



1 TROJAN PLACE, SUITE B
ST. LEON, INDIANA 47012
PHONE: 812-623-2291
FAX: 812-623-3341
www.sunmandearborn.k12.in.us

DR. ANDREW JACKSON
Superintendent

KELLY ROTH
Director of Student Services

DUSTY BURRESS
Director of Support Services

MARY ANN BAINES
Director of Financial Services

July 24, 2020

Dear Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools Parents:

As we prepare to welcome your children back to school on August 5th, I want to pass along several important updates:

Face Masks

Per Governor Holcomb's mandate, masks are required at school. Our re-entry plan will be updated and posted to the COVID-19 webpage over the next few days with the following changes:

All students in grades K-12 are required to wear mask coverings while on a school bus.

Students in grades 3-12 are required to wear a face covering at all times in a school setting except for the following:

- If a school classroom can be configured such that all students and instructors are at least 3-6 feet apart.
- During outdoor recess where proper social distancing measures are enforced.
- When deemed necessary by a school official for instructional purposes.
- When it is determined in the Case Conference Committee or 504 meeting (for students with an IEP or 504 learning plan) . A face shield will be considered when appropriate.

School employees are required to wear a face covering at all times when interacting with colleagues or students or when in common areas such as hallways, cafeterias, etc.

- Employees in classrooms with at least 6 feet between their instructional area and students are not required to wear a mask while social distancing is observed.
- Employees working alone in an office or work environment or while observing social distancing are not required to wear a mask.

Open House

We will not be able to conduct an open house in our usual manner this year. Instead, parents and students will be permitted to tour the school building during Book Days. Principals are preparing videos for a virtual open house as well, for students and parents to watch.

Student Orientation

Orientations have been modified and will be conducted via videos and at school on the first day. New students are encouraged to come to school for new student registration on Monday, July 27th from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. If new students are unable to attend on new student registration, they are welcome to attend during one of the other book days.

Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten students will begin the school year with an orientation day for both students and parents. It will also be a staggered start. More specific information will be sent via US mail early next week from your student's school.

6th Grade Orientation

6th Grade students will be provided with an orientation program the first day of school. This will include time to tour the school, test their locker combination, and become more acclimated with their new school. More information will be available from Dr. Maple and Sunman-Dearborn Middle School.

Freshman Orientation

The ECHS Ambassadors are working hard to provide a freshman orientation. As with the other orientations, freshman orientation will also be a combination of virtual through videos, and through various activities on the first day of school.

Chromebooks

Students should bring their Chromebooks with them on their first day of school. For grades 6-12, we will continue to have students take their Chromebooks home each day. For students in grades K-5, the Chromebooks will stay at school. If we have an extended closure, we will send the Chromebooks home with the students at that time.

Most students will be issued the same Chromebook for the 2020-2021 school year. During the first few days of school, 6th grade students will turn in their 5th grade Chromebook and be issued a new Chromebook. The Chromebooks will be repaired, cleaned, and sanitized and then distributed to 3rd grade students. At that time, 3rd grade students will turn in their 2nd grade Chromebook. The Chromebooks will be repaired, cleaned, and sanitized and then distributed to Kindergarten students. The entire process should take approximately four (4) weeks to complete.

PowerSchool

As a reminder, if you have not already done so, you must register each year for school. To do so, please access your PowerSchool Parent Portal account and click on the icon. The deadline to register for school is Friday, July 31st.

[PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)

Sunman-Dearborn Online Academy (S-DOA)

Staffing for K-5 for the S-DOA is complete. School administrators and counselors will begin working next week to create schedules for 6-12 S-DOA students. Thank you for your patience as we work to create an online option that is something our community will be proud of.

As a reminder, S-DOA starts a week later than traditional school. We will have a virtual orientation program for students and parents on Monday, August 10th or Tuesday, August 11th, with the first day of school on Wednesday, August 12th. The deadline to enroll in S-DOA is July 24th. You must first register for school through the PowerSchool Parent Portal, then register for S-DOA through the Google Form linked here:

[S-DOA Google Form Registration](#)

Our school staff has been working tirelessly over the summer to prepare for the first day of school on August 5th. It is my firm belief our community, families, and students need to be back in school as scheduled. I know there is much anxiety, frustration, and nervousness about school. This is understandable. This will be my 29th year in education. I still experience a combination of nervousness and excitement on the first day of school. However, this year it is different. This year, I am looking forward to the opportunity to show the community what the employees of your school system are made of. We exist to serve all of you. You will be proud of our efforts. Watch Sunman-Dearborn!

Thank you for your continued support of Sunman-Dearborn Community Schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "A".

Andrew Jackson
Superintendent