

Huron School District

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Completely Committed to Kids

Donovan Rowe, Superintendent
Jill Sauve, Business Manager
Steven Hudock, Curriculum Director

January 6, 2021

Dear Huron Family,

I am hoping that you had a great holiday season, and that you had a chance to celebrate the New Year. I am reaching out to you today in order to notify you about a timeline change regarding our return to face-to-face instruction in the Huron School District.

As part of our cooperation with the Wayne County Health Department, I have been meeting weekly with health department representatives in order to review our regional health data. The health department presented the 15 day total number of COVID cases in our municipalities, the observed 15 day daily average of cases, the average cases/day/million population, the Wayne County positivity rate, and the Wayne County “spread level” for each municipality. The numbers that they presented have shown a trend moving in “the right direction,” and our trend data has returned to the numbers we saw prior to the pause in November. In other words, our regional numbers have returned to levels that support modified in-person instruction, with strict adherence to mitigation protocols. In addition, the health department is no longer recommending that the Huron School District pause in-person instruction for Huron students, and MDHHS has lifted their suspension of in-person instruction for students in grades 9-12.

Given the trend data, the regional health situation, and the change of recommendation from the Wayne County Health Department, **we are planning to return students to face-to-face instruction on Monday, January 11, 2021. We will be returning to the modified face-to-face model that we have been using during this school year, and we will continue to provide our remote options for students who have chosen to participate remotely.** Our K-8 students will continue to attend in-person learning on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the virtual Wednesdays. 9-12 students will continue their hybrid streaming model, attending in-person on Monday and Thursday for students with names (A-L), and Tuesday and Friday for students with names (M-Z). Time schedules will remain the same as they were prior to the face-to-face pause.

Transportation schedules will return to their previous times and pick-up locations. We will also continue to implement our mitigation strategies and protocols that have been largely successful for students and staff during this school year.

Food service will continue to accept online meal orders, and families are encouraged to place their meal orders as soon as possible. The cut off for ordering meals for Monday, January 11, 2021 is Saturday, January 9, 2021. Meal pick-up for virtual students will resume on Monday evenings, beginning on Monday, January 11, 2021. Meal pick-up runs from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM in the High School bus loop, in the parking lot shared with Renton Jr. High School. Please note, due to the holiday on January 18, 2021, there will not be a food distribution on that day. Instead, food distribution will occur on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

I am very pleased that the trend data has vastly improved and that the Wayne County Health Department representatives are supporting the return to in-person learning. We are eager to return students to in-person learning on **Monday, January 11, 2021**, and we are excited to continue providing the safest and most purposeful learning environment possible.

As students return to face-to-face instruction, I encourage you to continue to have frequent conversations with your children about COVID-19 safety. This includes wearing a cloth face covering or mask when in close proximity with others, practicing frequent hand washing, staying home when sick and watching for potential symptoms of illness before going to school each day. We know it’s hard, but when possible, stay away from indoor activities, unnecessary social gatherings, and extended family gatherings that increase the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we work through this school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donovan Rowe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Donovan Rowe
Superintendent of Schools
Huron School District