

"Home of the Coal Grove Hornets"

Steven Easterling
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Dear Hornet Families,

First, let me thank you for your support and understanding as we, as a nation and community, responded to the unexpected invasion of COVID-19 in March. I am very proud of the way our DBLSD students, parents, and employees handled the demands we were faced with to protect everyone as we continued to educate and feed our students during the most unusual of circumstances. There continues to be concerns and questions related to how our schools plan to reopen in August. We have delayed the start for students to return on Monday, August 24th. While we are in the business of educating, our first priority is the safety of our students and our employees. Be assured, we have been working diligently on our DBLSD 2020-2021 Restart/Reopen Plan.

Due to all the factors and information needed to plan as COVID-19 issues unfold, we are releasing our desire to return to school as normal (traditional) with enhanced safety and cleaning procedures. However, we must be proactive and be prepared during these ever-changing times to continue educating our students as circumstances change throughout the year related to the health and safety of our students and employees.

We are offering the following choices:

- 1. Enhanced Traditional Plan- We would continue school as normal with enhanced safety precautions in place such as increased hand sanitizer availability, increased frequency of cleaning of high touch areas, limited visitations to our buildings, etc, in order to possibly prevent the transition to a full Remote Learning option. (Again, this is our plan for August pending more guidance from the Governor)
- 2. Remote Learning- Students would participate in the learning of new material, continued standard pacing, interactive lessons, graded assignments, and assessment at home.

I encourage our parents to frequently visit our webpage and follow our social media for up to date and accurate information. There are many false rumors being disseminated which leads to unnecessary confusion. Everyone must understand there is no way to please all, as we make these decisions. Our priority is to keep everyone safe while not making life more difficult for our parents. Each family situation is uniquely different. We fully understand your varied concerns about health and safety, remote learning, the importance of face to face instruction, parents needing to work, the economy, and all of the other unexpected consequences of not being in school or being in school in a traditional method.

As we move forward, we are also taking into consideration that we have medically compromised students. Parents of students with a higher risk of severe illness can contact their building principal, if needed before school starts.

As we continue, the DBLSD plan may be changed as needed to meet any new government guidelines.

Thank you for your continued support and positivity as we strive to do what is best for ALL students and employees during these challenging times.

Serving you,

Steve Easterling, Superintendent