



# School District of La Farge

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August 5, 2020

Dear Wildcat Families,

Thank you for being patient as the District has considered how to responsibly reopen the school for students in September. On Monday evening, the School Board approved plans for the 2020-2021 school year. These plans were carefully crafted and informed by input from staff at all levels, family input, and guidance from state and local health departments.

La Farge Schools believes that all children have the right to learn and that choice is essential in our current reality. As of today, the district is planning to open on September 1st with the ability to offer in-person classroom instruction to students, along with a district-designed home-based/virtual learning option for families who prefer.

- **Classroom Instruction)** In person instruction Monday - Friday
  - Students and teachers face-to-face in classrooms
  - Modified school day of 8:00 - 2:30
  - Block Schedule for grades 6 - 12. On alternate days, students will attend four longer class periods rather than the 8-period schedule that has been used in the past. (Check Skyward for student schedules and contact Mr. Slack at [slackt@lafarge.k12.wi.us](mailto:slackt@lafarge.k12.wi.us) with any questions).
  
- **Home-based/Virtual instruction Monday - Friday**
  - Taught by La Farge Schools teachers with direct instruction (live or video)
  - Classroom-connected to help maintain relationships and engagement with students
  - Curriculum-aligned to facilitate a smooth transition back to in-person instruction
  - Common expectations and routines across classes
  - Frequent opportunities for live meetings with teachers and other students
  - District devices available to students in grades 1 - 12
  - For planning purposes, we are asking that students who choose this option commit on a quarterly basis. First quarter is September 1 - October 30.

While our teachers and staff are committed to providing a familiar, welcoming, and engaging learning environment, some changes to our spaces, schedules, and routines will be implemented for student and staff health. The district has engaged in a wide range of efforts to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for people in our buildings, though reopening our classrooms does not ensure that your child will be safe from exposure. Each family, in consideration of their own circumstances, beliefs, concerns, and the learning styles of their children, can decide what option works best for them. We support you in whatever decisions you make for your children and families in the fall.

Throughout the year, all La Farge Schools students and staff may need to adjust to periods of home-based or virtual learning. The district will use a flexible framework wherein instructional models can be adjusted based on our local context, fluctuations in community health, and related recommendations from state and local health agencies. An emphasis will be placed on timely communication, though families are advised to prepare for potentially rapid changes that are out of the district's control. Student and family input from this past spring's closure provided important information that will enable our teachers and staff to support students with more rigorous, relevant, and engaging instruction in the event that another closure is necessary.

Our Back to School Night and Community Supper will not be held this year. **On August 12, online registration will open for all returning students, whether they are engaging in the classroom or home-based/virtual learning environments.** Watch for more information to come.

Most of our families already responded to a survey to gather information about what instructional model they may choose for their child(ren) starting September 1st. Based on new information, some families may want to adjust their initial plans.

**Please fill out this brief [registration form](#) to confirm your child(ren)'s enrollment in the home-based/virtual option.** The district respectfully requests that you complete this form by 5pm on Monday, August 17.

Throughout the remainder of August, the district will be communicating frequently with our families- the most current information will always be available on our [website](#).

Again, thank you for your patience and continued understanding and flexibility.  
Enjoy the summer sunshine, and stay safe and healthy!

Sincerely,  
Meaghan Gustafson