March 12, 2021

Dear New Brighton Area School District Families,

First and foremost, please accept our gratitude for your continued support, patience, and flexibility through all we have faced this school year. We are pleased to announce that Beaver County is continuing to see declining rates of Covid19 and for the first week since the fall has entered the "moderate" level for community transmission.

After careful consideration, we have made the decision to increase our in-person learning beginning Monday, April 5, 2021. This date was chosen based on the declining county transmission rates, the increased protection of our faculty and staff as a result of vaccination, and as a natural transition point following a long weekend and the start of the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period. We feel strongly that this change will benefit all of our students and we intend to continue providing options for our families who wish to remain in a remote, virtual environment.

## **Return to In-Person Instruction**

Elementary, Middle & High School – Four (4) day in-person instruction will begin on Monday, April 5, 2021. Students will have the opportunity to attend in-person Monday through Thursday, and Friday will be a virtual day for all students. There will be no hybrid model, all students may attend all four of these days.

<u>Virtual Option</u> - Families who do not wish to return will have the option to remain virtual. <u>Please contact your school Principal by Friday, March 19 if you wish to remain virtual.</u> If you do not contact the Principal, your child will be scheduled to return in-person. Students electing to remain fully virtual are required to attend all classes during the school day. Students who elect to remain fully virtual and do not attend all classes during the school day will be considered absent; extenuating circumstances and appointments (i.e. doctor, dentist) are exceptions if communicated to the Building Office. Families electing to remain virtual are asked to maintain that model through the end of the school year. We will make every effort to work with families if a change is needed, however, we are asking that you select a model at this time that you feel comfortable with for the remainder of the school year.

<u>Students in Isolation or Quarantine due to Covid19</u> – The Nurses will continue to communicate with all families who are placed in quarantine due to Covid19 exposure. In the event a student is placed in quarantine, we will allow a temporary transition to virtual learning during this time. For all other illnesses or absences, students will make up their work upon returning to school.

<u>Arrival & Dismissal Times</u> – Arrival times in all buildings will remain as they have been all school year. Dismissal times will be as follows:

High School – 1:30 pm Middle School – 2:00 pm Elementary School – 2:30 pm \*Due to the high traffic volume of parent pick-up, dismissal at the Elementary School takes approximately 60-75 minutes to complete. We are dismissing our Elementary School 30 minutes earlier than normal to accommodate the increased time needed at dismissal.

<u>Face Coverings</u> – Face coverings continue to be required at all times, including while on the bus. Please contact the School Nurse if you have any questions.

We are continuing to make every effort to keep the students, staff and community of NBASD safe and to do our part in mitigating the effects of Covid19. Once again, we thank you for your patience. These decisions are difficult, and our goal of safety consistent with the best educational outcomes for students is always foremost in our planning during this extremely challenging year.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Guarino, Ed.D. Superintendent