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*Inspired by Tradition,
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Elida Local Schools
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Elida Local Schools Return to School Plan

As described in the Allen County Reopening Guidelines that were released on Monday, it is the intention of the Elida Local School District, as of today, to resume classes on August 11th for all students. We will be following the Board approved calendar with school five (5) days per week. *Please keep in mind that the plan laid out below could change at any time based on conditions of the pandemic and/or any orders from the governor/health department.*

Students needing transportation by bus will be required to wear a mask on the bus. Those students who do not wear a mask and refuse to put one on may be refused transportation. All students will have assigned seating, and may be required to sit with a sibling. Families who aren't comfortable sending their students on the bus or have another means of transporting them to school are asked to please call and inform the district at the number above for planning purposes. Families are further reminded that Alternate Address Request bus forms should be turned in as soon as possible if that has not already been done.

All staff and students are required to complete a daily health screen before coming to school which includes taking their temperature. Any person with a temperature above 100 degrees must not attend school. Other symptoms to be on the lookout for include:

- Loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Congestion or runny nose
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Fever or chills

All staff members will be required to wear masks/face shields. It is strongly suggested that students wear masks if the county is yellow or orange on the new scale. When Allen County is identified as a red county by the Public Health Advisory System all students in grades 3-12 will be required to wear masks, or as otherwise ordered by the governor/health department.

Classrooms and cafeterias will have desks/tables spread out as much as possible. Students will be assigned to desks/tables/seats in classrooms and the cafeteria as well. Students may not be able to sit with friends during this time. This will aid in contact tracing for the health department should it be

needed. Students will not be able to self-serve during lunch and may not share food that is bought or brought in from home.

Drinking fountains will be disabled. Students are encouraged to bring a clean and clear bottle for water from home that they will be able to carry. Each building will have at least one refill station.

Students will be encouraged to wash hands often, and sanitizer is located throughout the building. Each classroom will also have hand sanitizer available.

Open Houses will not take place this year. A decision on how parent/teacher conferences will be conducted will be made at a later date. There will be no traditional field trips. Class parties that involve food being brought in from the outside will not be permitted. Visitors within the school building will be severely limited, and parents/grandparents will not be able to eat lunch with students.

For those families who do not feel safe sending their children to school or whom are high-risk, a remote learning option is available. A registration form will be posted online beginning Monday for those who choose this option. This registration form is due by July 29. Students enrolled in remote learning will be required to remain in this option and can only be re-evaluated at the end of each quarter. Expectations from students involved in remote learning will be similar to those students who are on-site.

More information will be released in the near future, and all of this is subject to change at any moment as we maneuver our way through the pandemic. The district may be forced to delay the start of school and/or change the methodology for instructional delivery in the coming weeks. Should Allen County be identified as purple on the Public Health Advisory System, all students will move to remote learning.

A FAQ page will be forthcoming next week answering questions that you may have about the return to school. We know there are many questions and we hope to be able to answer most of them with this document.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer and be safe.



Joel Mengerink
Superintendent