



HAMBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Tracy Streeter, Superintendent
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Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Dear Parents, Students and Faculty:

As you are aware the Hamburg School District Ready for Learning Team has worked hard to develop a re-entry plan that we feel meets the needs of the students in Hamburg School District. We have proven that safety is our first priority and maintained a standard of expectations that all students will receive a high-quality education, despite their circumstances. We have worked to develop a plan which would maximize social distancing that TRULY follow the recommendations from ADH. The plan allowed us the option of spreading our K-2 students out and recapture the skills they lost the 4th nine weeks. It allowed us to social distance completely with 3-12 by attending two days a week but receiving full lessons of instruction five days a week. And it offered a full remote learning option for students not attending on campus with our teachers and services.

On Wednesday, August 5, 2020, Secretary of Education, Johnny Key, issued a directive which stated all school districts in the State of Arkansas would offer, at a minimum, relevant and engaging on site learning opportunities for each student, each day of the 5-day school week. He further stated that school districts not affording onsite educational opportunities each day creates inequity that impedes the State from ensuring its responsibility is met. We were fully prepared to start school and follow the guidelines as asked to do so. I disagree, but I am required by law to follow this directive.

Therefore, the Hamburg School District will offer two (2) options to parents and students. The first option will allow students the opportunity to attend school Tuesday-Friday with a blended approach. On Mondays, school will be open for students to be onsite to access instruction and necessary academic support. If parents need students to be there, they can. However, buses will not run on Mondays, due to the fact this is a deep cleaning day for buses and facilities. Students will have lessons five days a week. They will receive Monday's lessons through blended learning with the use of technology. The second option will allow students the opportunity to attend school totally virtual five (5) days a week with no onsite instruction. Students will be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities regardless of the option chosen.

The district is committed to providing its students the necessary tools needed to learn effectively, whether onsite or online. While the district cannot guarantee internet connectivity for every student, we have upgraded connectivity at each campus as well as installing internet hotspots at various locations throughout the districts. The district is also committed to providing

each student with a chrome book regardless of whether they choose total onsite instruction or total online instruction.

There will be some bumps along the way on this journey of uncharted waters. Please be patient and understanding as we work all details out and keep in mind, the one thing that is constant is change. We continue to experience change every day. We are having a hard time getting schedules and other things out to parents, because it changes so often. Please know we are trying.

Thank you to everyone for your hard work and determination to make sure the students of Hamburg receive a valued education. I also want to ensure parents that every employee of this district is committed to providing the safest environment possible for students and teachers. We will continue to make decisions that best serve the needs of our community. We greatly appreciate your support and encouragement. It is still a good day to be a HAMBURG LION! GO LIONS!

Sincerely,

Tracy Streeter

Tracy Streeter

Superintendent