

## CEDAR MOUNTAIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS ISD 2754



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July 31st, 2020

Cedar Mountain Families,

On July 30th, MN Governor Tim Walz and MDE announced the return to school guidance for the fall of 2020. The governor's plan is fluid and allows for local control with guidance. The goals of this plan is to prioritize student and staff safety and in-person learning especially for younger learners. The plan provides data as a tool to help guide districts not only in their initial decision making process but also in the decisions that will be made throughout the year.

Cedar Mountain administration and our "Return to School Planning Team" have been working to prepare 3 plans. (Full Return, Hybrid and Distance Learning) The current initial data shows that Cedar Mountain should be able to return students and staff to school this fall in some in-person capacity. (Full or Hybrid) Each school district has the ability to make their own decision based upon what they feel will be best for their schools while looking at the current data. The Cedar Mountain School board will be having a special meeting on August 6th at 7:00pm to make this initial decision. Stakeholders will be notified of the plans following board approval.

Our initial survey data showed that 92.7% of our families were prepared to send their students back to school for in-person learning. (Full or Hybrid) Our plans for in-person learning, which were developed using the MDE and MDH guidance documents, will detail the many aspects of what full return or hybrid learning will look like. Changes such as students needing to use water bottles instead of drinking fountains, meals being eaten in the classroom, adhering to the mask mandate (some exceptions) and parents symptom checking their child daily prior to entering school or riding a bus, will all be part of the plans. We know these changes will be significant and will take some time to get used to, but all of this is necessary to keep our students and staff safe. "Selected Distance Learning" will be an option for anyone unwilling to send their student back to school for in-person learning. A form for parents to select distance learning will accompany the announcement.

Over the next few weeks, our administration, "Back to School" planning team and all staff will continue to prepare for the new school year. We believe that no matter what the learning environment looks like, learning will take place. Every single person in the Cedar Mountain community will play a vital role in ensuring that we do our very best to keep everyone safe during this pandemic.

Thank you for your continued support of Cedar Mountain.

Rob Brandl Superintendent Cedar Mountain Schools

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