. 5 began its phased-in approach to in-person learning.

Week of Oct. 5: Grades Pre-K – 3 return to full-time [in-person learning](#) and Grades 4-12 continue with full-time remote learning. **Oct. 12:** all grades participate in full-time remote learning. **Oct. 19:** Grades Pre-K–6 return to school for in-person learning Monday–Friday, and students in Grades 7–12 (and some sixth graders) will start to phase in on the hybrid model. <https://myips.org/back-to-school/>

Manchester School District – The district expanded its hybrid learning, a combination of in-person learning and remote learning, beginning the week of Oct. 12. Students attend school for in-person instruction two full days each week in smaller groups to limit the number of students in a classroom and allow for social distancing. For two other full days, students in Hybrid Instruction will learn remotely. Each Wednesday is designated for enrichment and interventions.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vTk22m6Rpsps_RTd7-8STG3HuH1RS2LS1cXPqpfLNksRdO7_96-PzCPKzAVn6jJWqDdqNowCIXHnyRA/pub

Metro Nashville Public Schools – In-person learning began Oct. 13.

- Pre-K to 2nd grade - October 13
- 3rd and 4th grades -October 20
- 5th and 6th grades -October 27
- 7th and 8th grades -November 4
- 9th through 12th grades - January 7 (Start of the second semester)

<https://www.mnps.org/blog/2020/10/6/going-back-to-school>

Miami-Dade County Public Schools – The school year began 100% online on September 1 and the phased-in reopening of schools began on Monday, Oct. 5 with Pre-K to 1st-grade, as well as students with special needs on a modified curriculum. On Oct. 7, the

remaining elementary students, as well as students in grades 6, 9, and 10 students returned to school campuses. On Oct. 9, students in grades 7 and 8, 11 and 12 were welcomed back. Nearly half of M-DCPS students have elected to continue distance learning through My School Online (MSO).

<http://news.dadeschools.net/cmnc/new/30618>

New York City Department of Education – In-person learning at schools began on Sept. 21. About 7 percent, (124), of the city’s 1,600 schools in coronavirus hot spots were ordered shut for at least 14 days. The city launched a testing program on October 9, where 10 to 20 percent of students and staff at each school will randomly be tested once a month.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-year-20-21/return-to-school-2020/welcome-to-the-2020-2021-school-year>

NOLA Public Schools – PreK through fourth-grade students returned to the classroom between Sept. 14 and Sept. 25. Older students will continue with distance learning until at least the middle of next month.

Oklahoma City Public Schools - Began the year with 100% virtual learning on August 31 with an option for remote/traditional teacher-led instruction or a fully self-paced online option. On September 8, OKCPS welcomed self-contained SPED students back into our buildings 4 days a week. Then, after having to return to 100% virtual learning for 3 weeks due to an increased number of Covid cases in our county, OKCPS was able to welcome PK, K and Alternative Education students back to an A/B setting on October 19, along with the return of SPED. We look forward to bringing 1st - 12th grade back in the A/B setting on November 9 to finish the first semester.

<https://www.okcps.org/Page/5137>

Omaha Public Schools – Elementary and middle schools began part-time, staggered in-person classes on Oct. 5 and high schools followed with the same part-time schedule on Oct. 19.

Omaha public schools are now open at 50% family 3/2 model k-12. Special education is at 100%. Families can choose a fully remote option. 17% of elementary and 25% for middle and high. Elementary students are returning and we expect that number to reach 10% based on trends.

Orange County Public Schools- The district reopened schools for face-to-face instruction on August 21.

The School District of Palm Beach County – The district opened Aug. 31 with 100% distance learning and welcomed students back to campuses on September 21.

https://www.palmbeachschools.org/students_parents/reopening_schools

Pinellas County Schools- The district opened schools for in-person learning Aug. 24.

Providence Public School District – The district started the school year on Sept. 14 by following a partial reopening scenario that offered in-person learning for students from prekindergarten to 5th grade and a combination of in-person and distance learning for students in grades 6-12. By Oct. 13, all students in grades 6-12 will follow an alternating schedule, with one day of in-person learning followed by one day of distance learning.

<https://www.providenceschools.org/cms/lib/RI01900003/Centricity/Domain/4/Family%20letter%20partial%20reopening.pdf>

San Antonio independent School District – School began on Aug. 17 with remote-only instruction. On Sept. 8, when the District transitioned to Level 2 Yellow, up to 10% of students were allowed to return to campuses, with class sizes limited to four to six students. The District increased in-person enrollment Sept. 21 by another 10% and continued improvement will allow schools to phase in up to 50 percent of students. The district does not predict opening schools to all students until the spring semester at the earliest. <https://www.saisd.net/page/article/379>

St. Louis Public Schools – Began the school year on Aug. 31 in a 100% virtual model and elementary and specialty school sites opened for in-person instruction Oct. 19, (grades PK-2) and Oct. 26, (grades 3-6). <https://www.slps.org/backtoschool>

Toronto District School Board – Elementary students returned to school on Sept. 15-17, five days per week with one cohort for the full day and with enhanced health and safety measures in place, including smaller class sizes to help maximize physical distancing. . All secondary students began school on September 15 and have in-class learning on alternate days and synchronous (live, online learning) as well as asynchronous (independent work) daily with enhanced health measures in place including smaller class sizes. The district also opened a fully Virtual School with 18,000 students. Both Virtual School and the Adapted In-Person model are operating on a quadmester model.

Washoe County School District –The district started school on Aug 17 and 24. Students in elementary school attend school in person every day. Middle and High School students will be placed into teams and attend approximately half the week in person and the other half at home.

<https://www.washoeschools.net/reopening>

Wichita Public Schools – The district offered in-person learning for Prek-5 students when schools opened on September 8. Middle and high school students will utilize a

Blended Onsite/MySchool Remote model for students who selected onsite learning at enrollment. Blended Onsite would have half the school's students (Group A) learn onsite on Monday and Tuesday, while the other half (Group B) learn remotely. Group B will learn onsite Thursday and Friday while Group A will learn remotely. All students will learn remotely on Wednesday, which will allow time for students to catch up on work, work in small groups with teachers, and/or opportunities for social emotional and mental health support (Wellness Wednesdays).

<https://www.usd259.org/wpsreturn>