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July 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Hello! Greetings from my office to your homes. I am excited about the adventure of being a member of the RE-1 Valley School District. Thank you all for the welcoming spirit I have experienced thus far.

I am excited to invite students to rejoin a quality learning experience. The staff is collaborating with community partners and medical professionals to develop a plan where students return to school in-person while limiting risk to students and families. Returning to school is vital for each child's academic growth, social-emotional well-being, food security, physical activity, and access to the many other opportunities in school. It is the District's responsibility to support the local economy by allowing parents to return to work without the added stress of homeschooling or facilitating remote learning.

The COVID 19 Pandemic has forced us to live a little differently, and the school system will adapt to meet each student's needs. The District will be implementing strategies to help limit risk to staff members and students in order to ensure a safe learning environment. Though our children will experience change in some aspects of the school environment, I assure you we are ready to serve your families.

Students will return to school on August 19, 2020. The delayed start will allow teachers time to prepare for implementing the mitigation plan. All teachers will implement the latest technology and learning platforms to be intentional in ensuring students can access the content in person or remotely based on independent preferences and relevant restrictions throughout the school year.

I know parents would appreciate receiving clear and concise guidance. Transparency and direction are coming to you soon. The challenge is recommendations and information are continually evolving. The administrators, Board of Directors, and community advisory committees are developing a Return to School Guidebook that meets the current Colorado Department of Education Guidelines. The Guidebook will be a resource that all families can access to begin understanding what each child will experience next year. The teams have taken into consideration each student's health and wellness. The plan is designed from the most restrictive environment with clear transitions to the least restrictive environment as we are allowed.

The goal is to keep students learning in-person with highly-qualified staff to meet needs. I do not want to go through another forced closure. Our goal is to keep students in session and only return to remote learning as a last resort if there is an outbreak at a building or the Governor orders schools to be closed. The Return to School plan allows us to respond based on current needs within each building. There should not be a need to shut down the entire District.

Restrictions and guidance from the Colorado Department of Education are still evolving, which makes providing clear and concise communication a challenge. In an attempt to keep parents informed, I will be hosting a weekly Community/Parent Zoom meeting every Monday throughout the remainder of the July at 3:00 P.M. The sessions will be recorded and shared through the District and Board of Directors' Facebook pages and the District website. Please use this link to access the Parent Update Meetings.

Topic: RE-1 Valley District Parent Update Meetings

Time: Jul 13, 2020 03:00 PM

Join from PC, Mac, iOS or Android: <https://ecboces.zoom.us/j/91362963660>

Or join by phone:

+1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 US Toll

Meeting ID: 913 6296 3660

Broad Overview of Timeline:

1. July 10-17, 2020- Parents complete survey. Please access the survey at <https://bit.ly/re1survey>.
2. July 13, 2020, @ 3:00 P.M. Parent Update meeting with Mrs. Adolf during Zoom.
3. July 15, 2020, @ 6:00 P.M. Share Draft of Guidebook with COVID Advisory Committee.
4. July 16, 2020, @ 10:00 A.M.- Meet with Logan County Commissioners to discuss the submission of a County-wide waiver.
5. July 18, 2020- Analyze the parent and staff survey data.
6. July 20, 2020, @ 3:00 P.M. Parent Update meeting with Mrs. Adolf during Zoom.
7. July 21, 2020- Share and Approve Guidebook with Board of Directors.
8. July 22, 2020, @ 6:00 P.M.- Post the Return to School Guidebook on Website & Meet with COVID Advisory Committee.
9. July 27, 2020, @ 3:00 P.M. Parent Update meeting with Mrs. Adolf during Zoom.
10. August 10, 2020- Teachers report back to school.
11. August 19, 2020- Students return to school.

Top Three Guiding Principles (Most restrictive)- List below are simplified descriptions of the three guiding principles to attempt safety and wellness for our students, staff members, and families. Each principle will be explained thoroughly in the Return to School Guidebook.

1. Social distancing- Students **will not** be required to stay 6-feet apart, but will remain in cohorts of up to 25 students. The cohort concept will allow for contact tracing and quick mitigation in the event there is an outbreak.
2. Masking- Students will utilize a face covering when traveling in common areas such as going to lunch, using the restroom, etc. The duration of time is short periods, as social

distancing will be challenging to maintain. Staff members will have to mask in the presence of learners.

3. Health & Wellness Monitoring- Parents will be submitting additional health information to ensure that students are monitored based on preexisting or recurring conditions and daily temperature checks.

Restrictions will be adapted and modified as current circumstances and health-restrictions allow. I assure you that RE-1 Valley School District is ready to meet your family's educational needs. I am grateful to start working with a dedicated team of teachers, administrators, and classified personnel who are amongst the best.

Sincerely,

Shila J. Adolf

Superintendent
RE-1 Valley School District

Reminder:

RE-1 Valley School District will be open for in-person learning beginning August 19, 2020.