



December 29, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Berrien Springs Public Schools had transitioned to remote learning for all students in grades PreK-12 through Friday, December 18, 2020. As previously planned and communicated, following this three-week transition to remote learning for all grades PreK-12, Berrien Springs Public Schools will return to your current learning choice: in-person, connected classroom or virtual learning starting on Monday, January 4, 2021.

Elementary families who chose to transition from in-person to remote learning, or from remote to in-person learning environments will start with your new program of choice on Monday, January 4. Students enrolled in the district's Link Learning and Success programs will receive additional information, in a separate communication, about the reopening of the district's learning/"walk-in" centers.

Each building principal and program director will communicate additional information specific to each of our school district's buildings. District transportation and food service will be fully operational again starting on Monday, January 4. For those elementary students who are changing learning environments on Monday, January 4 and planning to use district provided transportation, specific information about transportation will be communicated separately. Winter athletics remains temporarily suspended, by the December 18, 2020 MDHHS Emergency Order, through January 15, 2021. The state has created a pilot program that may allow the completion of the fall athletic state championships tournaments in girls swimming and diving, football and volleyball.

Berrien County and the state of Michigan have experienced a downward trend in COVID-19 related data for the past four weeks. For this downward trend to continue it will be very important for all of us to embrace the following safety practices:

- Avoid large gatherings following current MDHHS Emergency Order guidelines
- Wearing a face mask
- Practicing social distancing
- Staying home when ill
- Healthy hand washing practices

Working together and following these simple practices will allow schools to continue to provide in-person learning experiences for all students. Please take your role in this process seriously and communicate with your children the importance of following the above safety practices.

The school district will continue to promote safe and healthy practices for all staff and students upon our return to school on Monday, January 4. Thank you for entrusting your students to us. Our desire is to provide a meaningful learning experience for all students while keeping safety and health as our primary focus. Please contact your building principal or program director directly should you have any questions about the district's return to school plan beginning Monday, January 4.

Sincerely,

David Eichberg, Superintendent