

# Clearfield Area School District

Administrative Offices  
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Thursday, September 3, 2020

Dear Clearfield Area School Families,

With the changing of the month, and the posting of our school calendars, showing the Group A/B rotation continuing through September there were new questions asked that we would like to answer.

\* There is no school on Labor Day, September 7. The A/B rotation will continue every other school day. So with Group B scheduled to be here Friday, Group A will be the group starting back on Tuesday. (Please enjoy the weekend, but be sure to maintain the healthy practices that can help keep us in school!☺)

\* With Clearfield County currently considered “Moderate” in its rate of transmission in regards to COVID-19, the schools need to be in a hybrid approach to allow for the fullest extent of social distancing we can create while still having students back in school. While the county’s overall numbers have improved in the last several weeks, to get to the “Low” status allowing a full return to school, the county will need to see on average about one new case per day, or less for several weeks. As a result we shared the A/B rotation through the end of September so that those who need to make child care arrangements can plan in advance as much as possible. The elementary calendar was sent home with the students showing which days are A and B days, while each school’s section of the website has had their event calendar updated to show the A/B status as well.

\* If the county’s status does change to “Low” and stays there for at least two weeks, we will move towards having all of the students in school on a regular basis, and this could occur before the end of the month. This is completely dependent on the overall rate of transmission within the county.

\* What happens if the numbers go the other way? If Clearfield County was to move towards “Substantial” transmission, then we would need to shift to a more virtual platform. This would see students in grades 4-12 participate in their classes online on a daily basis following their daily schedules when possible. We would also try to have some in school time as well. Grades K-3 would be a mix of in school time and assigned work through either online resources or packets.

\* Even with the planning we had in place, there have been challenges we did not expect. Challenges we have encountered, as is the same for a large number of school districts across the country, include delays in computer shipments, software companies being overwhelmed, and a general surge of demand on online items. We have on order 850 new laptops that we learned early in August we were not going to receive before school started. We have since procured used laptops from other schools, purchased refurbished ones where we could find them, and have had to do extensive work with reimaging each one before being able to provide them to our students. We should by the end of this week

be able to report that each student in grades 4-12 does have a device assigned to them. It may not be what we had hoped, but until our new ones arrive, they will need to suffice.

\* What can you do to help?

- We know that the every other day schedule is a challenge, but an essential step to get us back to long term, face to face instruction. Students are to be doing work on those days they are not here. Your help by asking your children about that work and if it is being done would go a long way to helping them be prepared for their next day in school.
- Ask your principals your questions. Your question or concern can probably be best answered by the principals in your child's school. Additionally your question may be something we have not thought of and need to be aware of for everyone's benefit.
  - CAE: Office Phone 814-765-5511 ext 1000
    - Mrs. Gaston – [jgaston@clearfield.org](mailto:jgaston@clearfield.org)
    - Mr. Veihdeffer – [ken.veihdeffer@clearfield.org](mailto:ken.veihdeffer@clearfield.org)
  - Jr/Sr HS: Office Phone 814-765-5511 ext 2000
    - Mrs. Prestash – [hprestash@clearfield.org](mailto:hprestash@clearfield.org)
    - Mr. Scaife – [escaife@clearfield.org](mailto:escaife@clearfield.org)
    - Mr. Brickley – [abrickley@clearfield.org](mailto:abrickley@clearfield.org)
- Stay healthy and make great choices! As stated earlier in this letter the way we get our students back to everyday face to face instruction, is through the success of our community and county in controlling the spread of COVID 19.

Our students have been great in this modified and unique reopening of school. They have risen to the challenge and we are proud of them for their continual work. It is a long road ahead, and a journey in which we cannot let our guard down. I am confident that our Bison Pride will help us reach our goals if we continue to work together to make it a success.

Thanks,

*Terry W. Struble*

Terry W. Struble, Superintendent

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