

## *Huron School District*

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## *Completely Committed to Kids*

Donovan Rowe, Superintendent  
Jill Sauve, Business Manager  
Steven Hudock, Curriculum Director

Dear Huron Families,

I hope this communication finds you and your families, safe, healthy, and well. I wanted to take a moment to give you an update on the regional health situation and the status of the Huron School District.

### **Regional Health Update:**

We have been working closely with the Wayne County Health Division to monitor local COVID-19 cases and positivity rates, as well as safety strategies in place in our schools. According to the County, both the number of COVID-19 cases and the positivity rate in Wayne County are increasing significantly. In addition, the Wayne County Health Department has issued an overall Community Spread Risk Level of “E” for Wayne County. This is the highest risk level on the state’s Community Risk Determination Level. At present, the Wayne County Health Department is making determinations based on regional trends, and these determinations may lead to definitive recommendations from the WCHD on whether in-person classroom instruction should be suspended.

While we have experienced few positive COVID-19 cases in our schools, we are watching the community cases closely and actively gathering guidance from the County so we can continue to put school safety first. At the same time, as we have shared before, school safety continues to be a community effort. Since we can only control the mitigation practices and safety measures in place in our school buildings, we are relying on our entire school community to work together to prevent the spread.

I encourage you to continue to have frequent conversations with your children about COVID-19 safety. This includes wearing a cloth face covering or mask when in close proximity with others, practicing frequent hand washing, staying home when sick and watching for potential symptoms of illness before going to school each day. We know it’s hard, but when possible, stay away from indoor activities, unnecessary social gatherings, and extended family gatherings that increase the spread of COVID-19.

We are working closely with the County to determine next steps and will keep you updated as the situation progresses. It is possible that the health department will reach a point where they will require schools to pause face-to-face learning and shift exclusively to remote learning. We have a plan in place and are confident in our ability to switch to remote learning, should the need arise.

In the meantime, we will remain vigilant as we continue to utilize the safety practices that we know are working in our school buildings.

### **Keeping Students Home if Sick & Daily Health Screenings:**

Parents are required to perform a health screening of their student(s) each morning prior to placing them on a school bus or in a school building. See attached document from the Wayne County Health Department’s Return to School Roadmap: 2020-21 Virtual Binder, page 9, or click on the link below. If students are exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms, students should be kept home from school. These symptoms include a fever (temperature of 100.4 or higher), a new or

worsening cough, headache and/or sore throat, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, runny nose and/or congestion, body aches and/or tiredness, vomiting and/or diarrhea, or new loss of taste or smell. Also, students should not come to school if they have been in close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 14 days or have traveled out of the United States in the last 14 days. Parents or guardians are asked to keep students home from school if they are exhibiting signs of sickness, and the school district will make consideration for student absences in order to accommodate the needs of students. **Click on the link to view the Health Department's COVID-19 Screening Tool for Families:** <https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1602687900/resanet/fpls51ipxbnbsdijowdq/Return-to-School-Roadmap-binder-101220-ADA.pdf>

**Huron School District Update:**

As you know, the Huron School District began the school year with a modified instructional schedule, providing face-to-face instruction to our students at all levels. We also provided parents and students with a remote learning option.

Although implementation of our modified instructional model has presented challenges, we have also experienced significant successes. Our teachers, support staff, administrators, students, and parents have worked hard to make face-to-face instruction work, while providing students and staff with the safest and most purposeful learning environment possible. In addition, although reports from the Wayne County Health Department indicate that COVID-19 cases and the positivity rate in Wayne County are rising, the school district has not experienced school-based outbreaks, and our safety protocols and Mitigation Plans have worked well to keep staff and students safe during this time.

The Huron School District plans to continue providing face-to-face instructional opportunities, as well as providing remote learning options for students. As we approach the end of the first trimester, we will be considering requests for changes in the instructional programs for our face-to-face and remote learning students. No action is required from parents or students to remain in their current instructional program. Parents interested in exploring a change in program should contact their building principal in order to be added to that school's consideration list.

Let me close by including a reminder of the three (3) most important things we can all do prevent the spread of this virus: wear a mask, practice social distancing, and regularly wash hands. All of us, doing our part, is the best chance our children have at receiving the best educational experience possible – both in the classroom and through their extra-curricular endeavors.

Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we work through this school year.

Sincerely,



Donovan Rowe  
Superintendent of Schools  
Huron School District

**Link to the Wayne County COVID-19 Screening Tool for Families:**

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1602687900/resanet/fpls51ipxbnbsdijowdq/Return-to-School-Roadmap-binder-101220-ADA.pdf>