

# *School District of Gilman*

325 North Fifth Avenue, Gilman, WI 54433

Office Phone: 715-447-8211

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Date: June 24, 2020

To: Parents and/or Guardians

Re: School District of Gilman Return to School Update and Information Regarding Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Guidance for Returning to School

On Monday, June 22, 2020, the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction issued the Education Forward guidelines for reopening schools this fall. Guidelines are intended to provide us a framework to make decisions and create a local plan to return to in-person instruction. Our plan will blend common sense and reasonable strategies to create the safest environment we can. This may mean that there will be certain guidelines that we are not able to meet due to local constraints or realities.

Over the past month the School District of Gilman has been working with local school districts and Taylor County Health Department to develop plans to reopen. The District has also assembled a return to school committee made up of staff members, administration, school board representation, students, parents, and community health personnel to develop a thorough plan to return to school in a safe and practical manner. There are many scenarios that will be talked about and looked at, but as we have seen over and over again the past few months, this situation will continue to change; therefore, our plans will have to be flexible and responsive to local conditions that exist in September.

We remain committed to building and maintaining learning opportunities that allow for in-person, virtual and/or a blend of both models of instruction to best cover any and all needs as well as provide for family choice as we head into the fall of 2020 and beyond. A parent survey will be available on the school webpage and will be mailed to every known student household to gather feedback, feelings, and needs of our families for the fall. We are strongly encouraging all families to fill out the survey either online or the paper form that is included with this letter. **Please complete and return your survey by Friday, July 3, 2020.** Your opinion is important to us. This information will be blended into our decision making process and a formal plan will be released at the beginning of August. If you have any questions, please contact the district office.

Thank you,

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Superintendent