

This is a message from the following Pierce County School Districts: Bethel, Carbonado Historical, Clover Park, Dieringer, Eatonville, Fife, Franklin Pierce, Orting, Puyallup, Steilacoom Historical, Sumner-Bonney Lake, Tacoma, University Place, and White River.

Now that some of our districts have started school remotely, there has been a lot of speculation about when schools will reopen for in-person learning.

Today we received new guidance from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department which shows that Pierce County has now transitioned from the high level to the moderate level of COVID-19 infection.

Between now and Sept. 21, districts will be monitoring data and developing transition plans. None of our districts will bring students back before Sept. 22.

Once a district decides to bring students back to school, they may need at least two weeks of operational transition time before they reopen their doors at the elementary level.

The districts will continue to monitor county trends and work with public health officials to determine when secondary students may return in the future.

With Labor Day weekend before us, we are concerned that the positive trend of reduced infections could relapse with the long weekend's activities. We want to encourage all residents of Pierce County to continue to wear their masks and observe social distancing standards while they enjoy the weekend with their friends and family.

**Tom Seigel**  
Bethel School District

**Jessie Sprouse**  
Carbonado Historical School District

**Ron Banner**  
Clover Park School District

**Michael Farmer**  
Dieringer School District

**Krestin Bahr**  
Eatonville School District

**Kevin Alfano**  
Fife Public Schools

**Lance Goodpaster**  
Franklin Pierce Schools

**Dr. Tony Apostle**  
Orting School District

**Dr. John Polm**  
Puyallup School District

**Janel Keating Hambly**  
White River School District

**Dr. Kathi Weight**  
Steilacoom Historical School District

**Dr. Laurie Dent**  
Sumner-Bonney Lake School District

**Carla Santorno**  
Tacoma Public Schools

**Jeff Chamberlin**  
University Place School District