



School District of Flambeau

HOME OF THE FALCONS



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July 29, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you and your family doing well, staying healthy, and enjoying the summer months! On the forefront of many minds is how to open Wisconsin schools, specifically on all of our minds, Flambeau School. This letter is intended to keep you informed as to the direction we are headed with regard to planning to start the 2020-2021 school year. Without question this has been a challenging time as our information from multiple sources has been ever-changing.

During the first part of July a parent survey was conducted regarding your thoughts on how you prefer for your child or children to return to school at Flambeau. Thank you all very much for your timely responses! Because of your survey results and information, we are continually receiving from Rusk County Public Health, the Center for Disease and Prevention (CDC), and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI), the board has met during several work sessions to consider different options. The primary goal at each of these work sessions have revolved around how to reopen our doors in the fall while always maintaining our number one priority—the safety and well-being of our students, staff and community.

On Tuesday, August 4th, there will be a special Board of Education meeting, where a plan will be presented to the board for action. Considering our most current information, our plan is to return to school in the fall with all students, offering a virtual opportunity for families if requested. The proposal will include face-to-face instruction four days a week, while reserving Wednesdays as a virtual learning day for all students. This virtual day will allow teachers the time they need to meet with students participating virtually, prepare for a hybrid classroom, prepare for the potential of another school closure, give our maintenance a day to deep clean our building, and many other operational needs. We are working very hard administratively to create a plan that will minimize risk and keep students in smaller cohorts here at school in order to follow guidelines to the best of our ability.

With this current plan to return back to school, I would like to address the topic of face coverings as it has become a topic of interest. It will be my recommendation that face coverings not be a requirement for all students, all day. However, because we do not have the capability to follow social distancing guidelines on our busses and during “high traffic” times in our building, it will be the recommendation to require face coverings for students and staff on our busses, in our hallways and

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Erica Schley, District Administrator

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while going through the lunch line.

Briefly, please also note that the WIAA has released information regarding fall sports. Low risk sports including swim, golf, and cross country may begin practice during the week of August 17th. High risk sports including football and volleyball may begin practice during the week of September 7th. You will be receiving more athletic information in the weeks to come as I am meeting with the Lakeland Conference Superintendents and Athletic Directors on a continual basis.

Some of you chose one of the A/B options on the parent survey. Now knowing that we will be offering either face-to-face or virtual instruction, when you visit us for registration on August 3rd – 6th, we will once again be asking for your preference. Please also keep in mind that any family may choose to change their mind as well, but we will be looking for more firm numbers during our registration times.

Obviously, there are a lot of challenges in planning and implementation with the return to school plans. To be successful, we need a terrific team effort from all stakeholders. We appreciate all of your support, understanding, and cooperation. This is not an easy situation for families or for schools, but together we will be successful! Thank you for your partnership!

Sincerely,



Erica Schley
District Administrator