



NEWS RELEASE

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[SPS Newsroom](#)

SPS Surveying Families of K-5 Students on Returning to School

Survey responses due midnight Wednesday, March 24

SEATTLE – Seattle Public Schools sent an important survey last week to families with students in kindergarten through fifth grade in order to determine how many students from those groups will be returning to in-person learning in SPS schools next month.

Survey responses are due by midnight Wednesday, March 24.

The survey, which was sent to families on Friday, March 19, 2021, is the primary way for the district to ascertain the instructional model choice of families:

- A hybrid instructional model of in-person part-time and remote part-time --
 - * M-T-Th-F half-day in-person, half-day remote
 - * W full-day remote for all students
- A full remote instruction model.

Return Dates

- **March 29** - All preschool students and students enrolled in elementary special education Intensive Services Pathways;
- **April 5** - All other kindergarten to 5th grade students;
- **April 5** - Students enrolled in middle and high school special education intensive pathways.

Preschool and elementary students enrolled in a K-8 school will follow the start dates outlined above.

SPS – SEA Tentative Agreement

The new survey was necessary after SPS and the Seattle Education Association reached a tentative agreement on March 16 that supports a safe return to school buildings for:

- All preschool students;
- K-12 students enrolled in special education intensive service pathways;
- All other K-5 students.

Both the SEA membership and the SPS Board of Directors will vote this week on whether to approve the tentative agreement.

This survey replaces a previous survey sent earlier this school year to families with students in kindergarten and first grade.

Families with students enrolled in preschool or special education intensive pathways can make changes to the model they previously chose by contacting their school directly.

If families don't respond to the survey, they will be contacted directly by their child's school to make their selection.

New Bell Times and Yellow Bus Transportation

In order to provide the most comprehensive yellow bus [transportation options](#) possible for families and to help ensure students have access to in-person learning, start times and end times (bell times) for elementary and K-8 schools will be adjusted, subject to board approval.

If approved, the change will take place March 29. New bell schedules will be for students learning in-person and remote.

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:

- Morning block – 8-10:45 a.m.
- Afternoon block – 11:45 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Wednesday:

- 8 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. – all students remote

(Note: grades 6-8 comprehensive schools will remain with a 9 a.m. start time.)

For more information about the survey and the plan for in-person return, please see the [SPS website](#).

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