



Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools

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July 14, 2020

Hello Cardinal Families!

I appreciate many of you taking the time to fill out the survey we sent to your email. If you haven't, please take a moment to complete the survey so we can gather your input as we work to put together a comprehensive plan for returning to school.

I know everyone is anxious about what the plan is for returning to school. We all are. While we have some guidelines, we also have pieces to still work out. Please know we have been working non-stop on this detailed, ever-changing, plan for months. It is so difficult for us "planners" to not have all the information we need to plan. At this time, this is what I can share with you about returning to school.

Johannesburg-Lewiston Area Schools will offer online options for families and students in the fall. Students will still be JLAS students, they will still be a part of our learning community, and it will keep school funding local. This will also allow students to come back into the building easier when families are ready for them to return. As a family, you will be able to make this choice beginning the second week of August, but it can be made throughout the year as necessary.

It is our plan to have multiple options to be flexible for your family's needs and to work in whatever situation our community ends up in.

I can also tell you we have already ordered additional sanitizer and sanitizing stations, we have ordered specialized cleaning devices for buses and classrooms, and our staff has discussed the plans for increased hand washing. We are also discussing changes to the school schedules to provide the ability to implement social distancing and safe transitions if necessary. The District has also ordered Chromebooks so each child will have one assigned to them for educational purposes. Our attendance policy has been modified and we will be expecting any child who is ill to stay home.

We will be gathering parent input, staff input, and then our committee will reconvene in order to take the menu of ideas that have been discussed and researched and select the ones that meet the requirements to place into our plan.

Thank you for your understanding, patience, and flexibility as we navigate this difficult situation.

Sincerely,

Katy Xenakis-Makowski
Superintendent