

MESSAGE FROM SUPERINTENDENT DR. Charlie E. Butler, Jr.



Dear Madison Family,

The 2020-2021 school year was certainly unlike any we have faced. Regardless of, Madison was well prepared and ready to take on the challenge. We were recognized throughout the state for our well-planned measures to keep us safe while continuing our education during the pandemic. We entered the year with multiple unknowns. Would we be forced to close schools again? If quarantined, how will we continue instruction? How would our scholars and teachers handle the required changes to maintain safety and learning opportunities? Through it all, our stakeholders were supportive throughout the year in navigating these and other critical questions. Collaboratively, we relied on medical experts locally and across our state to help us in keeping our scholars and staff safe. Along the way, we learned schools were deemed among the safest places for individuals due to persistent social distancing practices and low transmission rates.

As we enter the 2021-2022 school year starting August 12th, 2021, we undoubtedly have learned a great deal about COVID-19. Those lessons, along with the latest guidance from the Louisiana Department of Health, the Louisiana Department of Education, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, have been diligently reviewed to create *Madison Strong Start 2.0*. *This document will be updated as our partners make guidance modifications.*

In creating *Madison Strong Start 2.0* our focus was clear: remain open for our scholars who need us to provide high-quality instruction, while continuing our social distancing and masks wearing.

Nothing can replace the power of an excellent education and the critical role our schools play in the growth and development of our children. Knowing this, Madison's schools will be fully open five days a week with an in-person option available for every child.

We also understand families may not feel comfortable returning their children to school for in-person instruction. Virtual instruction has been made available for scholars and families with documented medical and extenuating circumstances (contract included). Make no mistake, attendance and curriculum completion expectations will be required for scholars whether in-person or learning virtually.

Madison is home to the best teachers and staff members, and I know they will do everything in our power to make this year a great one. We are stronger together and look forward to partnering with you in making this a successful school year. "Trust the Process!" Madison Strong!

For kid's sake,

Dr. C.E. Butler, Jr.

Dr. Charlie E. Butler, Jr. Superintendent