



March 25, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Friday, March 19th, Governor Whitmer held a press conference to announce the details of a new Emergency Order from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. This letter summarizes the changes that impact school operations and students.

Beginning Friday, April 2, weekly testing is required for students ages 13-19 who participate in athletics. Additional testing is required for contact sports where a mask cannot safely be worn. School districts are awaiting additional information from the MHSAA and local health departments regarding the details of this requirement. Building administrators will communicate details to parents regarding this requirement.

The CDC recently released revised school guidance regarding social distancing. Schools are allowed to practice a minimum of 3 feet of space for social distancing in situations where 6 feet of space is not feasible. Berrien Springs Public Schools will continue adherence to the 6 feet of social distancing guidance unless space availability is a constraint.

The Berrien Springs School District will continue to implement the mitigation strategies and safety protocols recommended by the MDHHS, the Berrien County Health Department, and the Berrien Springs Return to School Roadmap. A copy of our district's Roadmap is available on the school's website at www.homeoftheshamrocks.org.

Please be reminded of the importance of remaining vigilant in practicing the following strategies and safety protocols designed to mitigate the spread of all illness:

- Wearing a facial covering
- Practicing frequent hand washing
- Remaining home when sick
- Parents are reminded to screen students daily for potential symptoms of illness before sending them to school
- Staff are reminded to complete the daily health screener before reporting to school

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support healthy practices at home, in the community, and in your personal daily activities as we continue to respond to these events in our school district.

Sincerely,

David Eichberg, Superintendent