

## **Wyandotte Public Schools**

"Educate – Inspire - Empower"

## **CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Catherine Cost, Superintendent 734-759-6002; costc@wy.k12.mi.us Tonya Brodie, Director of Human Resources 734-759-6022; brodiet@wy.k12.mi.us Kenneth Laub, Director of Finance 734-759-6026; laubke@wy.k12.mi.us Bernard A. Bowers, Jr., Director of Operations 734-759-6020; bowersb@wy.k12.mi.us

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Dana Browning, President Robert Kirby, Vice President Cynthia Kinney, Treasurer Theresa Crnkovich, Secretary Stephanie Miello, Trustee Patrick Sutka, Trustee Michael Swiecki, Trustee

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I know this is the second email to you, within two days. I didn't mean to increase your anxiety yesterday but based on the number of emails and comments on social media, I know that I did.

I think the hardest part right now is there are still so many unknowns. We are in the midst of addressing the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap. This document identifies all the protocols we are to follow. Each district is also responsible for completing a Preparedness and Response Plan by August 15, 2020. Wyandotte is in the middle of this process and will finalize our Plan on August 11, 2020.

I struggled with whether or not to put the virtual information out to families yesterday, because we don't have all the details of the Plan worked out quite yet. I have been meeting with leaders to sort out the best way to meet the requirements. For example, how will bathrooms be cleaned every four hours? Roosevelt alone has 28 bathrooms, which could be a full time job. The state has not told us our budget for next year and we are now required to purchase PPE equipment for staff and students. We did receive federal grant money, but it will scratch the surface of what will be required in the fall for technology, PPE and cleaning supplies.

Given all the unknowns, we are making multiple plans that prioritize the safety of our students and staff. For example, we will have a plan for starting school face-to-face in the fall. We will have a plan in the event there needs to be a closure of a single classroom, a school or the entire district. We also will have a plan if we need to start the year with our teachers teaching students online.

Another one of the plans is to provide parents with the option to have a total virtual option. The providers have a deadline of August 7, 2020 so that all the registrations can be completed and the materials distributed prior to the first day of school. That is what created the urgency for me to send you yesterday's information. This is a big decision and I realize we don't have all the answers yet but I wanted to give families as much time as possible to consider what is right.

To help answer many of the questions that arose yesterday, we have created a FAQ. It is based on what we know today and I just ask that you consider our Preparedness Plan has not been finalized and where the State is at the end of August, could be different than where we are right now. However, it may help you better understand our thinking and help you make a decision with regard to the total virtual option.

I will continue to provide you updates as decisions are finalized or new information is shared with me. Thank you again for your understanding.

Dr. Cost