



# Smart Restart Update

10.12.2020

Dear Fargo Public Schools Elementary Families,

## **Fargo Public Schools Communication from October 5, 2020:**

*“On October 5, the Fargo Public Schools (FPS) COVID-19 Instructional Plan Committee met to decide the Instructional Level for our schools beginning October 19 (Middle and High School) and October 26 (Elementary Schools):*

**Elementary In-Person Instruction (Level 4)** beginning October 26 will include four days per week of in person instruction (Monday-Thursday) and one day of distance learning (Friday). This model allows:

- Teachers to have preparation and planning time to work with students that are quarantined or have been out due to illness.
- Teachers to receive preparation and planning time in a manner that does not increase mixing different classrooms of students during times such as recess and lunch.

*Additionally, an hour will be added back to the in-person instruction days to the end of the school day. Drop off times for students will remain 15 minutes prior to the school’s start time. After an evaluation of COVID-19 impacts in Fargo Public Schools in Level 4, FPS will make determinations of when to return to in-person instruction five days per week.”*

Due to this change in the elementary instructional level, Fargo Public Schools is reopening a virtual academy option for FPS elementary students that are currently attending their home school in person. **This new virtual academy option registration window will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 12 and ends at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 16.** Please contact your home school principal with questions and to register.

With this additional option, Fargo Public Schools will now have 2 separate virtual academies.

### 1. **Virtual Academy 1** – registration **ended on September 2.**

- **There may be some VERY limited openings for this option for this registration window.**
  - Instruction is a mix of synchronous (live) and asynchronous (video) sessions throughout the day.
  - The school day is from 8:20 a.m.– 2:10 p.m. each day.
  - Instruction is provided by FPS teachers.
  - Families support and monitor their student’s progress and engagement.
  - Students have a designated learning space where they can attend ‘live’ sessions and also complete the asynchronous and independent work assigned.
  - Students need to attend live class meetings at the beginning and the wrap-up in the afternoon.
  - Curriculum and pacing align with the instruction that is being taught in their home schools

### 2. **Virtual Academy 2** – registration window opens at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 12.



- Instruction is asynchronous through Calvert, an on-line company that we have contracted through.
- Families will deliver the direct instruction that is laid out in lessons and activities through Calvert's curriculum that is Common Core aligned.
- Families act as a proctor for assessments.
- Families contact the teacher if they have any questions regarding the curriculum.
- Calvert provides a licensed teacher who will give students feedback on their work and will check in with them every other week.
- [A Day in the Life of a K-5 Student](#) – This video gives an overview of what a student's day could look like.

If you are interested in registering your K-5<sup>th</sup> grade student(s) in the Virtual Academy 2 option, or have questions, **please contact the principal at your child's home school. Registration ends at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 16.** This registration is the first step in the process and is not a guarantee that your child will be enrolled in the FPS Virtual Academy 2 option. You will be notified by phone on Monday, October 19 about your child's acceptance status.

Sincerely,

Fargo Public Schools Elementary Virtual Academy Team

