

August 7, 2020

August 24, 2020: 9th grade only first day

August 26, 2020: 10th-12th first day

Dear Students and Families,

This summer we worked very hard developing a plan for returning to school that would not only satisfy the Governor’s mandate that all schools reopen, but also to prescribe to the technical details recommended by local, state , and federal agencies for COVID-19 safety.

We did not take this task lightly and I feel that we have created an opportunity for our students to return to class as safe as practical. Please know that we feel strongly that students and families of our community are our most cherished resources and we have made these school adjustments in order to protect our students as well as continue their academic career.

Once we return to school, the staff and I will reevaluate and monitor our plan. Flexibility will be necessary by everyone in order to have a smooth school year. We will keep up with any changes that occur that may enable us to loosen requirements or require us to tighten requirements. We have to be in this together and I feel certain that with your assistance we can be the model for our community.

JMPHS purchased our own van this summer. The van will be used to transport students to MCHS for band and weightlifting. We will also offer the service during inclement weather to the college for duel enrolment students who do not have transportation.

**The Plan**

***Morning***

Students will have their temperatures taken at one of the two main gates beginning at 7:30 a.m. 9th and 10th grade students will enter the school through the gate on the hospital side. 11th and 12th grade will enter on the Crane Avenue side. Students will be provided a mask by the school on the first day, but may opt for their own.

The temperature threshold will be 100.5. If a student has a temperature higher than 100.5 they will be escorted by a staff member to the isolation room / Ag building where their temperature will be checked again. If it is still 100.5 or above, they will remain in the building until their ride picks them up. If they are a driver, they will be dismissed after a parent or guardian has been notified. In order to return to school the student will have to show proof of a negative Covid-19 test or present an official note from a medical professional. A written record will be kept of any student who has a temperature above 100.5. Teachers will monitor students throughout the day for COVID-19 warning signs. A list of those signs will be distributed to the faculty. Any student who exhibits signs will be sent to the office for a temperature check. Temperatures will not be randomly checked throughout the day.

Students will be required to wear a mask in the classroom. They will be highly recommended but optional when they are outside, but must be acting in good faith to social distance.

Visitors may come to the school by appointment only. Simply call the office and ask if it is okay to come by.

***Lunch***

Students will not be allowed to have guests visit for lunch under any circumstance.

All students will be required to eat outside. Students will be socially distanced while in line for lunch. If it is too cold, too hot, or raining, students will eat lunch in their homeroom classes.

Students in the 11th and 12th grades who are in good standing according to the rules set forth in the student handbook will be allowed to leave campus for lunch. They will be subject to signing out and signing back in. The office staff will witness appropriate hand cleaning before the student returns to class. This policy will be monitored by the Principal and will be rescinded if he deems it a health issue. JMPHS will also be sensitive to feedback from local restaurants and businesses.

***Dismissal***

Bus riders will be required by the district to wear a mask. Students will not be allowed to get on a bus or ride the school van without a mask.

***A Clean School***

Our school cleaning plan will be posted on our school website and FB page. Feel free to read about the detailed plans we submitted to the state for keeping our school clean and disinfected.

Finally, we will have a virtual open house on FB and or Google Classroom on August 18, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Each teacher will record a segment for their class. If you ae unable to view the live version, it will be online for your convenience for the rest of the week and may be viewed at any time.

We are looking forward to seeing all our students. It has been a long summer, and I know everyone will be excited to see each other when school resumes. Hopefully we will be back into a routine soon and enjoying another school year.

Warm regards,

Mark Akerman, Principal