

FLATONIA INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 189 • Flatonia, Texas 78941 • (361) 865-2941 Secondary Fax (361) 865-2944 • Elementary Fax (361) 865-2945

August 12, 2021

Dear Bulldog Family,

The new school year is here! We could not be more excited to welcome back our students and families to Flatonia ISD. Our AMAZING students and staff worked extremely hard last school year and showed tremendous resilience and made great progress under the circumstances presented by the ongoing pandemic. We could not be more proud of everyone!

As you well know, we continue to navigate the "ups and downs" of the pandemic. Even though we are now entering the third school year impacted by the pandemic, many aspects relating to guidance and information from the local, state, and federal levels are in flux as we begin the school year. As circumstances change, we will continue to monitor and work through these items over the coming days. We appreciate your continued patience and understanding as we navigate through this unprecedented time. On this note, I would like to take this opportunity to share a few important points as we bring students and staff back to the campuses.

Health and Safety Protocols

Flatonia ISD believes it is in the best interest of our students, staff and community to begin the school year as "normal" as possible. Although we are working toward normalcy, Flatonia ISD understands that the pandemic is still very active. Therefore, we will continue numerous precautionary measures in order to help keep students and staff safe while on campus. These include additional cleaning and sanitization efforts, social distancing measures where applicable, health monitoring / reporting, and controlled visitor access. In addition to these measures, Flatonia ISD will also encourage, but not require, indoor mask use in accordance with Executive Order GA-38 from Governor Abbott. Students, staff, and visitors who choose to wear a mask may bring their own or request a mask which will be available at all FISD campuses. In complete transparency, although we will implement our enhanced measures with fidelity, there is an inherent risk associated with bringing large groups of people together. Therefore, we will continually monitor and follow our FISD Health and Safety Protocols that have been developed and that are aligned to state law and health recommendations from various agencies. Adjustments may be made according to local conditions at any given time throughout the year. As we begin this school year, the health and safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. Should you have any questions, we ask that you reach out to us so that we can provide clarification or guidance. A full list of the FISD Health and Safety Protocols can be found on our district web page at www.flatoniaisd.net. We strongly encourage everyone to review this information prior to students returning.

In-Person Learning

All instruction for Flatonia ISD students in grade PK -12 will be "in-person" as we begin the new school year. Remote instruction will not be an option for students at any level. In the event of absence due to circumstances relating to the pandemic, work will be made up as it would be with any other absence. Our faculty and staff will assist in keeping students and parents informed regarding work that may need to be made up. If absent, communication between home and school will be paramount.

Facilities

We are proud to share that we have completed all of the major projects from the 2018 Bond. The only remaining project is the new playground, which is currently under construction. While the project is in motion, students will play in alternate areas such as the track and field or other open grass play areas around the campuses. We look forward to the project being completed soon after school begins. We know the kids are looking forward to the playground being finished and promise it will be worth the wait.

In closing, I could not be more proud of all the hard work that has gone into preparing for the start of school this year. Our faculty and staff are eager to welcome our students back. Although there are a lot of unknowns in our world today, I can assure you that the faculty, staff, administration, and FISD Board of Trustees will remain vigilant in providing our students and families with a positive school experience. We look forward to welcoming everyone back! Please let us know if you need anything to help get your child's year off to a great start! GO DOGS!

With Bulldog Pride,

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Andy Reddock, Ed.D. Superintendent Flatonia ISD