

July 19, 2020 School Messenger email to all FBMS families

Hello Falcon Bluffs families!

I hope you are staying healthy and enjoying your summer. We are sharing a few updates regarding our upcoming school year.

First and foremost, we are deeply appreciative to our FBMS community for your abounding support and encouragement throughout these challenging times. Similar to last Spring, our unique circumstances will once again rely heavily on flexibility, grace, and collaboration. We will continue to incorporate feedback along the way to tweak policies and develop new procedures. Although every school restart plan comes with challenges for all stakeholders, I have no doubt we will navigate items successfully and have an outstanding school year.

At this time, Jefferson County is providing two restart options for families (full time remote learning or full time in person learning). If you have not done so already, please take a moment to complete this [short questionnaire](#) to document your choice. Over the next few weeks we will shape all details relating to both FBMS restart plans. In the meantime, we want to share a general overview that may help answer questions and guide your decision. Although the list below is not comprehensive, and may change according to evolving safety guidelines, please review the items below to assist in family planning.

IN-PERSON LEARNING:

1. FBMS will utilize a variety of safety procedures including but not limited to:
 - Health screening stations upon entry to school
 - Directional indicators in halls and stairs
 - Sanitizer stations
 - Mask requirements
 - 6 ft social distancing when possible
 - No large gatherings (Lunch will not be together in the cafeteria, No school assemblies...)
 - Students will use backpacks (similar to last year) as there will be no locker access
 - Limit student cohorts/groupings to a maximum of 4 per day
 - Specific protocols for passing periods
2. We are currently investigating a rotating block schedule over two days. For example, students may attend periods 1-4 on one day and periods 5-7 on the other. We will share more details relating to our schedule in the coming weeks.

REMOTE LEARNING:

Similar to last spring, FBMS will employ both synchronous and asynchronous strategies. Lessons will be asynchronous and posted through Google Classroom providing autonomy for students/families to schedule times for school work. We will also incorporate synchronous Live Zoom Support Sessions throughout the week. We will prioritize consistent structures for every class regarding attendance, teacher updates, due dates, support sessions, and technology tools.

We will continue to send updates as we finalize details for both learning plans. Additionally, we are developing specifics regarding online registration, online Back to School Night, 6th grade transition information, and FBMS calendar updates.

Finally, behind all of our restart details, I want to clearly state our genuine excitement for the 2020-21 school year. In the midst of creating new plans and following developing health and safety updates, it is easy to get

caught up in logistics. Despite uncertainties, we are eager to welcome students to FBMS and look forward to working together in the months ahead.

Tom Burns
Principal
Falcon Bluffs Middle School