



## HASTINGS AREA SCHOOL SYSTEM

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May 26, 2020

Hello Saxon Families,

First of all, please accept a HUGE and collective, "THANK YOU" from our staff to you and your families for your incredible cooperation during the challenges brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic. I have spoken to numerous districts, and I am confident in saying that our school and community have set the bar for cooperation and success during these difficult circumstances. Unfortunately, we are not out of the woods, but we are comfortable with the direction we are heading and thankful for your help and cooperation.

At the moment, we do not know what school will look like to start the 2020-21 School Year. There is speculation that we may be back in a traditional sense or not at all, and literally, everything in between. To that end, we have created a survey to seek your input about returning to school in the fall. We are asking all parents to take this survey with the assumption that we are a "full go" in the fall (obviously, we will be following the requirements of the State, but for the purpose of this survey, please assume a "full go" in the fall). Please also know that we are convening a "Return to School Task Force" to make sure our return to school is safe and healthy for all. Here is a link to the survey (the survey is also available on our website): [Parent Survey](#)

One thing for all of us to keep in mind is that online learning will NEVER take the place of face-to-face, traditional instruction. Our staff takes great pride in building meaningful and long-lasting relationships with our students. Studies consistently show that relationship building between teachers and students is a very important aspect of effective teaching and learning, and building relationships is far more effective when we see each other every day.

We also understand that the comfort level of returning to school will vary from person to person and family to family for various reasons. Because of this, we are considering starting an online virtual academy for all levels. This format will be interactive and engaging with certified, Hastings teachers. Although we may be offering online and in person options in the fall, we want to communicate that we TRULY believe traditional, in person instruction is far better for all.

Finally, a couple of quick updates. First, regarding report cards; our elementary and middle school students will NOT receive report cards this term (because the main components are based on assessments students were not able to take). High School students will still receive report cards, but they may or may not contain as much information depending on course, grade level, etc. Also, the last day of school is June 3rd (this has never changed). We are expecting our staff and students to continue to work together until the end of the day on June 3rd.

If you have any specific questions about your child's end of school year activities or expectations, please contact your building principal.

Again, we are so grateful for your help and cooperation. We look forward to seeing everyone in the fall!

Sincerely,

Dan Remenap  
Superintendent  
Hastings Area School System