Dear Hazel Park Schools’ Students, Staff, Parents and Community,

As I woke up in the middle of the night thinking about race relations in our country and how it is raising awareness within our little school district, I remembered the phrase “a pandemic in a pandemic,” which as immobilizing a thought as that is, gave me some small comfort of why this all feels so challenging. The 2019-20 school year has been like no other. We have experienced a once-in-a-generation, unscripted situation that has tested our patience, endurance and resilience.

For the past five years, I have been honored to serve as the superintendent for Hazel Park Schools. During that time, we have worked together as a community to create something bigger than ourselves. Together, we built a culture that promotes love, belonging, hope and inspiration. Our passion for this organization and the children that we serve is a great motivator, even during the most difficult circumstances.

When schools across the country closed in March for the remainder of the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were impelled to do things in a way that we had never done before. This could have been a crushing defeat, but not at Hazel Park Schools. Our greater community rose to the occasion and embraced the challenge and as we hopefully move into a sweet and thoughtful summer where we continue learning in new ways, I can not help but be pretty psyched about the way we celebrated the end of the 2020 school year and for what we have planned so far as we move forward.

Our amazing teachers, administrators and support staff have excelled in areas beyond what their education had prepared them to do. They worked around the clock to find opportunities to maintain the relationships that are vital for positive learning outcomes. Our parents provided outstanding support as we moved to a remote learning environment. They worked closely with our team to tend to the academic, social and emotional needs of their children.

That is not to say that we didn’t feel some form of loss these past few months. We did. We missed our students terribly. Those feelings of grief are real, and I do not mean to trivialize them. However, as we finish out the 2019-20 school year, I would also like to focus on areas of gratitude.

- We started the school year with the theme, All In All The Time. At that time, we could have never predicted just how much we would have needed to rely on each other to help us through a public health crisis. Then we asked the students how they want to talk about themselves and they unanimously chose Today’s Learners, Tomorrow’s Leaders for which we have to thank all of you for helping to create this confidence in our students.
- Since March 16, we have served 74,299 meals including 37,113 breakfasts and 38,186 lunches including 4,851 delivered meals. Our Gleaners’ programs have continued monthly and we started the USDA produce program with 1,400 boxes of fresh produce being distributed every week through June.
- We started our COVID-Cares Call Line to address the specific social-emotional needs of students at all grade levels because we believe that our community trusts that we will help take care of their hearts.
- Over 850 devices were given to students for their studies during the shutdown. Five hundred and eighty students have the opportunity to keep their device during the summer for iReady. Additionally, we won an United Way grant which allowed us to purchase 123 Chromebooks.
In a world where social and physical distancing has become the new normal, Hazel Park Schools have proven that we are still stronger together and we believe that we will get well together!

**Moving Forward:** As we look forward to the 2020-21 school year, we know that parents will continue to have questions about learning options for their students. We have assembled a stakeholder committee of over 45 people who are discussing the various options with input from the Oakland County Health Division (OCHD) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC). This group is currently looking at three possibilities at this time which include but may not be limited to a full opening of school in the fall, a hybrid approach of online and school attendance and a full online approach. It is our vision that Hazel Park Schools will open in the fall and we will pursue every avenue to do that safely. We will continue to include you on the planning and information as it comes available to our schools from the State of Michigan and our Health Departments.

I have scheduled two **Town Halls**, virtually and in person so your questions can be answered in the manner in which you feel comfortable. We will have a virtual meeting on June 24th from 6 to 7 p.m. A link will be available on the [website](#) an hour before the meeting. If weather permits, we will also have an in-person meeting at Ford Administrative Center on June 16th from 6 to 7 p.m. Please be ready for social distancing and to chat about the 2020-2021 school year.

You have my heartfelt thanks for your support. It is truly an honor serving with you.

