

June 30, 2020

To all USD 345 staff and families:

I hope your summer is going well! It has been so uplifting to see our students and staff enter our buildings again for extended learning opportunities and summer camps. We are grateful for our staff, parents, and kids all working together as we safely return to some in-person activities and instruction. We will continue to monitor and follow guidance from our officials on safety measures as we work hard to create a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff. The most recent update includes an executive order from Governor Kelly that would require people to wear a mask in public places, beginning July 3. Specific guidance that will help us determine how this will affect our summer activities will be released on Thursday.

I know the thought of school approaching in August brings along many questions and I wanted to give you a brief update on our planning for the 2020-21 school year.

Our teaching and learning team has reviewed the feedback from our recent stakeholder survey with the district's newly formed Continuous Learning Plan 2.0 (CPL 2.0) Task Force. This survey was sent out to parents and staff to help the team gather important information as we finalize plans for reopening, once guidance from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) is released on July 10. As of right now, we are planning for three learning models: complete in-person instruction with safety measures; a hybrid model with distance learning and in-person instruction; and a model for continuous learning if school buildings are closed. The health and safety of our students and staff will always be our number one priority as decisions are made.

In our continuous effort to keep you informed, we have two important online resources to help you stay abreast with our planning process and important information as it relates to reopening in the fall. The "Back-to-School/Enrollment Info" page will have important dates, forms, and other general information you may find helpful for planning purposes. A new "Return to School Planning" page has been created to keep the public updated with the work of our CLP 2.0 task force. We will keep the website updated with information as it becomes available so please check back often.

Back-to-School/Enrollment Info:

https://www.seamanschools.org/resource_center/enrollment_back-to-school_info

Return to School Planning:

https://www.seamanschools.org/resource_center/enrollment_back-to-school_info/return_to_school_planning

Community Conversation: Navigating 2020

We have another team of dedicated staff, students, community leaders, and parents who will be helping us with a transition-to-school event for our kids and families. Mark your calendars for

Thursday, July 23 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Seaman High School. We will be providing an opportunity for families to come together with healthy conversations around current events, as kids prepare to transition back into school. We will provide support and guidance as our school community has experienced the impact of various events including: Covid-19, continuous learning, reopening schools, civil unrest, and the effects of systemic racism in our nation. We will listen and provide support as educational leaders to help our schools move forward in the success of all students.

We are looking forward to a safe and healthy return to school in August. Thank you for your time and assistance as we continue to work together.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Noble
Superintendent