

Advance Notice
July 30, 2020

Superintendent's Recommendation for Starting the 2020-21 School Year

Proposed Action to be taken: I move the Board accept the Superintendent's recommendation for the Issaquah School District to start the 2020-21 school year in a fully remote setting, as presented.

Over the last several weeks, Superintendent Thiele and his team have been actively engaged in developing school reopening and reimagining plans for the 2020-21 school year. As stated in Mr. Thiele's press release dated July 28, 2020, he recognizes that in-person live instruction is preferred, but only if it can be done in a manner that keeps everyone healthy and safe.

"As our work continued in this very dynamic pandemic environment we began to watch the virus infection numbers increase. Starting around July 20th, Public Health Officials from King, Pierce and Snohomish counties began to share their concerns related to bringing students back into our school buildings and supported remote learning, given the current rate of infection and the increase in daily positive cases of COVID-19. During this same timeframe the Governor announced a rollback on some social interactions while emphasizing the need for expanded and routine use of face coverings. As a result of this evolving information most of the Public School Districts and Higher Education Institutions in our region have announced plans to start the school year with remote teaching. It is with this backdrop that ***I am announcing today that I am recommending to the Issaquah School Board that we start the 2020-21 school year in a fully remote setting.***"
