

Good evening parents of the Randolph County School System,

This is Stephen Gainey. I am calling to provide a follow-up to the announcement made by Governor Roy Cooper this afternoon. More specifically, Governor Roy Cooper announced that schools will open on August 17 according to the state's Plan B. As a result, under the parameters of Plan B, only 50% of a school's student body can be on campus at a single time. Now that Governor Roy Cooper has made the decision to open schools on Plan B in August, our Board of Education will determine the schedule to be used by our school system for the opening of the 2020-2021 school year at its meeting on July 20. Please know that I will present several options to the Board of Education for consideration at the meeting on July 20.

Also, with today's announcement, several requirements were noted by Governor Roy Cooper, such as the use of cloth face coverings by all students. Please know that these items will be reviewed by the leadership of the school system in the coming weeks to determine the implementation requirements associated with them.

Another item of great concern is athletics. At this time, no decision has been made to cancel athletics for the Fall sports season or any other part of the 2020-2021 school year. Please know that our school system highly values athletics and other student activities outside of the classroom. Thus, the leadership of the school system will do everything possible to maintain these activities for our students during the 2020-2021 school year.

In closing, please know that our school system loves our students, our parents, and our staff members. Furthermore, we are looking forward to the start of the 2020-2021 school year on August 17. Please know that great efforts will be made to maintain safe conditions for our students, staff members, and visitors to school campuses. In addition, our staff members are confident in our ability to provide your child with a sound education on his or her school's campus as well as through remote instruction as needed.

This message also will be posted on the homepage of the school system's website for your reference.

I hope everyone has a great night!!!!