

July 17, 2020

Dear SBCSC families.

As we draw closer to the start of our school year, cases of COVID-19 continue to climb within our country, state, and South Bend community. My colleagues and I are working closely with our Board of School Trustees, the Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Health, and the St. Joseph County Health Department to move forward with the best information available. This is a challenging time for our district. Our students miss their classmates, their teachers, their routines. Our teachers are busy planning for the coming year in ways they've never imagined, moving cautiously forward with information changing by the day.

Again, thank you for your patience over the past months, weeks, and days. As we continue to work together to safely begin our school year, we rely upon and value your input. Thanks to all of you who joined us for this past Monday's Board meeting, for Tuesday's Virtual Talks with Todd. Thanks to those of you who have joined us this past week to discuss our options at the Reopening School Plan Listening Tour.

Please continue to visit our website for the most up-to-date information. There you will find our transportation survey, as well as enrollment forms for our eLearning option and our Virtual School. You will be able to review information for our reopening plans, take our strategic plan survey and learn more about our guidance from the Indiana Department of Health. Again, if you have questions about health and safety, protocol for positive cases, when to quarantine or receive testing, please visit a new addition to our website, the <u>health and safety</u> page.

Next week, I hope you'll join me for the Board Work Session on Monday, July 21 at 5:30 p.m. The link to that session will be on our website, as well as another Virtual Talks with Todd on Tuesday, July 21 at 9 a.m. On Thursday, July 23, I'll be hosting a Virtual Strategic Planning and School Reopening Feedback Town Hall from 5 to 6 p.m. (in Spanish).

Enjoy your weekend. As always, please remember to wear a mask, wash your hands, and practice social distancing.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools