

Callout July 16, 2020, to Parents from Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mark Scott

Good evening. This is Mark Scott, Superintendent of Schools, calling you about the new school year. We are committed to offering school as safely as possible this fall. Of all the issues presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, educating our children is the most challenging and also the most important. Our children are our future and we are dedicated to helping ensure their success and well-being.

First, I want to make sure that you know a lot of information is posted to our district website, www.hcbe.net, to include Frequently Asked Questions. Most recently we've added a reopening plan, and I ask that you take a few minutes to review this document.

Recently our re-opening plan has been revised to include the following:

- The first day of school will be delayed by two days, until August 6. Our teachers will return on July 28 as planned, allowing more time to prepare to best meet students' needs. In addition to traditional pre-planning activities, this extension will allow additional time to prepare our classrooms and to train our staff on district protocols.
- To help with social distancing on buses, the high school schedule will change to a six-period day and run from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This will allow separate bus routes for each level of school, resulting in fewer students on the bus at one time.
- In keeping with limited group gatherings and social distancing, our Meet and Greets and new student orientations will be virtual or drive-through. Schools will contact their families about dates and formats.

Important prevention protocols have been established for schools. Highlights include:

- Face coverings will be required when social distancing is not practicable.
- Every employee and student will be provided with a mask.
- All staff will receive training on COVID-19 transmission, prevention and use of masks.
- Our schools and buses will receive extra cleaning and sanitation. Staff and students will be required to wear a face covering while on a school bus.
- Classrooms will be provided necessary supplies, to include hand sanitizer, paper towels, disposable gloves, tissues, bleach-free disinfectant wipes, and disinfectant cleanser.
- Parents and other visitors will be restricted to the front office.
- Visitors will wear a face covering while on campus.
- Signage will be posted district-wide describing symptoms, proper handwashing, sanitizing, social distancing, and when to stay home.
- Prevention protocols will be reviewed regularly with students who return to campus.

We are all in this pandemic together and will come out stronger than ever before! There are no simple solutions, but we will do our best and will continue to prioritize the safety of our students and staff. Stay safe, stay well! Enjoy your evening!