Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members, July 20, 2020

As we approach the beginning of the 2020-2021, we find ourselves in uncharted waters. COVID-19 has changed the way we look at everything, including the daily operations of the school. There will be many changes to our daily operations, and we appreciate your support and cooperation as we go through this together.

Whitefield Public School will begin classes on Thursday, August 6th. Whitefield will continue to have a 5 day school week and offer the after-school program daily until 5:30pm. We will offer traditional as well as a distance learning option for the regular school day. The distance learning platform will be designed on an individual basis depending upon grade, internet access, and device access. Parents of students that choose the distance learning platform will need to meet with Mr. Shepherd and his or her classroom teacher on or before August 5th to work out the details. If there are any questions about distance learning or to set up a meeting time, please contact Mr. Shepherd at 918-967-8572 or email [sshepherd@whitefield.k12.ok.us.](mailto:sshepherd@whitefield.k12.ok.us)

As you are aware, masks are a hot topic in our society. While we do encourage the wearing of masks, at this time, it is NOT REQUIRED (this is subject to change at any time). It is optional for each individual student and staff member.

However, we want each student to have a mask of his or her own in case it is mandated by the Governor or State Superintendent. If mandated, and a student does not have a mask, one will be provided for them.

Whitefield Public School holds the safety and well-being of students and staff at the forefront of our daily operations. There are many precautions that we will be taking, and some of the precautions are as follows:

* Regular hand washing and sanitizing will be required of students and staff.
* We will be practicing social distancing where it is applicable (classrooms, hallways, lunchroom).
* As an extra safety precaution, there will be no access to water fountains. Instead, each student can bring a bottle or container of water. We will also offer bottled water for the students to keep in the classroom to drink throughout the day.
* Temperature checks will be done daily upon arrival to the classroom. Any student with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be automatically sent home.
* Parents are to check students before coming to school. A daily checklist will be provided.

There will be more information coming and will be posted on our website at [www.whitefield.k12.ok.us.](http://www.whitefield.k12.ok.us/) We appreciate your cooperation and are dedicated to providing the highest quality education for your students while maintaining a safe, secure environment. If you have any questions, please contact me at 918-967-8572 or email [sshepherd@whitefield.k12.ok.us.](mailto:sshepherd@whitefield.k12.ok.us)

Sincerely,

Scott Shepherd, Superintendent Whitefield Public School