

August 5, 2020

Dear Armada Families,

As we get closer to welcoming our students back to school on August 31st, I want to start out by making three points.

- 1) We are asking everyone to be **flexible** as this is going to be a very challenging school year.
- 2) The school district has very talented staff and we are going to do the **best we can** to make this a positive and safe learning environment for our students and staff.
- 3) The entire community needs to play a part in order for this school year to be successful.
 - o **Wash your hands**
 - o **Wear a mask in public**
 - o **Practice social distancing**
 - o **If your child is not feeling well or has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, please do not send them to school**

We have received some questions since sending out our learning plan last week. I would like to review the TOP 12 questions we have received.

Q1) Will secondary students be sent home early? Will they be required to do their guided work at home? **A1) Secondary students will be sent home approximately 50 minutes earlier than previous school years and they will be required to do their guided work at home at a time that is convenient for them.**

Q2) Will the district be taking the students temperature? **A2) Yes, this will be part of taking attendance during first hour. We have ordered a touchless thermometer for every classroom.**

Q3) How will students load the bus? **A3) The students will load the bus from back to front and siblings will be asked to sit together. All students are required to wear a mask on the bus and have clean hands before getting on the bus.**

Q4) Will students be assigned a chrome book? **A4) Face-to-face students will not be assigned a chrome book. For virtual learners, it depends on how many students sign up for this option, but most likely virtual students will be assigned a chrome book similar to last spring. All virtual learners will receive their instructional materials online. We will not be sending out paper packets.**

Q5) Will the district pay for hot spots so that my student can access internet service? **A5) At this time, the answer is no. We have 350 – 400 families in this category, and it's not financially feasible due to budget constraints and required cleaning costs associated with COVID-19. However, if we receive federal funds for technology, hot spots are our number one priority.**

The Armada Advantage: Achievement, Community, Innovation

Q6) If my child has a medical condition, must he/she wear a mask? A6) No, but you will need to provide a note from your doctor stating the student is unable to wear a mask.

Q7) Will special education students receive services from staff? A7) Yes, special education students will receive services. Staff members will continue to service students using social distancing to the extent possible.

Q8) Will virtual online learners be able to participate in extracurricular activities, such as athletics and clubs? A8) Yes.

Q9) Are the start and end times for elementary students the same as last year? A9) Yes, 8:40 am to 3:40 pm.

Q10) Are you using safe products to clean and disinfect the schools and busses? A10) Yes, the district will only order products that are safe for our students and staff. The MISD has ordered cleaning supplies for all 21 school districts in Macomb County to get us through December to ensure a safe environment for the 200 school buildings in our county.

Q11) What will virtual online learning look like? A11) At the elementary level, teachers will lead whole and small group lessons throughout the school day from 8:40 am – 3:40 pm using Zoom or Google Meet. Students will not be expected to be on the computer for the entire day, but there will be meetings throughout the school day to support students socially, emotionally, and academically. Participation in these virtual lessons is mandatory for students and attendance will be taken daily. At the secondary level, virtual online learning students will have assignments and short video lessons provided on our new Empower Learning platform. Secondary students will follow the same curriculum and grading requirements as our face-to-face learners.

Q12) Will childcare be available at Krause Elementary? A12) Yes, childcare will be available at the elementary school before and after school for parents that need this service.

That concludes the Q & A. You will be receiving an email from your child's building principal today asking you to fill out a survey on what learning option you will be selecting. We need you to fill out the survey by Monday, August 10th so we can put together a staffing plan. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael G. Musary, Ed.S.
Superintendent of Schools