

Good Afternoon,

I hope this e-mail finds you all well. With the recent news that we will be returning on March 24<sup>th</sup> for full in-person learning, I needed to provide some updates.

### **Survey/Remote Learning**

Just to reinforce Mr. Jaeger's communication, Cross Middle School will return to school On March 24, 2021 with all students returning to in-person learning. Monday, March 22 and Tuesday, March 23 will be asynchronous days for students. Students will login for attendance on these days, and a brief review of directions for that day. Some teachers has previously arranged plans that could not be changes and will hold ZOOM classes.

The District has allowed each school to develop the virtual option that will work best for their students. We have many ideas for how we will handle this, and we will make firm decisions on what we will be able to offer once we hear from all of you. Please know that the virtual alternative will not be same experience as in person learning. Teachers will be the decision makers on how they will provide this instruction. Depending on what lesson the teacher is delivering, it may look different week to week. Some examples may include: listening into lessons, ZOOMing lessons, providing work in google classroom, or packet work. Teachers will have limited ability to monitor the ZOOM for student questions/behavior. There will also be a greater degree of personal responsibility for those virtual students in the absence of the in-person learning.

More specifics will be communicated directly to those families that have chosen this option.

We appreciate that this situation is difficult, as it has been since the pandemic hit us a year ago. I am hoping we can continue to come together as a community and work together. Please help our school by completing the survey as soon as possible.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FourthQuarterChoice>

### **Continued Mitigation Strategies**

With more students on campus our mitigation strategies need to continue to be in place and reinforced. Please take some time to reinforce the following expectations with your children.

- Maintain distancing as much as possible, in particular during morning arrival and during lunch.
- Wash hands regularly and use the sanitizer available.
- Wear masks appropriately.
- Avoid physical contact with other students.
- Report any COVID symptoms to parents/nurse and stay home if ill.

Security staff will be increasing their touch point sanitization throughout campus. It is critical that the students do not view full return as a return without the need for these measures. It is my greatest hope, that with these continued measures we will be able to finish the year in full return.

### **Parent Pick-Up/Drop-Off**

With the full return, we anticipate greater traffic and congestion during arrival and dismissal. In order to alleviate this as much as possible please use the following guidelines during arrival and dismissal of students.

- Use the parent pick-up area in front of the school, and pull forward as much as possible to allow the maximum number of cars to drop off students.
- Use the church parking lots across the street, and have your child use the crosswalk supervised by our crossing guard.
- Do not use the parking lot near the tennis courts to drop off/pick-up your student, this is assigned as the staff parking lot and bus entry area. Dropping off in this area is a safety issue.
- Do not use the parking lot in front of the office, students are safer on the sidewalk, using the pick-up line.
- Plan ahead, students can be dropped off as early as 7:00 in the morning, congestion usually begins around 7:15-7:25.

### **Athletics**

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter sports have been approved. For your child to participate they need to have a completed athletic packet, physical on file, and fee paid to be able to participate. Please know that there will be restrictions and procedures in place regarding masks, spectators, and distancing during games. You can access the participation forms using the following link or pick-up a hard copy in the office. The next update will include more detailed information.

<https://www.amphi.com/cms/lib/AZ01901095/Centricity/Domain/2705/COMPLETE%20SPORTS%20PAC%202021.pdf>

### **Chromebooks**

We are not currently collecting the Amphi issued Chromebooks, be on the lookout for a detailed e-mail on the return process.

### **AZM2 Testing**

We will still be completing the AZM2(formerly AZMERIT) state testing in April. We will have a regular start/dismissal time, but an adjusted schedule for students while on campus. The testing will occur on the following dates. Please try to avoid absences on these days.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Test</b>
April 6	Writing
April 8	Reading & Math
April 9	Reading & Math

Wishing you well,

Mr. Gutierrez