

December 17, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Elementary Students in Transitional Learning

Last night at the public meeting of the Board of Education, the following recommendation was approved:

THAT the Richmond Board of Education extend the Elementary Transitional Learning Program in a modified instructional format from February 1, 2021 to March 26, 2021 (end of spring break).

The modifications that have been approved by the Board of Education address some of the concerns raised about teacher workload, and the ability to adequately provide service to in-school learners. The details of the modifications are as follows:

THAT the current level of additional staffing be maintained until March 26, 2021.

THAT the frequency of school-based teacher check-ins with students be reduced from twice daily to a minimum of two check-ins weekly starting January 1, 2021.

In addition to extending the program, the following recommendation was also approved:

THAT the public health context be re-assessed prior to spring break in order to determine whether or not the transitional learning programs should be extended any further or whether they should conclude at the recommended new deadlines (March 26 for elementary and April 23 for secondary). It is highly recommended that all students return to their home school by these dates at the latest.

The Richmond School District and the Board of Education appreciate your advocacy and patience as we have considered the continuation of transitional learning. If you have any questions, please contact your school principal.

We wish you a healthy, restful and joyful winter break.

Sincerely,

Rick Ryan
Deputy Superintendent