

July 29, 2021

Dear Wayne-Westland School Community,

I hope you are enjoying your summer break. As we plan for the 2021-22 school year, we continue to prioritize the safety of our students and staff. Based on the recommendations released on June 25, 2021, by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Wayne County Health Department's [Return to School Toolkit](#), our plans for this fall include:

- Students will return to five full days a week of in-person learning. Families seeking an online alternative may enroll in the [WWCS Virtual Academy](#) by August 15, 2021.
- We will not require face coverings for students and staff in our District this fall. While no longer required, the Wayne County Health Department recommends that individuals who are not fully vaccinated should consider wearing a face covering when indoors, especially in crowded settings. Wayne-Westland Community Schools respects each family's or individual's decision.
 - **NOTE:** Students who ride the bus **MUST** wear a mask while on the bus according to [CDC Federal guidelines](#). Parents **MUST** register any eligible student if they will be using bus transportation. Registration can be done through the MISTar parent connect site.
 - Should specialized programs require a mask, the supervisor of the program will contact staff and families.
- WWCS will not require students and staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. The decision to receive the vaccine remains a choice of the family or individual.
- We have no information to indicate testing for COVID-19 will be required for schools in the fall and WWCS has no plans to test students or staff.
- Health and safety strategies will continue, including self-screening and reporting, cleaning protocols and the frequent use of disinfectants and hand washing.
- Sports programs will follow [MHSAA guidelines](#). As of June 22, 2021, there are no requirements or restrictions on testing, gatherings, groups and face masks for any sports activity, both indoors and outdoors. Face coverings are no longer required for anyone, including both vaccinated and non-vaccinated individuals.
- Community partners, including Champions and Bright Futures, will have their own protocols and will communicate them with families.

We are also asking you to continue to partner with us in keeping our students and staff safe by monitoring any symptoms and keeping your child/ren home when they are sick. Students cannot return to school until

they have gone 24 hours without a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea. We will continue to abide by any Wayne County Health Department mandates.

Your best source of accurate information is our District [website](#). We remain centered on our core educational mission that Great Futures Start Right Here in Wayne-Westland Community Schools. We will send follow-up communications with important activities leading up to our start date of **August 30**. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Dignan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Dr. John Dignan
Superintendent