
Message from CUPF and MCPS on school-aged child care and equity hubs

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 1:13 PM

Dear Providers,

This message is to provide an update regarding school-aged child care and equity hubs that have been in operation in our school buildings during the pandemic. At the point that all schools are available and open for in-person learning, we will no longer have all day school-aged child care or the equity hubs operating in their current space and structure. We welcome providers to resume before- and after-care services, as space permits, in the schools where they are licensed. Providers may also be able to provide full day asynchronous school-age child care on Wednesdays. These arrangements will be finalized in agreement with Community Use of Public Facilities and school administrators.

The last day for providers to operate the current all-day child care and equity hub structure will be March 5, 2021. This will allow schools the time for final set up and preparation the week of March 8, 2021. MCPS recognizes the critically important role that child care plays in each of our school communities. As such, we are committed to providing this opportunity as a complement to our in-person return in a safe manner, where staffing and space availability allow. **We are asking providers to communicate this important information, particularly to families participating in equity hubs, by Monday, February 22, 2021.** MCPS is planning to have Principals communicate the same information to families after the school board meeting on February 23.

Efforts will be made for providers to use larger spaces, particularly when there are limited available classrooms for providers. Providers should work directly with school administrators in identifying spaces for before- and after- care, and Wednesday school-age care for asynchronous support. Providers will be required to submit a safety plan for each site offering. Providers will also be required to clean their space after each use to facilitate its use during the school day and to limit the impact on building services staff.

MCPS and CUPF will continue to coordinate around next steps in this transition. If you are aware of families enrolled in your program that have not elected to return to in-person instruction or that you feel may need additional supports, please reach out to Bill Polman at CUPF. Information on the MCPS plan for a return to in-person instruction can be found online at <https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/reopening/>

Thank you for your continued partnership in support of MCPS students and families.