

As of August 13, 2020 Glenville-Emmons Public School will start school this fall with ALL students able to be in school to receive In-Person Learning.

Dear Families,

As we prepare to start a school like no other school year we have ever seen, there are some very significant issues in which we are going to need your assistance. First and foremost is helping us screen your children **before** they come to school. In the survey that was sent asking if you would send your children to school IF we were allowed to have In-Person Learning, almost 90% said Yes. That means that nearly every student will be coming through our doors in a few short weeks. What we are asking is for you to take your children's temperature **BEFORE** leaving for school. If they have a fever or are showing any other signs of illness, you are **REQUIRED** to keep your children at home. This is directly from the *Safe Learning Plan for 2020-2021* that can found on MDE's website at www.education.mn.us.

Second is wearing of an approved mask/face covering while in school. Based on the governor's executive order all K-12 students and all staff members are **REQUIRED** to wear an approved mask/face covering while in school and/or riding on school transportation. Whether you agree or disagree with this mandate is irrelevant as this is an order all public schools are required to adhere to. Everyone has a right to their opinions and beliefs but we are required to do as much as we can to keep everyone in the building safe. This means your child will have to wear an approved mask/face covering except during lunch, recess, Physical Education class and band/choir. The State of Minnesota is providing every student with 1 cloth mask and providing schools with 3 disposable masks for every student. We do understand that this will be new and there will be times children may forget to bring a mask. We will provide the 3 disposable masks when they are needed but if they have used their supply and show up to school without a mask, they will not be allowed to enter the building. Our suggestion is for your child to have multiple masks available and even leave a couple in their lockers in case they forget.

Last (at least for this letter) is to ask for you to understand and empathize/sympathize with others as everyone is handling this pandemic a little different. This is uncharted territory for all of us. No school staff member was ever trained to teach students during a pandemic. No parent has ever been faced with the decision of sending their children back to school in the midst of a pandemic. No one could have predicted this is what school would become. So please, please remember this when you reach the level of frustration that makes you want to shout at someone. Our 2 main goals are to provide your child with a quality education AND keep them safe. These have always been our 2 main goals but have certainly taken on a new meaning since last March.

We will absolutely need your help IF we want to keep our students in school and safe. As parents, you are on the front lines for determining the health of your children. We do not want to turn students away but we will if it means keeping everyone else in the building safe. Please help us make this year as successful as possible and always know if you have questions, concerns, worries or ideas let us know.

Incident Planning Committee

