



August 4, 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

Please realize the recommendations for conducting in-person learning are rapidly changing during this phase of the pandemic. As part of the district's efforts to help ensure a safe return to in-person learning, it is important to highlight specific mitigation points contained in our *Safe Return and Continuity of Services Plan*:

- Students, staff, and visitors are strongly encouraged to maintain universal and correct use of masks while in any district facility,
- Masks will be required for drivers and passengers in district transportation vehicles,
- Students and staff will continue to maintain social distancing and use cohort groups as feasible,
- Proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette will continue to be expected,
- The district will continue deep cleaning of facilities and vehicles,
- Visitor access to buildings will be restricted more than normal,
- Eligible students and staff are encouraged to get vaccinated against COVID-19, and
- Administration will continue contact tracing to notify parents of exposures in combination with suggesting specific CDC isolation and quarantine recommendations for identified COVID contacts/cases.

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, Sperry Public Schools was blessed in that we remained operating in-person to a far higher degree than many other districts. With your continued voluntary support of our current mitigation measures, I am hopeful we can continue that pattern again this year.

With that being said, our intent is to remain open for in-person learning when safely feasible to do so and only pivot to distance learning when necessary. However, we will continue to provide flexibility by offering students Traditional (in-person), Blended, and/or Distance Learning options throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Refer to our *Safe Return and Continuity of Services Plan* posted on our website for more specific details regarding these options. We will continue to monitor community health conditions, with the same intensity as we did last year, and will adjust our *Safe Return Plan* accordingly.

Thank you in advance for helping us continue our tradition of excellence in education for all students.

Respectfully,

Dr. Brian Beagles, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools