



March 8, 2021

Dear Eagle Families:

Our eagles are coming back!! We are so excited to announce that the return date for all students to five-day-a-week, in-person learning is scheduled to begin [Monday, March 15, 2021](#). All students will return to their classes following this revised block [bell schedule](#). We have extended the lunch periods to the extent possible to allow our students a few more minutes to eat and relax. A large number of students and families are excited to return to school full time while others have some concerns about this process. I know I cannot ease all of your concerns, but I truly believe that having all students in the building every day, following mask and social distancing requirements, will actually help reduce some transmission of Covid from person to person. The vast majority of positive cases at HHS have not been traced back to school contacts or origins. Please assist us by reviewing and discussing our continued safety measures as a family. We will also maintain or add the following safety measures to ensure student safety:

- We will continue to have one-way directional hallways and stairwells.
- We have arranged classrooms to have as much space between desks and tables as possible following [MDHP guidelines](#).
- We have also added additional tables and spaces outdoors and throughout the building for students to eat and socially distance during their unscheduled periods and lunches. Lunch tables have been cordoned off to encourage seating at every other seat.
- Students will be required to wear their student IDs visibly on their person for identification.
- No volunteers or visitors will be allowed to enter the building.
- Students will be required to wear masks at all times while on campus. This policy will be strictly enforced. [Mask Do's and Don'ts](#)
- Teachers will maintain accurate seating charts for targeted quarantines when necessary.
- Targeted quarantines will be implemented whenever possible. [Targeted Quarantine Guidelines](#)
- Large assemblies and group gatherings will be prohibited and all CDPHE and CHSAA guidelines for events will be adhered to for all school-related events. [Athletics and Activities Guidance](#)

School safety and student welfare takes a coordinated effort between the school, students and families. How can you help keep our students in school?

- If students show any symptoms, please have them stay home until the symptoms resolve or testing occurs.
- Test students for free using the district's free testing site if they have any symptoms.
- Report any exposures or positive test results to the school using the form found on our website. [Heritage High School Illness and COVID exposure form](#)
- Limit student social gatherings outside of school hours and stress the importance of masking and social distancing procedures.
- Limit travel whenever possible. If you do travel, please consider self-quarantining for 10 days upon return to protect others from Covid and its variants. Unfortunately, there are no resources or online learning options based on the choice to travel.

We know that bringing students back to a full-time school experience will create some challenges. However, we believe that the benefits academically, emotionally, socially, and culturally will far outweigh these challenges in the long run. The last few weeks have brought new energy and life to the hallways of Heritage. I can only imagine the joys that we will experience as all students return. We look forward to March 15th and all it will bring. After all, there has never been a time when the first day of school happens multiple times. Please know we are excited and truly looking forward to taking our first baby steps toward some semblance of normalcy.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacey Riendeau".

Stacey Riendeau, Principal