



July 1, 2020

Elmbrook Staff and Families,

The purpose of this message is to provide our school community with an update regarding the District's plans to reopen on September 1, 2020. This will be the first of many messages sent to our 2020-21 families and staff as we prepare for another amazing school year.

In June, our School Board commissioned a [School Reopening Task Force](#), with 34 parents, teachers, administrators, community members and key partners agreeing to serve as members. This group has professional experience in business, manufacturing, research science, healthcare, higher education, and K-12 education. The task force members' diverse experiences, perspectives and values are a reflection of our community, and through their active engagement they will help the District create a strong reopening plan. The School Reopening Plan will be presented to the Board of Education on August 11.

The District's goal is to safely reopen all schools on September 1 for face-to-face instruction five days a week, while providing a virtual learning option for students who, for health or other reasons (including quarantine), are unable to participate in a face-to-face format. More information about these options will be communicated in the coming weeks.

In addition to the Task Force's recommendations, several other factors will influence our plans to reopen on September 1:

- Waukesha County's COVID-19 Data - which is reflected on [this dashboard](#)
- Active participation in weekly Waukesha County Superintendent meetings and a Superintendent Advisory team to County Executive Paul Farrow - designed to coordinate our approach with County Health Department officials and area school districts
- Guidelines (linked) published by trusted sources to include the [Center for Disease Control](#) (CDC), [Wisconsin Department of Instruction](#) (DPI), [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#) (DHS), [Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association](#) (WIAA), and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) (AAP)

Finally, our district has assembled several work teams consisting of 150 Elmbrook staff members committed to preparing our District for a safe reopening. These teams will establish the strategies, protocols, and procedures necessary to meet the following objectives identified by the Department of Public Instruction:

- Keeping students and staff physically safe
- Caring for the social-emotional and mental health needs of students and staff
- Keeping learning coherent while designing flexibility into school schedules, protocols, and norms for being together in-person, physically-distanced, and through virtual learning

Waukesha County's charge to "[Stay Safe. to Stay Open](#)" connects our top priority of student and staff safety, with the community and economic benefit of staying open. We look forward to working together with our entire school community to achieve this outcome.

More information about the School Reopening Task Force can be found on the District's [website](#), and all task force meetings can be viewed on the District's [youtube channel](#).

Sincerely,

Mark Hansen, Superintendent