

**USD 270** 



July 29, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am excited to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. With everything happening in our country, our state and our county, I thought it was important to reach out to you to let you know USD 270 is working hard to adjust to the challenges we are facing. I want to thank you for all the support you showed the teachers, administrators, and staff last year. We will get through this together.

The teachers and staff are working hard to prepare an educational plan to meet the needs of all our students and staff this year. We are looking forward to having them in school. We miss them and are excited to have the students back in the classroom. While things may look a little different, I want to assure you we are doing everything we can to provide a safe learning environment for everyone.

Due to COVID-19, we have modified the district calendar. One change we made is the start of the school year. The first day of school will be Thursday, August 27. This will be a half-day with dismissal at 11:30 A.M. We have taken some of the in-service days that are typically held throughout the year and moved them to the beginning of the year. We also cancelled most of the early dismissal days. An extra week has been added to the Christmas break to ensure the health and safety of our families and staff. We increased the daily schedule by five minutes at the beginning of the day and five minutes at the end of the day; therefore, school will begin at 7:55 A.M. and will end at 3:35 P.M. A revised district calendar is included in this mailing. It is also available on our district website.

I am sure you have many questions. In regard to masks, we are currently requiring masks for all students and staff in our district. The district has purchased two masks for each student and staff member. However, your student may wear his/her school appropriate mask if you prefer.

Our district is in the process of making several decisions regarding adjustments we need to make to our procedures. Additional information will be posted on our Facebook page and on our website as decisions are made. You will find details on our website regarding the reopening of our schools. We plan to post it during the second week in August. Please reach out to the building principals or to me if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

Lisa Gehring, USD 270 Superintendent

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