

## **Back to School Letter**

This is not your normal back to school letter as there is little that is normal entering the 2020-21 school year. Currently the school district intends to fully open to onsite instruction of students for the upcoming school year. The district has worked with employees and local health officials to put a plan in place containing protocols to make our learning environment as safe as possible for the staff and students. Changes to this plan may occur often and quickly due to changes at the local, state and federal level, so please keep current by viewing our school website for the latest information.

Despite all the changes and uncertainty, we are looking forward to having students back in our building again. We do have a few changes with teachers and scheduling for next year. Miriam Sanguins from Whitewater will be our new music teacher. She will be splitting her time between Stanford and Denton schools each day. Shelby Fiedler is joining our staff as the new counselor. We are looking forward to them joining our team at Stanford school. The other big change for the school year is the move to a 4 Day Week. It is our goal with the 4-day week calendar that we will see less absences due to extracurricular activities and less absenteeism overall by staff and students. Given what happened with school closures in March it is even more important for students to attend school in person this year as we attempt to get back in a more normal mode of educating students.

Another change is a move towards a more digital environment to conserve resources and make the district more efficient. Handbooks will not be printed and mailed to families. They are available online as well as forms for free and reduced meal applications and other important school documents. Also, most of the school communication will be through the school website and our social media. There is also a Stanford School App available for download at both the Apple and Google stores. Links to that app can be found on the school website. It will be important for both parents and students to keep abreast of school happenings and well as changes during these uncertain times.

Even with everything that is going on in our country right now we are looking forward to a challenging and rewarding school year. We are confident that we can meet the challenges and provide a quality education to our students. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at the school or via my email at [bmoore@stanford.k12.mt.us](mailto:bmoore@stanford.k12.mt.us) . Keep up to date with all school functions and changes at [www.stanfordmtschoo.com](http://www.stanfordmtschoo.com) Thanks for your support of the students of Stanford Schools.