With students in mind,

Dr. Amy Y. Kruppe
Superintendent

---

**End-of-Year Celebrations**

**Hazel Park Schools' Class Day Honors Celebration Program:** Premiered on May 27, 2020 at 6 p.m.
HPS has a long tradition of honoring our Seniors Awards and Scholarships with a night to remember. This year we continued that tradition by producing a [Class Day Video](#), celebrating our student’s virtues and $3,500,000 in awards.

**Hazel Park High Schools’ Caps & Gowns and Honor Cords Distribution.**
This year staff, administration and the board of education visited door-to-door to honor our students. We had a wonderful time and their smiles say it all. Here are just a couple of photos of our seniors. This is [Sam Smith](#) and [Yari Spears](#).

**Advantage Virtual Graduation:** June 3, 2020 at 7 p.m. Video
These gifts were delivered to graduates on June 9, 2020. The video of this will be posted on our HPS [Youtube](#) page when we finish editing it.

**Hazel Park Schools’ Military Graduation:** Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at Hazel Park War Memorial
On the 76th anniversary of the D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy we honored these following five graduating seniors (featured here) who are Military-bound in the next few weeks:

- Christian Demetsenare - (USMC),
- Conner Johnson - (US Army),
- Aaron King - (USMC),
- Jacob Simkis - (US Navy),
- Caleb Smith - (US Army).

Annual HPHS Senior Car Parade: June 4, 2020 at 9 a.m.
This long-time Hazel Park Schools’ tradition began in the front of the Hazel Park High School. Seniors Over a hundred Seniors participated and the top 4 best decorated cars received prizes. Here’s a video to see how much fun it really was.

Jardon Vocational School Graduation: June 4, 2020 at 6:15 p.m.
Graduates and their families started at Hazel Park Recreation Center and drove over to Jardon where staff waited outside along the sidewalk 6’ apart with their masks on to say goodbye. They received a gift bag with a blanket into their trunks. Here’s a video of the event.

Fifth Grade Clap Out and Parade: June 9, 2020 at 12 p.m. at United Oaks Elementary
United Oaks’ Teachers came out in full force to celebrate their students who are entering Junior High in the fall. Graduates received many words of encouragement as well as many gifts from staff. It looked like this.

Webb Elementary Fifth Grade Celebrations: June 9, 2020 at 3 p.m.
Webb fifth grade families were invited to drive through the Webb parking lot on Tuesday, June 9th, as a final send off from elementary school. Mrs. Tull’s class started at 3 p.m. and Mrs. Sanborn’s class started at 3:30 p.m.. Staff cheered and clapped goodbye with well-wishes to our students as they head off to junior high. Here’s a video!

Hoover Fifth Grade Farewell: June 10, 2020 at 10:15 a.m.
The Hoover staff cheered on their students in the Hoover parking lot on Wednesday, June 10 from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. sending their students off with a bang and a send-off gift. Miss you guys!
Hazel Park Junior High Eighth Grade Celebrations: June 10, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.
The Junior High celebrated our 8th-grade award winners by delivering their awards to their homes. We delivered yard signs with the award and student's name and an engraved award for each winner. This was what it was like. The following students were honored:

- Meagan James, HPJH Legacy Award
- Blake Herzog, Student Athlete of the Year: Male
- Lamontai Otis, Student of the Year: Male
- Youra Yasser, Student of the Year: Female
- Forrest Ream, Patriot Award: Male
- Ryleigh Hallas, Patriot Award: Female
- Reginald Wilson, PTSA Service Award: Male
- Desteny Dejarnett, Student Athlete of the Year: Female
- Hana Aleith, PTSA Service Award: Female

United Oak’s Kindergarten and Young 5's Cool Drive-Through: June 10, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Talmage and Mrs. Hogan handed out these buckets with books, smarties, bubbles! Congratulations Smartie Pants! You did a good job!

