



# Brimley Area Schools

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July 24, 2020

## **RE: Update**

Dear Brimley Area Schools Family:

As I sit here and write this letter, the sun is shining and there is not a cloud in the sky. A soft breeze is blowing, and the birds are flying about singing and gathering food for their young. The local deer population has made its way through our school parking lot leaving their tracks behind. The cranes are invading the freshly cut hay fields that are dotted with bales of hay. Finally, the eagle is taking flight high above using the air currents, as its flight seems effortless, watching all of this take place.

This are just a small sample of the wonders all around us each day. The purpose for me telling you this is that I/we have been so hyper-focused on the pandemic and all the stresses that go with it, that I/we have forgotten to slow down and take in what is good that surrounds all of us. Take some time to slow down and reflect on what is good. Go for a walk in the fresh air and just focus on what you see around you. Sit quietly and take a deep breath, just be ready for the possibility of falling asleep. Go fishing or other outdoor activities with family, or just by yourself. Whichever way you choose to slow down and take a breath is up to you, just make sure to do it.

As you know, our team has been meeting to develop the three required plans for the MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-2021 Return to School Road Map. This process has taken a great deal of time and much thought and consideration has taken place when making decisions for our safe return to school. All participants have been very active and provided a great deal of input during this process and for that I am truly grateful.

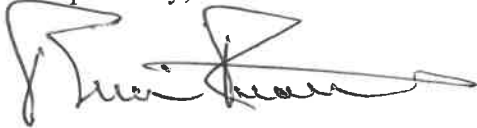
We will be meeting again this coming week to go over the plans and make any final revisions at that time. When this is completed, the plan will go to the board for their approval. Once the board approves the plan, we are required to send it to the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District who will forward it to the Michigan Department of Education.

Earlier in the spring we sent out a registration form that was used for updates to the demographic information for each student in our school. The form also included a question on whether your child(ren) will return to school in the fall. Many have sent them back and we appreciate the responses. I also noted that we would be sending out another survey asking for more input as the summer progressed. Well, the survey is out and is linked to our school Facebook site, sent out to all email addresses for parents, and attached to our school website. So far, we have had 177 responses to the survey and we greatly appreciate that input. If you have not had the opportunity to fill out the survey, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you very much for your input.

We have sent out a district newsletter regarding the August 4<sup>th</sup> millage renewal proposal. Within the newsletter you will find a letter explaining why the proposal is necessary and another document titled frequently asked questions. If you have any questions regarding the proposal, please feel free to contact the central office and I will be happy to answer them. Please make sure to vote on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you so very much for being part of the Brimley Area Schools Family and all you do to support the educational programs we offer. We all know that this school year will not look like it did in years past and we have no control over that. However, I do know that we will all get through this together.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Reattoir', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian Reattoir, Ed.S.  
Superintendent of Schools