

Dear Uplift Families,

Thank you for your partnership and patience as all of us- teachers, scholars, and families- have become smarter and more comfortable with virtual learning. Every day we have over 21,000 scholars engaging in learning with us. We will continue to listen to the feedback from all of our stakeholders on what is working and can be improved and will make refinements on an ongoing basis.

We are also continuing to listen to our county health officials and are excited to see our collective community efforts to stop the spread of COVID are improving. Both Dallas and Tarrant Counties are reporting positive trends in key metrics such as hospitalization rates due to COVID, number of new cases, COVID positivity rates, etc. Dallas County shared yesterday that it has officially moved the county from the “red” level to the “orange” level. Their guidance for public schools at “orange” is to allow lower primary school grades the opportunity to return for in-person learning. **Given this positive health news and the robust measures we have taken for safe in-person learning, we want to start welcoming back our scholars to school in a phased approach for those families who select our in-person and hybrid learning options.**

<b>Week of</b>	<b>Grade Levels That Can Return for In-Person and Hybrid Learning Choices (100% remote learning will continue to be an option for those who choose it)</b>
September 21 <sup>st</sup>	PreK and Kindergarten
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	In addition to PreK and Kinder, we will welcome back 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 6 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , and 12 <sup>th</sup> graders
October 5 <sup>th</sup>	All grades from PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> grade

**WE NEED YOUR SCHOLAR’S LEARNING CHOICE:**

In preparation to welcome scholars back in our phased approach, we will be offering our 3 learning options as originally planned. **In order to do so, we need you to select your child’s learning option by taking the short survey below. Please complete it for each of your children at Uplift by Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.** Please note that because scholars are returning near the end of the first academic grading quarter (ends October 7th), **we are asking you to pick your child’s choice for the remainder of the first semester which leads up to winter break. If you do not select a learning choice for your child by September 9<sup>th</sup>, we will assign them to the “in-person” learning option.**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3PRQ3X7>

**Descriptions of each Learning Option:**

- 100% In Person Learning-Your child will come to school every day Monday-Friday like a normal school year. All scholars will be required to wear a face mask during the school day (except while eating and drinking), and we have rearranged our classrooms to allow for 6 feet of social distancing throughout the school day. Scholars will have their temperature taken and will complete a symptom screen before entering the building. Scholars will eat in their classrooms and regularly sanitize their hands throughout the day. More information on our protocols can be found on our [Uplift Back to School page](#) on our website.

- 100% Online Learning-Your child will log into Schoology every day according to their class schedule and will be required to submit work through the Schoology online portal like has been done during the mandatory virtual learning.
- Hybrid Learning (2 days in school, 3 days at home learning)-Your child will attend school in person 2 days per week and then log into school via Schoology the other 3 days of the week.

**For parents of our primary scholars:**

As we transition to our 3 learning options, we will do everything possible to keep our primary scholars with their original teacher from the start of the school year IF their learning choice matches the format that the teacher has been assigned to. However many primary school scholars will likely have a different teacher when the 3 learning options begin given all of our teachers have been teaching only in the virtual/online format. Fortunately children are resilient and most build strong connections easily especially when they know a positive adult cares about their well-being. Our teachers will take intentional efforts to get to know any new families and scholars joining their homeroom. Our teachers on a grade-level team work closely together in their planning and support of all scholars in that grade. Building a strong Uplift school community matters to us. We will do our part to help our scholars navigate this change.

**For parents selecting hybrid or in-person learning for their child:**

Today's message was intentionally focused on collecting the learning choices for our scholars. For those who will be sending their children to school in-person (either 5 days/week or hybrid), you will receive additional communication from your child's school in the next week about their planned Town Hall to walk through campus safety protocols and procedures. Please continue to refer to the Uplift website for network-wide safety information. Lastly, I can't emphasize enough the importance of personal accountability in keeping our Uplift community safe as we return to school. I am so grateful to our school leaders, teachers, and campus-based staff for creating the conditions that allow our scholars to return to school. It is not enough for us to have strong safety protocols in place just at school. I hope all families who are sending their children back for in-person learning will do their part when outside of school to keep scholar peers and teachers safe. Together, we can create safe learning communities!

**Thank you again for your partnership and completing the commitment survey for your child's learning option by Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.**

Yasmin Bhatia  
Uplift Education CEO