Community *Informer* Duncanville ISD



September | 28 | 2020

Students Who Previously Chose In-Person Learning Return to Classrooms Oct. 19



Duncanville ISD families,

The Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees has voted to extend virtual learning beyond the first four weeks of school and announced plans to welcome back students who previously chose in-person learning. The in-person start date for that limited number of students will be Monday, Oct. 19.

We recognize that engaging with students in person is best for students, which is why we are taking steps to phase-in a safe return of students to a traditional classroom setting. The district also continues to monitor COVID-19 data provided by Dallas County Health and Human Services. Over the past few weeks, Dallas County has seen numbers trend in a positive direction.

When in-person learning begins Oct. 19, approximately 30% of our students will return based on their learning choice during the enrollment process. The majority of students will continue with virtual learning due to the learning choice previously selected.

All families will have the opportunity to change between in-person and virtual learning at the end of each nine-week grading period. To make a learning preference change starting with the second nine-week grading period, parents can do so using the <u>Learning Preference Change Form</u> between Oct.12 and Oct. 26. The second nine-week grading period begins Monday, Nov. 9.

This phase-in process allows the district and school staff to prepare and welcome students back to our classrooms. Thank you to parents and staff for your patience and partnership. We are in this together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marc Smith Superintendent of Schools Duncanville ISD

Join Our Thought Exchange, Tell Us What You Think



As a member of the Duncanville ISD community, we would like to hear from you as we continue with 2020-21 school year.

Please tell us what is on your mind as we all work to provide a successful school experience in these unique circumstances.

In an effort to include as many voices as possible in this conversation we are inviting you to participate in a Thoughtexchange by clicking <u>here</u>.

You'll be asked to respond to a single open-ended question, and then read and rate some of the responses shared by other district members.

Each participant will see the thoughts in a unique and randomized order, so you don't need to rate them all, but please commit to rating at least 20-30 thoughts. Your thoughts and ratings are completely confidential, and you are not required to sign up for anything.

You can come back to keep participating as often as you'd like in the days ahead. In fact, we ask that you do come back to rate some of the new ideas as they are shared. These ratings will help us understand what is truly most important to most people.

This is your chance to tell us what is on your mind, so please take this opportunity to contribute.

Join us in Celebrating our Campus Leaders During National Principals Month



Principals are among the hardest working individuals in education. They set the academic tone for their schools, and it is their vision, dedication and determination that provide the mobilizing force for achieving student success.

This week begins National Principals Month. Throughout October, we will share videos celebrating Duncanville ISD's principals on district social media and in our weekly newsletter.

We appreciate everything our amazing principals do to provide safe, encouraging learning environments for our students.

Join us in recognizing our principals and saying, "Thank you."

Board Business: Review a Summary of Last Week's Board Meeting

The Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees hosted a regular board meeting on September 21, 2020. A video recording can be viewed <u>here.</u>

Information shared and decisions made during that meeting include the following:

The district has created a COVID-19 dashboard that documents active cases in the school district. We are committed to providing thorough communication and transparency and will be updating the dashboard at the end of every school day. View the dashboard <u>here</u>.

The district kicked off the school year on Tuesday, Sept. 8 with Virtual Learning only. Students are learning at home from their teachers who are in the classroom. There are approximately 11,700 students currently enrolled and attendance was approximately 93 percent during the first week of school. Attendance is expected to continue increasing.

Read more board business here.

Upcoming Events:

In-Person Learning Begins, on Monday, Oct. 19 for students who chose In-Person Learning at the beginning of the school year

Duncanville ISD Board of Trustees, meeting on Monday, Oct. 19 at 7:00 p.m.



The Informer is distributed by the Communications Department at Duncanville ISD. The weekly newsletter, published each Monday, is intended to keep the community informed about important news and events happening within the district. Story ideas or questions can be directed to: <u>Lari Barager</u> - Director of External Communications

news@duncanvilleisd.org

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