



8/19/2021 External Communication

## **A message from the Superintendent**

Dear staff, parents, and community members,

The transition is complete and I have officially begun my role as Superintendent of Schools. Thank you all for the amazing welcome and all the support over the last several weeks. I look forward to meeting you as we begin the new school year! As the beginning of the year school quickly approaches, we are excited to welcome you back in person to the 2021-2022 school year! I also want to thank our maintenance and custodial staff who have worked very hard to get our buildings and grounds ready for opening.

On August 25, 2021 our teachers and staff will be reporting and the following day, Thursday August 26, 2021 will be the first day for students. Here is some additional information I would like to share.

### **COVID-19**

As much as we all wish that we had worked through all COVID related concerns, the fact remains that this is something that is still with us. We will continue to work with Allen County Public Health, the Ohio Department of Education, Ohio Department of Health, the CDC, and our legal counsel when it comes to COVID related matters. We all know that information and decisions are being made at both the state and federal levels, therefore patience and flexibility will be needed. We have all seen through past experiences that things can change in a day. Also note, we will do our very best to communicate these changes to our community as they become mandated. Thank you for your understanding.

Please see below for further guidance:

1. **Vaccinations:** COVID-19 vaccines are available but vaccination remains a family decision. Vaccines are NOT required for attendance. Consult with your health care provider regarding COVID-19 vaccination decisions.

2. **Daily Health Checks:** Please keep your student at home from school when they are not feeling well. This is very important. If a student tests positive for COVID they must follow the Health Department quarantine recommendation. If a student is exposed to COVID-19, parents should follow the advice of their physician and monitor their

symptoms. Should the student develop COVID symptoms, they should be kept home. Information will be sent home from the school if your child may have been potentially exposed. We would encourage you to monitor their symptoms closely.

3. **Daily Hygiene:** We will continue to encourage students to be diligent about hand-washing and using sanitizer throughout the school day.

4. **Transportation:** Per federal mandate, masks are required on school transportation. Agree or disagree, we have no choice but to follow the law.

5. **Cleaning:** Our district will continue all cleaning protocols that were in place during the onset of the pandemic and throughout last year.

Thank you for your support and the warmest welcome!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jude Meyers".

Jude Meyers  
Superintendent