



Hello Norse Nation!

I hope this communication finds you and your family well! While it has been an unusually crazy summer (to say the least, eh!?), it has been a beautiful one!

I know many are thinking about our return to school this fall. Please know, many staff, administrators, Board members and parents have been actively planning for our return. I appreciate all of their hard work! We are hopeful to have this plan available to share with our incredible school community by the end of next week.

Some of the rationale put forth in our Return to Learn Plan:

- Face-to-face learning is the most effective model for the majority of learners
- The physical safety of our school community is our #1 priority with mental wellbeing #2
- We are committed to implementing all “required” and “highly recommended” actions in the [Michigan Return to School Roadmap](#), such as physical spacing, mask use, and “cohort” models of student interaction
- In Phase 4, no in-person classroom will have more than 15 students in it to allow for physical spacing (spaced by 6 ft)
- A Hybrid Model and/or Virtual Model must be prepared for and available as needed based on COVID-19 Threat Level and to meet individual family needs
- Our youngest learners struggle the most with virtual learning and need more face to face options
- We will expand our Face-to-Face learning options as the regional COVID Threat Level improves
- While core subject areas remain to be our academic focus, we also want to provide additional opportunities to our students to learn while balancing a variety of other concerns during these challenging times
- It is highly unlikely we will be able to safely offer bussing to start our school year. Students will need to be dropped off and picked up from school until it is safe to provide bussing services.
- An additional resource:
<https://www.kentisd.org/parents--community/covid-19-resources/faqs-for-teachers-and-school-admins/?fbclid=IwAR3wLWGeNBTGu4zvr-kiUIS8p58ydYHsXFkuoPfl1wA1XSmKCZo96wJUs4U>

At this time, we are committed to a face to face learning experience if our threat level allows. This will likely need to be in the form of a Hybrid Learning Schedule with no more than half of our students in the building at one time. The learning models will be explained further when the plan is released. Also, example schedules for students at each learning model will be depicted in the plan when released.

We appreciate the support, patience and positivity from our school community during these uncertain times. Thank you for doing your part and please watch for our Return to Learn Plan

for Fall 2020 to be out late next week.

Take care!
Dr. Babcock