

August 1st, 2020

Dear Parent / Guardians,

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe during these challenging times. I am writing to you to share information regarding Hazel Park's current Return to School Road map that was approved by the Hazel Park Board of Education last week. This plan has been developed with input from our surveys, our stakeholder committee, and [the Governor's Return to School Road Map](#). It is important to remember that we will need to remain flexible. The safety of our students and staff is at the forefront of our decisions and guidance from the state and our local health department changes frequently.

This week I will be holding zoom meetings with our administrative team so parents, community members, and other stakeholders may hear more information regarding return to school options, protocols and safety mitigation strategies. The zoom links will be located on the school district website. The dates and times are:

- Monday, August 3, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, August 4, 4:15 pm - 5:15 pm
- Friday, August 7, 9:00 am -11:00 am

We will also be available in person at the next enrollment night at Ford Administrative Center, 1620 East Elza, Tuesday August 11, from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. Please wear your masks.

### **Hazel Park Return to School Plans**

When the 2020-21 school year resumes, Hazel Park School District parents will have two learning options to consider for their student. In both parent surveys, your input showed that half of our families desire an in-person option and the other half desire a virtual option. In order to meet the needs of our students and families, we will be offering in-person instruction and a virtual, online option:

- **In-Person Instruction:** If our region continues in phase 4 or above as defined in the MI Safe Schools Roadmap, parents need to complete Back to School Registration for their child. Safety plans will be in place based upon science and guidance from the [Governors Return to School Road Map](#). This will include personal protective equipment, expanded hygiene practices, and increased cleaning. If our region returns to phase 3 or below then students will shift to remote learning. The remote learning will be similar to this past spring but with increased attention to synchronous learning from our Hazel Park Staff. Families that select in-person instruction can not change until the marking period.
- **K-12 Viking Virtual Academy:** Parents who are concerned about their child returning to in-person instruction, have the option to enroll their child in Viking Virtual Academy. This virtual schooling option offers full-time online instruction. Hazel Park Schools will be using the K12 curriculum product for K-8, that provides a blend of online and offline learning experiences, and a fully online program for 9-12. Hazel Park teachers will be supporting this learning option through a joint learning partnership between the student, family and the teacher.

- We are requesting that families select an option as close to August 10th as possible so we can plan classes for the In-person instruction classrooms. Families that decide to select the Virtual Academy can not change until the marking period.

### **Safety Measures:**

There are a variety of safety measures that have been put into place for the 2020-2021 school year. Families that select the in- person learning option will find a number of safety measures that will be put into place within the schools:

- EC-5th grade students will be required to wear masks in the halls, bathrooms, and small groups. We are strongly encouraging parents for the safety of their children and the staff to have their children wear masks in the school, however they are not required. Students will have dividers on their desk.
- 6-12th grade students will be required to wear masks the entire day.
- Staff will be required to wear masks the entire day.
- The entrance of the schools will have thermal cameras to take students' temperature when they enter the school.
- Oakland County Health Department will have three nurses in the school district to support procedures until December 2020.
- Hazel Park is looking to hire full time custodians at each building during the day to focus on COVID cleaning procedures.
- 360 cleaning machines have been purchased for each building.
- Students will be sent home per the Oakland County Health Department's guidelines when they are ill.
- Hand Sanitizer Stations will be in each classroom and throughout the building.
- Class sizes will be reduced to 18-21 to support social distancing.

We encourage you to join us for our zoom meetings to discuss questions and provide input on the plans that have been developed for the 2020-2021 school year. We also want to request that you complete re enrollment so we can assign students to teachers as soon as possible. Please also feel free to contact your principal or myself at [amy.kruppe@hazleparkschools.org](mailto:amy.kruppe@hazleparkschools.org)

With Students in Mind,

Amy Kruppe, Ed.D.