



Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent
Mahomet-Seymour Schools

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September 30, 2020

Hello Bulldog Families,

We are over six full weeks into the school year, and I want to offer my sincerest thanks to our families for working together through the world of operating schools during a pandemic. As we have all come to learn, each day is unpredictable and we've all gotten really good at changing plans and being flexible.

I wanted to provide you with an update on our school plans as they relate to the remainder of the first semester and for the second semester of the 20-21 school year.

Our Board of Education approved our reopening plan on July 20, 2020. At that time, we had no idea what it would look like in operating a "hybrid" model plan combined with remote learning. We have learned so much in these first six weeks of school!

The information below is taken directly from the approved minutes of the July 20, 2020 Board of Education meeting:

Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Giles, to replace the approved Task Force hybrid plan, which has grades 6-12 attending 1 day in person, with the Superintendent's recommended hybrid plan which has grades 6-12 attending 2 days in person, and to reevaluate the plan in 4 weeks. Motion was approved by yes vote, 4-3. Members Giles, Larson, Henrichs, and McComb voted yes. Members Schultz, Keefe, and Hennesy voted no. Motion carried.

The Board of Education revisited the current plan, through discussion, on both September 14th and again on September 21st. On September 21st, the Board of Education voted to continue the current hybrid model through the first semester, and start with full day, in person learning, four days per week, starting at the beginning of second semester, which is January 5, 2021. Remote learning will still remain available for any family that chooses this model.

You will be receiving a survey on Friday, October 2, 2020. This purpose of this survey is to find out if you wish to:

1. Switch to fully remote learning for second semester

OR

2. Switch from fully remote learning to in person learning for second semester. Please note that for second semester, in person learning will be FOUR FULL DAYS PER WEEK.

"Committed to Excellence"

THE SURVEY IS DUE BACK ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2020 BY 4:00 P.M. YOU ONLY NEED TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY IF YOU ARE MAKING A SWITCH BETWEEN IN PERSON LEARNING AND REMOTE LEARNING.

THE HYBRID OPTION OF HALF DAYS, A DAYS/B DAYS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE SECOND SEMESTER.

Over the course of the next two months, we will be planning for full day in person learning, for four days per week. Again, as stated earlier, we will continue to make the remote learning option available for our families, and this is why it is necessary, one day per week, for all students to be off campus so our teachers can plan, collaborate and prepare for remote instruction, as well as engage in professional development activities and connect with students who need assistance, support or who have questions.

Also, in collaboration with our District Nurse, Nita Bachman, we'd like to offer this friendly reminder about quarantining and isolation as we have gotten some questions about these terms.

If your student is instructed by public health that they have been exposed to COVID-19, and must quarantine, that means that they are to remain at home for the length of the quarantine.

Specifically, CUPHD offers this clarifying statement in regard to COVID 19 cases or exposures:

A person who tests positive for COVID-19 is placed in isolation. Those exposed will be placed in quarantine. Isolation and quarantine are not suggestions, they are mandates. Persons in isolation or quarantine are not to leave their homes unless they are seeking emergency medical care.

If you have any questions about this, please contact District Nurse, Nita Bachman: nbachman@ms.k12.il.us or 217-493-0699.

Please be looking for the survey that will arrive in your Inbox the morning of Friday, October 2, 2020.

Thank you!

Very sincerely,

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools