



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

June 26, 2020

Dear South Vermillion Community School Families,

Indiana state leaders and health officials have advised it is now appropriate to reopen schools. As such, South Vermillion Community Schools and our Re-Entry Task Force are working toward resuming in-person classes on **August 10, 2020**, as scheduled in a traditional “in-person” setting with a virtual option for those students who are vulnerable due to health concerns.

We realize that there is a vast array of opinions as to how and when schools should reopen. We have taken those opinions into consideration, along with the opinion of our local health department to understand the most pressing safety concerns and what role they play in reopening our schools. It is the recommendation, therefore, of the South Vermillion Re-Entry Task Force, to bring students and staff back to school with as much “normalcy” as possible while keeping a watchful eye on the status of the COVID-19 as it relates to the number of individuals in our community who have tested positive and our response to it.

While in-person instruction is resuming, it would be irresponsible not to recognize the need for increased attention to be paid to the health and safety of our school community. We are currently working on our Re-Entry Plan that details the health and safety measures our school corporation and individual schools will take in response.

We realize that for some parents, this recommendation may not be what you had hoped for. With safety and health considerations for our students and staff, we have worked closely with the Vermillion County Health Department and will not make any recommendation without its approval. It is our hope that all SV families will trust our efforts to make our schools safe, keeping our students and staff healthy, so that quality in-person education will once again be the standard moving forward.

Once approved by the Vermillion County Health Department and the SV School Board, our plan will be available on our website on or about July 3rd. *Please be sure to review this document carefully, as our corporation plan is only going to be as effective as the degree to which it is followed.* Because the COVID-19 virus, as well as other common viruses and illnesses are spread through person-to-person contact, we ask that you please keep children who are sick and/or symptomatic at home to minimize risk to others in our school community. We need your cooperation to make this reopening successful.

Health officials tell us that pandemic virus outbreaks can happen in waves. This means more people could possibly become sick after schools reopen. If this happens in our community, we may need to enhance our safety protocols and potentially close schools again and resume the extended eLearning instruction. We have taken guidance from teachers and parents to improve the quality and context of our eLearning format. You can be assured that the corporation leadership will continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and provide you with the most vital and up-to-date information as needed.

We are looking forward to once again serving our students in-person. Please remain alert for any updates and periodically check our SVCS website for more detailed operational information.

Thank you and be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David A. Chapman". The signature is written in a cursive style.

David A. Chapman
Superintendent