



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Toledo Public Schools to Open 2020-21 School Year 100% Virtual for All PreK-12 Students**

The Toledo Public Schools Board of Education approved a recommendation from Dr. Romules Durant, CEO/Superintendent, that the District would begin the 2020-21 school year in a virtual learning environment for all students in grades pre-K through 12. It was also recommended and approved that the school year will begin for students on Tuesday, September 8.

TPS families should plan for remote learning through the first semester. However, families are also encouraged to remain flexible as students could pivot into a hybrid or traditional school model earlier.

The district initially announced they would begin the school year with a hybrid-learning model for PreK-12 students. However, public health conditions have dramatically worsened in Lucas County and throughout the state since the initial announcement. Ohio's Public Health Advisory System currently rates Lucas County at Level 3, or Red, indicating very high exposure and spread of COVID-19. The number of confirmed cases is rapidly increasing, and the level of risk is high even with strict health and safety protocols in place for our schools.

TPS will continue to monitor public health conditions before determining when it is safe and practical to have students return to the classroom. The District has developed the following color system to indicate where our district stands during the pandemic.

**GREEN:** During the green light status, school is in full session as it has been in previous years. For those wanting to still use the virtual learning option, it will be available.

**YELLOW:** A yellow light status means that the virtual option is available, but physical attendance in a school will be on an A/B schedule. Students would either attend in-person classes on Monday and Thursday (Group A), or Tuesday and Friday (Group B), with Wednesday being an at-home online learning day.

*Toledo Public Schools' mission is to produce competitive college and career ready graduates through rigorous curriculum across all grade levels by implementing Ohio's New Learning Standards with fidelity. We strive to be a "A-Rated" school district whose graduates are college and career ready.*

**RED:** A red light indicates the most severe conditions are present and the district is operating with only the virtual learning option. Students will have access to all TPS learning resources and be provided a device and reliable Wi-Fi, as needed. State licensed and credentialed educators will teach live each day.

Toledo Public Schools realizes that nothing can replace face-to-face learning, but the health and safety of students, families, staff and the community remains the top priority. The District will continue to engage with families and staff and seek feedback throughout the first quarter of the year to make any necessary adjustments to learning environments.

For more information and to review the TPS official Reopening Plan, please visit [tps.org/reopen](https://tps.org/reopen).

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