## THE CONVERSATION ABOUT REOPENING SCHOOLS

 AND WHETHER LEARNING WILL BE DISTANCE, HYBRID, OR IN-PERSON – IS WEIGHING HEAVILY ON THE MINDS OF MANY, MANY FAMILIES ACROSS RHODE ISLAND AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY. IT'S COMPLEX, AND IT'S DEEPLY PERSONAL FOR EACH FAMILY, STUDENT, AND EDUCATOR.

REOPENING SCHOOLS IS FIRMLY ROOTED IN EACH AND EVERY ISSUE AREA WE WORK ON:

HEALTH, SAFETY, EDUCATION, ECONOMIC SECURITY, AND DEVELOPMENT OF RHODE ISLAND'S CHILDREN.

REOPENING SCHOOLS ALSO SITS DIRECTLY AT THE INTERSECTION OF OUR CORE VALUES OF

EQUITY, STUDENT-CENTERED LEARNING, AND PARENT VOICE.

IN POLICY AND PRACTICE,

EQUITY IS NOT A ONE SIZE FITS ALL APPROACH.

THE WORSENING OF DISPARITIES DURING THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR IS A DEEP CONCERN.

IN THE UPCOMING WEEKS AS DECISIONS ARE MADE ABOUT REOPENING, WE HOPE FOR PLANS TO BE

FLEXIBLE, DATA-INFORMED, AND STUDENT-CENTERED – DRIVEN
BOTH BY SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY VOICE.

WE HOPE FOR TRANSPARENCY IN DECISION MAKING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND ACCOUNTABILITY. WE HOPE FOR FAMILIES TO HAVE THE INFORMATION THEY NEED TO MAKE THE BEST DECISION FOR THEIR FAMILY, AND FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

Information on State and district plans for reopening is available at www.back2schoolri.com. Rhode Island KIDS COUNT will continue to share information as this process unfolds.