

Update
From Your Superintendent
August 3, 2021

2020-21 – A Year to Remember

Evart Public Schools is proud of what we were able to accomplish in the 2020-21 school year. Your support, understanding and help enable us to have our students face to face the entire school year. Many protocols were mandated that we were required to follow. Your cooperation contributed to our success.

Welcome Back

We are getting ready for a great 2021-22 school year to begin. We are optimistic that schools will look more like they did prior to the pandemic with many restrictions being removed. However, requirements and recommendations coming from the federal and state levels as well as the local health department are continually being revised.

Our goal is to provide a learning environment that existed before the pandemic while maintaining some of the protocols that allowed us to be face to face for the entire 2020-21 school year. We will be moving forward with the following guidelines when students return on Wednesday, August 18th.

- Staff and students will not be required to wear masks in our school buildings. However, many may wish to wear a mask and are encouraged to do so if they have not been fully vaccinated; this is a personal choice.
- We will return to the virtual learning opportunities that were in place prior to the pandemic. All K-8 teachers will only be teaching students face to face. At the high school level, virtual opportunities are available through APEX and Educere, two programs that were used prior to the pandemic.
- **Face masks are required on all school transportation. This is a current federal regulation.**
- Vaccinations for staff and students will not be required. We do encourage those who are willing and able, to be vaccinated.
- Self screening is extremely important. We ask that both staff and students stay home if they are not feeling well. I really believe that the cooperation we received from our families in keeping students home was one of the reasons we were in school all year.
- We will not require antigen testing.
- We will follow MHSAA guidelines to allow our students the opportunity to participate in the MHSAA tournaments. At this time guidelines have not been published.
- We will continue to maintain a healthy environment with proper cleaning and sanitizing as recommended by the CDC.
- Frequent hand washing is part of the daily schedule.

We hope that we will be able to maintain these guidelines through the entire school year. However we know we will need to be flexible if additional requirements rather than just recommendations are put into place.

New To Evart Public Schools

Welcome to our district. We look forward to meeting you. NEW STUDENTS CAN ENROLL NOW! Mon.-Fri. from 8am-3pm at whichever building they will be enrolling. Secretaries are back in the offices. We are anxious to get every student on a class list by the end of next week. If you have any questions, please feel free to call.

Elementary School (PreK-4) 231-734-5595

Middle School (5-8) 231-734-4222

High School (9-12) 231-734-5551

Building Information

Very pertinent and informative information of what school will actually look like in each building will be communicated to you by the building principal. Each building will disperse their COVID Protocol via social media and at the building's registration/open house days.

Evart Elementary School Open House

- Monday, August 16th @ 4pm-6pm

Evart Middle & High School Registration

- Tuesday, August 10th @ 11am-7pm
- Wednesday August 11th @ 8am-3pm

Once you have obtained the information, please take time to review and share new with your students.

Additional Transportation Information

Bus passes will only be issued through the office secretary and only in emergency situations. Should your child be in an emergency situation, please call the building secretary before 2pm on full days and 11:30 on Early Release days.

Stops needed for your child when school starts and you have confirmed these stops with our transportation department will be honored. We realize that there are students who have to go to one home on certain days or weeks and another home on the opposite days. We can make this work. All students will have assigned seats on the bus. Some students will just have assigned seats on two buses. For contact tracing it is extremely important that we know what seat a student was sitting in. This protocol worked well last year; we very much appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these challenging times.

Household Survey for Every EVART School Family

At each registration or open house, you will be given the Household Survey; **it will be on green paper!** It is vital that you take time to complete this form (ONLY ONE FORM PER HOUSEHOLD, NOT ONE PER STUDENT). We need 100% of our families to fill out this form. By doing so, all of our students will be able to have not only breakfast, but also lunch provided at no cost. These surveys impact not only the food service funds, but the funds we receive from state/federal sources in at-risk funding known as Title I and 31a. We use this funding for social workers, classroom paraprofessionals, school counselor, nurse, as well as many other things including computer programs to reinforce learning.

Looking forward to a great year!

Shirley