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## Regional School Unit 57

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*RSU 57 prepares respectful, responsible and creative thinkers for success in the global community.*

September 11, 2020

Dear Mustang Nation,

Students will begin returning back to school beginning Monday, September 14th. It's been six months since our students were present in our buildings and we are very excited to be able to open the doors to students again. The District has been very busy preparing classrooms, hallways, buses and various parts of the buildings with signage and personal protective equipment to ensure the safe return of students.

The Governor announced last Friday that York County has moved to yellow status. Our schools are operating in the yellow status and will follow this same plan if we return to green. Prior to sending your child to school on their first day, we ask that you review the information below. Our remote learning parents should become familiar with this information, as well.

### **Student & Staff Daily Screening:**

Staff and Students are required to use the [DOE Pre-screening Tool](#) daily.

### **Health and Safety Protocol:**

As part of one of the 6 requirements for the opening of schools, all teachers will be reviewing health and safety protocols with students upon arriving at school.

### **Transportation:**

Information regarding bus schedules and routes can be found [here](#). If you're inquiring about a schedule for (Pre K or Special Needs) you can contact the transportation department at 247-3221 prompt #3. Students should be at the bus stop 5 minutes prior to pickup time in the morning. No kindergarten student can be dropped off without a parent present, so please be mindful of the other students and driver. Please remember the following:

1. Students must wear a mask at all times on the bus and must use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting the bus. Each bus has a hand sanitizer dispenser. The hand sanitizer dispenser is attached to the seat directly behind the driver.

2. Students will enter the bus and be seated from the rear of the bus to the front. Students will exit from the front of the bus to the rear. Students will need to practice social distancing when exiting the bus.
3. The drivers will assign seats on the bus. There will be 1 child per seat. Siblings shall sit together as long as social distancing from other students can be maintained.
4. Students will only be picked up and dropped off at one location.
5. PreK seating will remain fixed at the front of the bus. Parents will be permitted to assist in seating/buckling with masks and in following with hand sanitizing procedures.

**Opening Days:**

\*Updated 9/9/2020 Staggered Start Dates

	<b>Monday, 9/14</b>	<b>Tuesday, 9/15</b>	<b>Wednesday, 9/16</b>	<b>Thursday, 9/17</b>	<b>Friday, 9/18 &amp; Monday, 9/21</b>	<b>Tuesday, 9/22</b>
<b>Elementary</b>	School Bus Orientation Pre-K  Grades 1-5 ( <b>in person only</b> )	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  School Bus Orientation Kindergarten  Grades 1-5 ( <b>in person only</b> )	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  Grades 1-5 ( <b>remote and in person</b> )	Pre-K & K Screening by appointment at MHS East Building  Grades 1-5 ( <b>remote and in person</b> )	PK & K ( <b>in person only</b> )  Grades 1-5 ( <b>remote and in person</b> )	PK & K ( <b>remote and in person</b> )  Grades 1-5 ( <b>remote and in person</b> )
<b>Middle School</b>	6th grade students only	6th + 7th students only	6th + 7th + 8th (All)	All	All	All
<b>High School</b>	9th and Voc	9th, 10th & Voc	9th, 10th, & 11th	All	All	All

**School Nutrition:**

USDA recently announced the extension of the FREE summer meals program for ALL children 18 years and younger, through 12/31/20, enabling the RSU 57 Nutrition Program to continue to provide FREE MEALS!!! ANY child 18 years or younger, no matter if they are approved for free or reduced price meals, or if they are fully paid, can have these free meals at NO COST! Curbside meals will be available for our remote learning students.

## **Technology & Devices:**

Our Technology Team has done a yeoman's job in ensuring that our remote learners, in class learners, and staff have the appropriate devices to ensure a successful year.

At this point all devices for Remote Learning should be with the student and his/her family. MHS upperclassmen who dropped off their device for summer storage or repair may pick the device up on the first day of school in their block 1 class. Any devices not picked up will be returned to their block 1 class.

MHS devices are slated for replacement this year. The devices were received recently and are in the process of being prepared for exchange. More information will go out as the date gets closer.

Elementary devices will be at school and will be available in their class on the first day of school. In the event that there is a shift to remote learning on short notice, your child's school will contact you with instructions on deployment/retrieval of your child's device.

We have been working very hard on being prepared for every likely situation. Adjustments and revisions will be shared if and when they arise. If you need assistance or have questions about the device, please send an email to [remotehelp@rsu57.org](mailto:remotehelp@rsu57.org).

## **Closing**

We all want a successful year. In order to accomplish this and keep our schools open, it is important to remember that schools can not accomplish this alone. Schools are prepared, but if the only place these CDC practices are happening is school, our ability to stay open is greatly diminished. Please do your part, by wearing masks and social distancing, to help keep our staff safe and allow your schools to stay open for children. Let's all protect one another and let students experience the rewards of being in school with their peers.

My Best,

Larry Malone  
Superintendent of Schools