



Jefferson County North Schools

USD 339 Nortonville—Winchester

Denise Jennings, Superintendent Kristina Edwards, Clerk

310 5th Street Winchester, Kansas 66097

USD 339.net (Website), USD339 (App), 913-774-2000

July 30, 2020

Dear Parents,

I so wish this letter could begin with my usual excitement of a new school year. But, like all of you, I realize this will be a difficult school year ahead so it is hard to be enthusiastic regarding the unknowns. Though, I also know times like these provide opportunity for unintended learning that has the potential to build student skills for their years ahead. Flexibility, adaptability, and perseverance are traits we have all practiced since March and will continue to develop through our upcoming weeks.

Similar to the age-old question, “which came first the chicken or the egg?”, we find ourselves in a predicament.... Parents would like to know the exact plans the school will follow for prevention and education. The school would like to know how many students we will be teaching (in-person or remote) so we can plan for the specifics regarding each option for delivering instruction as well as the number of students in classrooms, busses, etc.

We continue to develop our plans for the year. The delay of school starting until August 25th, will provide teachers, staff, and administration time to plan for a new platform regarding remote instruction as well as prepare for prevention methods and instructional practices in our classrooms. We continue to work with the state and local health officials, while recommendations continue to change, and COVID continues to cause us annoyance and challenges. We will keep you updated through our website, app, and Facebook. Please refer to the back of this letter for my Q & A regarding our return-to-school plan, as it currently stands.

You will have the opportunity in the next few days to enroll your student(s). As always, we hope you entrust us to educate your child(ren). You will determine if you want your child to attend “in-person” at school or “remote learning” (digital learning lessons will be provided in conjunction with our partners at Greenbush Service Center for your child to work from home) with assistance and daily connection with our local teachers to support instruction and progress monitoring. We want to assist you and your child(ren) with continued learning. If you have difficulty making this choice, please don’t hesitate to call and talk with me. Our teachers will be working to ensure we are meeting the needs of all students enrolled at JCN.

This has been a difficult year financially for many. Please don’t hesitate to complete the free/reduced food service application if you find yourself struggling. The financial support it provides to your family is not the only support. USD 339 receives support based on our qualified recipients. Our numbers also allow for emergency services, like our grab-n-go meals this summer.

We strive for our JCN mission to provide a quality education for all students enabling them to assume a positive role in society. I believe as we work together through the upcoming year we will be able to overcome COVID or anything else that comes our way, and continue this mission. Jefferson County North is a great place to learn, work, and live where exciting things happen and children come first. Thank you for making this possible!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise Jennings".

Denise Jennings, Superintendent