



NEWARK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Newark Community,

This message is to update you on our plans for the NUSD Virtual Academy. As you know, the Virtual Academy is being designed for families who are not comfortable with their child returning to in-person learning, even when the state and county have deemed it safe to do so. In the last two weeks we have received significant interest, as well as many questions, about this Virtual Academy option. Many families have requested this option because it allows their child to continue learning online, even after other children return to in-person learning. With the start of school rapidly approaching, the timeline to create the Virtual Academy, and open registration for the program, has been shorter than we would have liked. Families have felt there was not enough time to make a thoughtful decision about whether or not to enroll their child in the program. For this reason, we have decided to temporarily postpone the start of the Virtual Academy.

All children will be starting the school year in a distance learning setting, making it possible to maintain our commitment to an online option for all students, while taking the time to roll out the program in a more measured way, and in collaboration with our labor partners. We appreciate the feedback you have given us and we are grateful for your engagement and partnership as we navigate the COVID-19 public health crisis, and the unique challenges wrought by it. Together we will continue to do what we know is best for the safety and well-being of our students and families.

In partnership,

Mark Triplett
Superintendent, Newark Unified School District