



HARRISON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Harry Burchett, Ed.D.
Superintendent

308 Webster Avenue
Cynthiana, KY 41031

Phone: 859.234.7110

Fax: 859.234.8164



March 3, 2021

Dear Harrison County Students and Families,

This Friday marks one year since Harrison County was the first county in the state to have a COVID-19 positive patient. Since that time, our state, our nation and the world have worked to mitigate the spread of this dangerous and sometimes deadly virus. These efforts have had profound effects on our daily lives and especially on our education system.

Your school district staff has worked extremely hard to Educate, Feed, and Support all students during this difficult time. Our learning options have been provided so as to ensure all students received an equitable opportunity to continue learning regardless of the viral spread in our community, winter weather, or even flooding. Our teaching and learning model has had to be flexible to meet the individual needs of all students. Due to the amount of viral transmission in the community, our in-person learning this year has been accomplished using a Hybrid A/B Model giving us the ability to reduce the number of students in the buildings, and thus reduce the amount of viral spread.

With the improvement in numbers across Kentucky, and especially in our community, we can now safely move to an increased number of students in the building at one time. **This letter serves to inform you that effective March 15, 2021, the Harrison County School District will begin offering in-person learning for all students four days per week.** Those days are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday with Wednesday continuing to be reserved for virtual services, targeted services, and deeper cleaning. Students have the option to continue to choose the virtual mode of instruction as well.

Harrison County Schools will continue to adhere to the guidance as provided by the Kentucky Department of Education in their KDE COVID-19 Guidance Document 2.0 released on February 22, 2021. This includes but not limited to:

- Masks are required to be worn at all times unless otherwise directed by a supervisor for a mask break when socially distanced six feet or more or during meal times.
- We will work to provide as much social distance as possible using our available spaces, but there will be spaces and learning times when six feet of social distance will not be possible.
- Daily temperature checks before coming to school are asked of all students as we will also be requiring temperature checks and hand sanitization on buses and at entry points to school.
- Sick children should be kept home and the school nurse notified in the event of any symptoms.
- Because we cannot ensure six feet of social distance at all times, in the event of an exposure, quarantines may be necessary. Please understand that this is done for the safety of all students and staff.
- Students and families using bus transportation should be prepared for short delays in the busing schedule as our transportation team works to adjust to an increase in students and stops on their daily routes.



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- Due to an increased number of students, parent pickup may need to be phased to provide for safe dismissal of all students. Your child's school will have more information on this issue.
- We plan to continue the four-day schedule for the remainder of this year. In the event that community viral spread greatly increases or we have a number of staff quarantined and unable to work, all families should be prepared to utilize the Hybrid or Full Remote Learning Models if necessary. This is not desired by your school team, and we will exhaust every other measure before returning all students to those models.

Our team is excited to see students back in school on an increased basis. We will be working hard between now and the end of the school year to help all students who may have fallen behind catch up as much as possible. Additionally, we are planning an exciting summer of learning and enrichment opportunities open to all 2020-2021 students preschool through 12th grade. There will be more information regarding our summer activities in the future.

The Harrison County School District applauds our parents, guardians and all others that have had to adjust their lives to support student instruction during this unprecedented era of public education. The recovery in terms of student learning will be ongoing, but it begins by getting our students back with a professional educator as much as possible. We thank you for your patience and support during this unparalleled time.

Most sincerely,

Dr. Harry Burchett, Superintendent
Harrison County Schools