

October 4, 2020

Good Afternoon LPS Families,

You may have heard news reports about the latest decision of the Michigan Supreme Court stating that the issuance by the Governor of executive orders related to the COVID-19 pandemic is no longer valid on a continuing basis. We wanted to provide clear communication on this for our school community to answer any questions you may have.

We are writing to let you know that, over the past several months, we have worked with educational leaders and stakeholders within our region, at numerous levels in government, the fields of health, psychology and epidemiology, and experts in education. The product of our collaboration, the Return to Learn Plan, was adopted by our Board of Education as policy for our school district both on August 10, and updated for approval on September 28, 2020. That policy survives any judicial action. As a local board of education, we have the responsibility to maintain safety for all of our students and staff, as well as their families. We likewise have the ability to adopt policies to keep these stakeholders safe.

After careful consideration, and unless or until we receive additional or other guidance from lawful authority, we will be maintaining our way forward into the 2020-21 school year as articulated in our Return to Learn plan adopted under the Safe Schools Roadmap, as well as those procedures incorporated into our preparedness and response plan as it relates to COVID-19.

All safety protocols that are currently in place, including but not limited to mask wearing by all students and staff, the physical distancing measures we have taken and the at-home daily health screening for all students, remain in effect. These essential protocols and mitigation measures were extensively reviewed and ultimately approved by the health department and are part of our adopted Return to Learn Plan, and must be followed as approved. It is vitally important and required that our school community adheres to the safety measures contained in our plans as we return to in-person learning.

We have sought to work carefully and thoughtfully through the challenges presented by these extraordinary times, and truly look forward to the return of all of our students who have chosen in-person learning for this school year.

Sincere regards,

Mark R. Johnson, Esq.  
President, Livonia Board of Education

Andrea L. Oquist  
Superintendent