



EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

EMPOWERING LEARNERS AS GLOBAL THINKERS AND PRODUCERS

August 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I truly hope this letter finds you in good health and in a good place. Fortunately, the summer break was a little longer than usual. It was the extra time we all needed to recuperate and reenergize from what was a challenging past school year.

The first day for all learners is August 30th. By now you should have received information from your building principal with additional details for school opening. If not, please contact the school building where your child attends.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 has not disappeared. Keep in mind that COVID-19 continues to be a “weather” scenario and not reflective of our overall climate which is one of success. Do not confuse the two. The temporary, albeit lengthy disruption, does not and has not kept us from our true course toward high achievement for all. The current COVID protocols per the Board of School Directors include masking as optional, but encouraged on transportation and during the school day; increased District-wide cleaning protocols; and some level of cohorting will also be in place for the beginning of the school year. I am hopeful that we will not witness the level of disruption or consequent mitigation requirements that we did last year. Again, I call on all to be agile and prepared to pivot on short notice as conditions dictate.

As you may have heard by now. I announced my retirement in July. My official last day in the district will be the first day of the new semester on January 24, 2022. The Board has engaged Intermediate Unit 13 to assist in the search for a new district leader. IU13 members will seek constituent input for that search. I wish to express my appreciation for you and all that we managed together the last 16 years; nearly 14 as your Superintendent. I hope that you are as proud as I am of our accomplishments as a District which have been many over the years together.

Enjoy the remaining weeks of your summer, and we will welcome back our learners with open hearts and most capable expertise on Monday, August 30th when we will again “empower learners as global thinkers and producers”.

Very truly yours,

Robert M. Hollister, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools