



## EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS

P.O. Box 220 • East Lyme, Connecticut 06333 • (860) 739-3966 • Fax (860) 739-1215

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Jeffrey R. Newton  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Amy Drowne  
*Assistant Superintendent of  
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*

Kimberly Davis  
*Director of  
Student Services*

Maryanna Stevens, CPA  
*Director of Finance, Marketing,  
and Growth Management*

August 11, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Many parents have requested an extension to complete the ELPS Fall Commitment Survey that is scheduled to close at the end of the day today. I would like to provide some additional clarification regarding the importance on closing the survey today.

We have had many parent requests to know which cohort (A or B) their child(ren) will be in for the start of the school year. We cannot create the cohort schedules in Infinite Campus until this survey has been completed. If we extend the survey deadline, then we extend the release of the assigned cohort information to all parents. This will create a hardship for parents who need to set up childcare and balance job schedules.

Yesterday, we provided additional information on the temporary Virtual Viking platform to assist with your decision. We ask that you please review this information closely and complete the [ELPS Fall Commitment Survey](#) by the end of the day today. **We have extended the survey end time from 4:00 p.m. until midnight tonight to help with your decision making. We cannot extend the deadline any further.**

We have also received multiple emails regarding requests for a specific cohort. We simply cannot honor individual cohort requests. Our student management system will run the cohort schedules (A and B) and balance out both cohort groups across all schools based on family households. Honoring individual requests would increase hybrid class sizes and the cohort populations would become unbalanced. Additionally, as stated in the letter you received yesterday from Assistant Superintendent Amy Drowne, the cohort algorithm will not be done alphabetically by last name as we originally planned. We do not want students of the same household (who may have different last names) attending school on different days.

Once again, we ask for your patience and your input by completing the [ELPS Fall Commitment Survey](#) by midnight tonight so we have the accurate information to build the cohort system in a very short timeframe.

*East Lyme Public Schools will inspire, engage and educate each student to become a contributing citizen and a responsible, independent, and critical thinker.*



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If you did not have an opportunity to read yesterday's letter from Assistant Superintendent Amy Drowne, please review the information pertaining to the [Temporary Virtual Viking Platform](#) and the [Hybrid Model](#) to assist with your decision making.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton  
Superintendent of Schools

JN:jc