

AW—SCHOOL OR NO SCHOOL 1

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MON.

The dates for the would-be start of school are nearing, and school administrators still don't have clear guidance from the state on whether they should open up fully. The state's largest teachers' union is concerned teachers are being left out of the discussion in some places. In-person classes, online learning or some hybrid variation of the two are all still possibilities. Arkansas Education Association President Carol Fleming says the state Department of Education has mandated that each district create a Ready-to-Learn Committee to implement a local plan...

NEWS 24

:17

“...TO BE INCLUDED.”

Fleming appeared on “Arkansas Week” with two superintendents. All three said the welfare of the students should be paramount in decisions about how many should attend in-person.

AW—SCHOOL OR NO SCHOOL 2

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The tentative plan is for schools to open for in-person instruction, but to what extent they can actually do that or how much they'll have to augment their operations with online learning is still unknown. Even if they do fully open, another Coronavirus surge could force an abrupt closure, just as it did in March. But superintendents—such as John Collins of West Memphis—say they've learned a lot since then, when all they had was an “Alternative Methods of Instruction” plan for making up days missed due to weather...

NEWS 25

:23

“...48-HOUR TIME PERIOD.”

Collins appeared on the Arkansas P-B-S program “Arkansas Week” along with Springdale Superintendent Jared Cleveland, who has had meetings with Tyson Foods to see what techniques for social distancing could be implemented in the schools.