Hazel Park Junior High Eighth Grade Celebrations: June 11, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.
Instead of our usual "clap out" on the last day of eighth grade we held a "drive out". Staff were clapping and cheering the students as they passed. Students received a "mock" award and a T-shirt.

Hoover’s End-of-Year Drive By Goodbye: Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.
Hoover staff lined up to wish our students a final farewell for the year! Some families just kept driving by over and over which made us so happy! We missed our last months with our little ones. This is what missing you looks like!

Mark Your Calendar:
Invest Roosevelt Alternative High School Car Drive Up Graduation June 19, 2020 at 5 p.m.
Hazel Park High School Graduation: August 6, 2020

Success in College Guide

Report Cards
Now that we are all getting so tech savvy and like to keep as many trees alive as possible, we are asking that our families access their report cards via MiStar as we will not be mailing report cards. Below are some directions for how families can access student grades and comments through the MiStar Parent Portal. In order to access the Parent Portal you must have a PIN Number (an eight digit code) and a password. If you have misplaced your log-in information you may email Mrs. Alley at ashleigh.alley@hazelparkschools.org. Here is a step-by-step guide to assist you in accessing your student’s report card. Families who prefer a printed copy, can come into Ford Administrative Center to pick up as of June 22, 2020. We will be mailing IRIPS.
Webster Enrollment Flier

Enrollment Flier

USDA “Farmers to Families” Fresh Produce Distribution: Thursdays, May 28 through June from 9 a.m. to noon. Sponsored by Perfect Pact LLC and Hazel Park Schools. About 20 volunteers and staff came together, masks on faces and gloves on hands, to distribute 1000 boxes of fresh produce, no questions asked, to anyone in the community. The distribution takes place at the Hazel Park High School athletic lot. (Make sure to enter into the parking lot off of Felker Ave. by the tennis courts and exit past the football stadium entrance.)

Assistant Superintendent Jason Zirnis said, “All I can say is that it is a great opportunity for Hazel Park Schools to be able to provide not only the meals to the students during the school days (breakfasts and lunches) but provide the Farmers to Families program once a week and Gleaners once a month as well.”

Flier

Summer Free Food Flier

Summer Learning Opportunities (Grades K - 8)

There are a number of summer learning opportunities available to our students.

- Grades K-5: Free Book Packs and Family Engagement Guide:
  - Hazel Park School District will be providing book packs for children who will be entering grades K-5 in the Fall of 2020. Along with books, families will receive a guide filled with information about how you can help your child build good reading and writing skills. We expect these book kits to be available for pick up at the Ford Building in mid June. Additional information will be sent about the dates and times to pick up the book kits.

- Grades 1 - 3: Kids Read Now
  - Kids Read Now is a summer reading and parent engagement program. Students who participate in this program will have 6 books sent to their home. Parents will use the Discovery Sheets to discuss the books with their child. Once a book is completed, parents/guardians can send a text or email to Kids Read Now to get the next book. Books will come directly to the home of families who expressed interest through their school.
Grades K - 8: Free Summer School Online Instruction:

- We are thrilled to announce that all students in Kindergarten through eighth grade (grades for 2019-2020 school year) who are enrolled for next year have an amazing opportunity this summer to use a program called I-Ready. The use of this online learning platform is free for all students who choose to participate. This will allow all students to complete online learning activities in the areas of math and reading.

- If you have a device on loan from the district, you are welcome to keep it through the summer to participate in the iReady program. We do ask that you confirm your attendance for the 20-21 school year by visiting our back-to-school enrollment page on our website to begin the re enrollment process.

- Please submit the form below if you would like your child to have access to the iReady reading and math lessons. Following the submission of the form, you will receive an email during the week of June 15 with all of the important information you and your child will need to use iReady. We expect that your child will be able to start the reading and writing lessons on June 22, 2020. **IMPORTANT**: Please submit a separate form for each child.

- Summer Learning Opportunity: iReady Online Reading and Math

**Summer School Flier**

**Mask Flier**