



Union City Area School District
107 Concord Street
Union City, PA 16438
www.ucasd.org



July 10, 2020

Dear UCASD Families,

I hope this letter finds you all well. This certainly has been a challenging and unusual four months for everyone. COVID-19 is still with us, and how our team reaches our students as well as their families continues to evolve. Recognizing this challenge, our UCASD team has developed a reopening plan with the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff as our top priority.

On Thursday, July 9, 2020 our school board approved our UCASD Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan. This plan and a video that highlights what school will look like in the fall has been emailed to every household and is also available on our website at www.ucasd.org.

We have also emailed every household a brief survey. This survey is **essential** for your student(s) education and return to school. You will be choosing the best educational path that meets your student(s) and family's needs. You will also be indicating whether you will be transporting your student or if they will need transportation. As you can imagine, we need this information from everyone in a timely manner to safely and efficiently plan for the return of our students.

Below is a brief summary of the educational options from our return to school video. It is important to note that every UCASD student will be equipped with a one to one learning device to learn from.

OPTION 1: *Return to Traditional Brick and Mortar Schools* - Our team has worked hard to ensure that we can have all students here on campus every day, all day. We have been able to work out the logistics for social distancing in order to bring all students back, if that is what you choose for your student and family.

OPTION 2: *Distance Learner* - This is a new opportunity for our students. Students will be able to learn from home, but will join their classes virtually here on campus in live time. This option requires that the student be logged onto their computer every day for each class to participate. Expectations will be to participate and complete all assignments for their classes, just like the traditional brick and mortar school students.

OPTION 3: *Union City Cyber Academy* - We are excited to announce that we are joining a consortium of other PA districts here locally and across the state to afford our students the best in Cyber education opportunities. This will be different from the Distance Learning Option because students will be taking Cyber courses at their own pace or asynchronously. There will still be a homeroom period when students must log in and check in, however, most, if not all, of these courses will not be taught by our UC teachers. Both distance learning and UC Cyber Academy will require more rigor than what we experienced in the spring during the school closures.

There will also be an opportunity for parents/guardians to list any questions or concerns they may have on our survey. This survey will be open from Monday, July 13th through Friday, July 17th.

All of our options will be using our traditional grading system, all courses and teachers will track assignments through our management system.

Again, we want to thank all of our families for your continued support and patience as we work through this pandemic. We hope that you find the information provided helpful in making a decision that is right for you and your family. We also encourage and welcome questions to help in the process.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Bennett
Superintendent of Schools
Union City Area School District