

July 24, 2020

Dear SBCSC Families,

Thank you for your patience and input over the past week. I recognize that the uncertainty surrounding our reopening is frustrating; please know that we are closely following the pattern of the virus and will make decisions based on what is in the best interest of all our stakeholders. I'm grateful for our Board of School Trustees, families, students, and teachers who have shared with us their thoughts and ideas as we work to make the return to our buildings as safe as possible.

We know that the increase in COVID-19 cases in our state and county over the past few weeks is a genuine cause for concern. As we have from the start of the pandemic, my colleagues and I continue to rely upon the guidance of our local, regional, and national health care experts to help us make the best and most informed decisions for the safety of our students and teachers.

We have shared an <u>eLearning enrollment form</u> and <u>transportation survey</u> to gather information and make those changes your student may need. We also want to remind our families that should they select the option of eLearning, it is recommended that they remain with that method for the first marking period to ensure continuity of instruction.

Please complete both the eLearning form and the transportation survey by **July 31** for us to make the necessary adjustments for in-person instruction, eLearning, and transportation. Again, if you have already filled out the eLearning enrollment form or the transportation survey, there is no need to fill those out again. If your plans change, however, please contact your school directly with those changes.

We are looking forward to the commencement ceremonies for our graduating seniors this weekend at Four Winds Field. I want to thank Dr. Mark Fox, St. Joseph County's Deputy Health Officer for his help in letting us safely honor our graduates. You'll be able to check out the live-streamed events on our YouTube page, beginning with Adams High School's ceremony tonight at 6:30 p.m. Then tomorrow, on Saturday, July 25, we'll honor Washington High School's graduates at 9 a.m., followed by Clay High School at noon, Rise Up Academy at 2:30 p.m., and finally, Riley High School at 5:00 p.m.

Again, thank you for your patience during this difficult time. I know that we are all eager to return to the classroom and regain a sense of normalcy. Thank you especially to our parents and teachers for the support and help they continually provide for our students through this difficult time. Please know that we will keep you updated as we navigate the coming year.

In the meantime, please stay safe, wear a mask, and wash your hands.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools