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Hello EPCHS Family,

Thank you for your patience as we have been working through our Return to Learn plan. I have what I will call a "30,000 foot" view of what we will be doing at the beginning of the year and what we will transition to as time allows. This plan is tentative at the moment as it hasn't been voted on by the Board of Education. That will take place on August 3rd.

Two changes that occurred at the board meeting on July 20th were modifications to the school calendar (which is attached to this message), and a modification to the school dress code once in person instruction resumes. The change to the dress code is as follows:

"Students will be required to wear masks and a school-provided lanyard with their ID card visible when on a school bus or in the school building. Should guidelines from IDPH or ISBE change, this requirement may be revisited. Students who provide a doctor's note indicating they cannot wear a mask will be required to wear a face-shield while on the bus or in the building."

Students may provide their own mask as long as it meets other dress code requirements (no profanity, drug or alcohol references, etc). The school will provide a mask for students who cannot provide their own.

On July 15, 2020, the area around the school received 9.3 inches of rain in approximately 1.5 hours. This resulted in debris and mud inundating our parking lot and surrounding our Industrial Tech wing. The drains in the lots quickly clogged from debris. The entire wing, which includes our wood shop, auto shop, welding lab, STEM lab, credit recovery computer lab, Moms Who Care storage and classroom, and the district office conference room, flooded with up to 4 inches of muddy water. As we have been working on cleanup since then, it has become obvious that all flooring in those areas is going to need to be replaced. Unfortunately, the tiles and mastic are asbestos and will require a full abatement, so we will not be able to have student use of the building until that work is completed. It is estimated that this may take up to 2-3 months. Our goal will be to accelerate this process to the extent possible.

This situation has resulted in us committing to an *all remote* start to the school year. From the first day of school, which has been moved back to *August 20th* until the repairs are complete, all students will be remote learning from home. I want to assure you that remote learning will look very different this Fall than it did this past Spring. We are still fleshing out details, but here are things we know for sure based on feedback from our spring survey:

- Students will be held accountable with regular grading, attendance, homework, and check-ins with teachers.
- Teachers will be providing live and/or recorded instruction multiple times per week, along with conducting check-ins with small groups and/or individuals.
- Teachers will be available in the building should face-to-face assistance be necessary.
- Skyward will be a much better reflection of how a student is actually performing.
- All teachers will be using Google Classroom as the primary platform for their class.

Further details will be forthcoming as the beginning of the year approaches. This guidance will include when Chromebook and textbook distribution will be occurring.

When we are able to return to the building, assuming we are not shut down from the Governor's office, the following plan will most likely be utilized. (As things change on almost a daily basis, we reserve the right to alter the plan to best fit the needs of our students at that time.)

All students, except those who may be immunocompromised, will be in attendance each day according to the following schedule:

Time	Day 1 (Odd Day)	Day 2 (Even Day)
7:30 am	All teachers in rooms	All teachers in rooms
7:50-9:05	1st hour	2nd hour
9:10-10:25	3rd hour	4th hour
10:30-11:45	5th hour	6th hour
11:50-1:05	7th hour	Seminar/Advisory* (The name of this may change)
1:05-1:35	Teacher duty free lunch with grab and go lunch for kids	Teacher duty free lunch with grab and go lunch for kids
1:35-2:20	Teacher prep period	Teacher prep period
2:20-3:15	Remote assistance time, PD, staff meetings	Remote assistance time, PD, staff meetings

Families will have an option to continue with remote learning at that time. We will be transitioning students who will stay remote for the entire semester to our online curriculum which is delivered through APEX learning. Students will have the support of school personnel, but the instruction will be reading/video based by the third party vendor. Students who are temporarily at home (quarantined, for example) will continue with the classroom teacher during the time they are unable to attend.

As you can see, each class will meet for 75 minutes every other day. The entire day is shortened to 5 hours of instructional time and lunch will be provided as a grab and go at the end of the day. All students will be released at 1:05 each day. August 20th will start as Day 1 (odd class periods) with August 21st being a Day 2 (even class periods). ***We will follow this class schedule even during our remote learning.***

Our plan will be to remain with this schedule through the entire semester and then re-evaluate in December what the second semester will look like, based on guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and Illinois State Board of Education. First semester will end on Friday, January 15th and second semester will start for students on Wednesday,

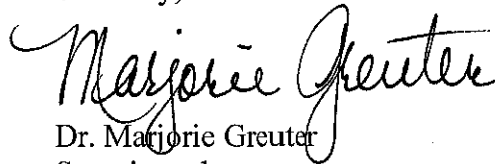
January 20th. For the time being, there will be no late start on Wednesdays, nor will there be a Raider Hour. Final exams will not be given first semester and exam days will be regular attendance days.

We recognize that no plan will satisfy everyone and every plan has challenges to overcome. Please know that our decisions have been made with health and safety of our students and staff as our first and foremost concern, followed closely by providing a robust educational experience. We also know there will be many questions that need answered. Our goal will be to provide a FAQ document as the school year approaches that will address the most common questions.

In person registration occurs next Tuesday and Thursday. If you complete online registration, including payment, you will not need to attend in person registration.

The global pandemic and our localized flooding have changed what education at EPCHS looks like, but our commitment is to use this opportunity to deliver the best possible education under the circumstances. Thank you for your continued support of your student and of EPCHS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marjorie Greuter". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Dr. Marjorie Greuter
Superintendent