



July 27, 2020

Dear Butteville Families,

On July 24, 2020, the Board of Trustees unanimously voted to start the school year using a hybrid of in-person teaching (Mon-Tues & Thurs/Fri) and at-home learning for all grades K-8 where your child would attend 2 days of in-person instruction and 3 days of distance learning. One-hundred percent distance learning will be an option for those students that choose to stay home. The decision also cancels transitional kindergarten classes for the 2020-21 school year. After careful consideration of all variables and concerns placed upon our community by a global pandemic, the Board chose the best available option to reopen the school that would provide the safest environment for all staff, students, and families other than full distance learning at home.

The Board's decision took into account staff and parent input, but also realized that too many questions remain on how to provide and pay for a safe and clean school learning environment. Until we can answer these questions, we must reduce the number of students on campus into a manageable population. Sanitation and transportation are two factors that weigh heavily on this decision, as the campus must be cleaned and sanitized daily and the buses are limited to about 14 students per trip (possibly more with family groupings). The Board also decided that masks will be worn by all students during school hours and that no *new* interdistrict transfer requests will be considered for **grades 1-8**.

The Board of Trustees, administration, and staff understand the inconvenience that this decision may cause families; for this reason, we will continue to work diligently to return students to the classroom as soon as we feel it is safe to do so without compromising the health of our community. The good news is that this will be an ongoing evaluative process as new information becomes available. Our ultimate goal, of course, is to get students back into the classroom as soon as possible. The reopening plan will be uploaded to our school website as well. **We will keep you updated on all new developments.**

Sincerely,

Mr. Eric Bragg, Principal

Mr. Len Foreman, Superintendent