

UPDATE FOR PARENTS AND COMMUNITY

Three items of interest.

1. Returning to school—School starts on Wednesday, and we want everyone who is returning in person to understand that you are pledging to keep your kids home who are sick or have symptoms, coming immediately to school to pick them up if called due to illness, and basically being a partner with us to get school opened and stay open during this pandemic.

Secondly, for those who are bringing their kids to school each day. Please try to bring them so that they have just enough time to get into class. I know I spoke to a few of you who need to drop off early for middle and high school. Here is the plan that we will follow. Doors open at 7:15 AM and this is the earliest students should arrive. Students who arrive from 7:15 until 7:33 should go to the cafeteria and wait to be dismissed. They must be socially distanced with masks on while waiting during this time. Starting at 7:33, if students are dropped off after that, they should go straight to class.

2. Yellow plan—we are almost ready to let everyone know what days of the week your child will attend in case we go to the yellow (hybrid) plan. We have been focusing on school getting underway, and then our focus will go to finalizing the yellow plan.

I can tell you how we are dividing, but not exact days yet. For the most part, we are dividing by town versus rural. The reason is that this has each bus route roughly divided into two. Therefore the drivers during hybrid just need to remember to do the beginning or the ending of the routes. It was weird when we did this, that our numbers across the grade levels are close. Any child who does not ride a bus will be matched up with where they live for the most part. Some variances will happen to balance our numbers. Another reason we are doing the towns together is that if an outbreak happens, we figured the kids in town play together so this keeps a potential outbreak together.

We will get this to you soon. Everything is overwhelming, and we are prioritizing the best we can.

3. Sports and visitors—Per the Governor's orders for us to play sports, we are allowed to only use 15% of our stadium or gym capacity. Therefore, to accommodate this, for home games we are only allowing 2 family members per athlete, cheerleader, and band member in for our football games and 4 family members per athlete for our volleyball games. Away games will be 2 family members for all sports.

For us to manage this, we are not accepting any passes this year. If you are a family member allowed in the game, you must buy a ticket. We apologize to our seniors who have had free entry to our events, but for the foreseeable future, we need to track every visitor and this can only be done by making everyone buy a ticket.

We are asking that people limit parking outside the gates of the football stadium who are not allowed to come into the stadium. Everyone on school grounds must social distance and must be in masks.

Tony Borton

Superintendent

Elmwood Local Schools