

August 12, 2020

TO: Maumee City Schools Parents
FROM: Todd Cramer, Superintendent

As you know, over the last few months, members of our task forces undertook the monumental responsibility of crafting Maumee's Reset & Restart School plans under ever-changing and difficult circumstances. The ultimate goal has always been to provide students with the best educational opportunities in a safe and most responsible manner. Our plans were crafted based on guidance and best practices provided by Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Education, Toledo Lucas County Health Department, and Centers for Disease Control & Prevention. However, even with the best possible plan in place, we have remained committed to basing our decisions and plans on the most current guidance and best practices.

Today, Thursday, August 6, local school districts were provided with new coronavirus guidance related to the start of the school year. The Toledo Lucas County Health Department strongly recommended districts to provide only virtual learning opportunities for students until at least October 1, 2020 when the coronavirus threat in our area will be reassessed. This means that Maumee students will be starting the school year learning together with their classmates and teacher in an online format.

Since many of you have students who are preparing for athletics and activities this fall we want you to know that our athletic league is in the process of finalizing their guidance and we will continue to rely on the Ohio High School Athletic Association for additional updates as well as seek further clarification from the Toledo Lucas County Health Department.

In light of this new development, on August 12 I will be proposing to Maumee's Board of Education that we push back the start of our school year until September 8 to give parents time to adjust to this change, our staff ample time to prepare as we make this pivot, and also to maximum number of in-person school days for our students who will be LEARNING AT SCHOOL when we are permitted to return to in-person learning. I am confident in saying that the Board will make this decision quickly so that you have the information you need to make decisions for your children. We plan to send out another SchoolMessenger alert on August 13 with additional information such as when we will be able to post elementary class lists, provide final middle and high school class schedules, and if changes are made we will send you the revised calendar for the 2020-21 school year.

I want to reassure parents that when we are permitted to return to in-person instruction, we plan to offer the same two educational options for families - students LEARNING AT SCHOOL in our buildings and also students LEARNING AT HOME via a virtual format. We are also working to ensure students will remain with the same teacher and classmates that they begin the year with.

I know that this change causes heightened anxiety levels for everyone and will create childcare and work-related issues for some families. To help with this burden we have been in contact with the YMCA and will have additional information to share in the coming week. Thank you for patience and understanding and for keeping our students at the center of your thinking. We will get through this together. Please, keep wearing your masks and hopefully by October 1 the Lucas County coronavirus statistics will look much better and we will be able to fully implement our back-to-school plans.