



Ford Administration
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www.hazelparkschools.org

December 5, 2021

Dear Hazel Park Families,

The tragedy that occurred last week at Oxford Community Schools was a devastating event that parents and educators should not have to experience. We know many families who have connections to that community and we are sending our love and thoughts to every one of you. We are encouraging HPS staff and students to wear Blue and Gold on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021, in school to support Oxford families and students and let them know they are not alone.

I want to state again that Hazel Park Schools closed last Thursday and Friday out of an abundance of caution. Hazel Park Schools did not receive any direct threats. Safety is always our priority for all staff and students.

With this in mind, please take time to speak to your children about making threats, verbally or on social media, drawing threatening pictures, or committing violent acts within the school or in the community. Hazel Park Schools will work with the police department to keep the school environment safe. Discipline could include, but not be limited to suspension up to expulsion and police charges. We must make our learning environment safe and enriching for all.

The importance of staff, family, and community collaborating together to provide a caring, healthy and safe environment is at the core of our beliefs. As we move forward this week, we will have support staff available for students' social-emotional needs as we return to academic learning in Hazel Park. We ask that you reach out to your principal if you have any concerns regarding your children.

I am resharing materials for speaking to your children about violence. I am adding again the National Association of School Psychologist materials [talking about violence to your children](#). I have also added an article with added resources should you want to [read additional material](#). Our school social workers, counselors, and psychologists stand ready to support our families.

Hazel Park Schools has implemented protocols and practices to support safety within our schools. Listed below are just some of the examples of safety protocols we currently have in place.

- School Safety Resource Officer from Hazel Park Police Department
- Emergency Operations Safety Plans
- All Doors locked for entry
- Parent ID check and sign in with the schools
- Video Camera on School Grounds
- Hall and Door Supervision in High School and Junior High



HAZEL PARK SCHOOLS

- Background checks on school visitors and volunteers.
- [Ok2Say](#)
- [Bullying Reporting](#)

We additionally are reinforcing a change at the high school and junior high for backpacks, that we ask that you support with your child. All backpacks must be in your students' lockers at the High School and Junior High. Directions for students will be emailed out weekly newsletters.

Several parents have reached out with questions. I will be hosting several zoom "Coffee with the Superintendent" meetings to speak about school safety, COVID, and other topics parents may want to discuss. The zoom link will be on the website that day www.hazelparkschools.org. We want everyone to have the answers to questions you may be worried about. Because not every date and time works for parents please feel free to reach out to your building principal or me.

- Monday, December 6. Time: 7 to 8 pm
- Wednesday, December 8. Time: 11 am to 12 pm
- Wednesday, December 8. Time: 6 to 7 pm

COVID

COVID tracing and testing are still occurring in our schools. Daily rapid testing is available Monday through Friday from 7 to 8 am at the Ford Administration Center (1620 East Elza). Please communicate with your principal if your family or child has a positive test or is not feeling well.

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics:

Covid vaccines are available for children five years and older. We have one more additional vaccine clinic on December 14, 2021, for the second dose at Webb Elementary from 3:30 to 5:00 pm. Booster shots and first-dose vaccines will also be available at this clinic. Registration is encouraged, but not required. Walk-ins will be accepted. We will evaluate in the new year if we can add additional vaccination times.

Diversity Survey

Please consider completing the Diversity survey listed below. We are currently working on an equity plan that will help us evaluate the work we are doing in our schools and community. The first step is to evaluate our stakeholders' beliefs. To help us do this, please complete the entire survey. It will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. https://hanover-research.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aicTrmCGZQ9hbh4

Winter Break

During these last two weeks we will have many celebratory events in the school. I hope you are able to join in and support your children before they enter into their winter break.

In Kindness,

Amy Kruppe, Ed.D.
Superintendent