July 16, 2020

Dear Families:

The 2020-21 school year is nearly upon us and I know many of you have questions about what this school year will look like. Your child’s safety continues to be our top priority and I am proud to share our plan for the return to school: the Flint Community Schools Safe Return and Recovery plan


The FCS Safe Return and Recovery plan prioritizes the health and safety of our school community. In keeping with the Governor’s guidelines, the potential learning environments include face-to-face instruction, hybrid learning and virtual instruction. The district intends to return for virtual instruction on Wednesday, August 5, with in-person instruction beginning on Monday, September 14, unless the Governor announces a change in guidance for schools. However, any parent or guardian who prefers to continue with virtual learning instead of face-to-face instruction will have the option to choose virtual learning.

Unique to our district and reflective of our commitment to Community Education, the Safe Return and Recovery Plan also includes protocols for Whole Child and Family Support in each of the potential learning environments, which will provide your child with a high-quality education and the wraparound supports they rely on. The plan was developed by the District Reopening Committee, a group of administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, staff, community partners, Board of Education members, union representatives and parents, to ensure a safe reopening of schools.

The three learning environments are as follows:

- Face-to-face instruction: A traditional approach to student learning where students attend school in-person each day. Bus transportation will be available, but ridership may be reduced day-to-day and students may be assigned to seats. Sanitizer will be available when students enter the bus and buses will be sanitized between routes each day, with deep cleaning daily.
- Hybrid learning: A combination of face-to-face and virtual learning, with students reporting to school on select days or during select periods of time.
- Virtual instruction: Online learning through a laptop or computer. Students attend school at a remote location while teachers lead virtual lesson plans. Daily attendance, grades and reporting will still be required, just as they are during in-person learning.

I encourage you to choose what works best for your family. Please note, parents and guardians interested in full-time virtual learning must schedule an appointment with Centralized Enrollment by calling 810-767-6158 or visit www.FlintSchools.org and click on the Centralized Enrollment page, and complete the Virtual Learning Consent Form by Wednesday, August 5. As outlined in the Governor’s 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap, students and staff are required to wear facial coverings if learning in-person, unless they are unable to medically tolerate such coverings, if harmed/injured or during meals. The district is...
also developing plans to limit student movement in hallways, during meal times, on playgrounds and other highly concentrated areas while promoting social distancing during the school day.

For families with student athletes, the FCS athletic department is planning for youth sports for elementary and secondary levels to begin in the fall of 2020-21, while adhering to state and local guidelines. FCS will adhere to mandates from the Michigan High School Athletic Association for outdoor and indoor athletic programs.

Your child’s safety and well-being is always our primary concern and we look forward to a safe return this school year. If you have additional questions regarding the return to school, you can find an FAQ on our website at www.FlintSchools.org, or contact my office at superintendent@flintschools.org. Thank you for your continued commitment to your child’s learning as we navigate the new normal.

Your partner in education,

Mrs. Anita J. Steward
Superintendent