



June 30, 2020

Good morning, SCM Family,

Thank you for your feedback on the SCM Reopening Planning survey. We value your input and sincerely appreciate you taking the time to share with us how we can best serve your family during this time of uncertainty. As mentioned in that survey, we understand that the plan for returning to school in the fall is top of mind for our families, and I would like to take this opportunity to share an update with you on our progress.

Last week, leaders from School City of Mishawaka met with representatives from three other St. Joseph County school districts: John Glenn, South Bend, and Penn Harris Madison. The purpose of this meeting was to agree on several key expectations all four districts will adhere to as we continue developing our individual district plans. We remain committed to putting forth a plan that thoughtfully balances the educational goals and safety of our students and staff while recognizing the health, economic, and social realities of our families. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, SCM projects that we will be able to communicate our reopening plan the second week of July.

Right now, we recognize that as the public school corporations in St. Joseph County, we must all abide by the same health safety requirements, precautions, and guidelines in order to help keep our students, staff and the community at large safe. As such, we are affirming all four St. Joseph County school districts will start on their previously scheduled start date.

- The first student day for grades K-12 at School City of Mishawaka remains Wednesday, August 12, 2020.
- SCM will be in session providing in-person instruction five days (M-F) per week with the appropriate health and safety measures in place.
- Families who indicated an interest in learning more about eLearning on the SCM Reopening Planning: 2020-2021 survey can expect more information on eLearning plans the second week of July.
- Finally, the published 2020-2021 school calendar will be followed.

To conduct in-person instruction while ensuring the safety of all students and staff, certain health and safety measures must be in place. The four public school districts of St. Joseph County in partnership with the St. Joseph County Department of Health (SJCDH) have developed the following expectations for when students and staff return for in-person instruction this fall:

- Per the order of the SJCDH, staff and students are required to have a mask with them at all times. There will be times that masks or facial coverings will be required indoors and in enclosed spaces when 6 feet of physical distance cannot be maintained.
- Students and staff will be required to be fever free for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medication before returning to school.
- Students and staff will be required to conduct at-home, self-screening on a daily basis.
- All perfect attendance incentives for both students and staff will be discontinued.



# School City of Mishawaka

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- Lunches will be adjusted to maximize available open space and utilize alternate scheduling to adhere to safety guidelines.
- A separate space in existing school health offices will be identified to treat symptomatic students.
- Visitors and guests will be restricted in school facilities until further notice.
- Instructional space and scheduling flexibility will be maximized to ensure responsible social distancing as often as possible.
- Enhanced cleaning and hand washing procedures will be required with additional hand sanitizer stations available for all students and staff.

If you have not yet shared your feedback via the SCM Reopening Planning 2020-2021 survey, please make sure to do so before that survey closes tomorrow evening (Tuesday, June 30) at 11:59 PM. We look forward to sharing the entirety of our reopening plan the second week of July.

As always, we appreciate your ongoing patience and support.

Wayne Barker  
Superintendent of Schools  
School City of Mishawaka

In collaboration with the St. Joe County Partners below:

