

Hanover-Horton School District

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July 13, 2021

Hello Comets!

As the students are hopefully enjoying their well-earned summer vacations, there are a few items that I wanted to share with you. While it is hard to believe that it is time to start talking about the 2021-2022 school year, our first day for students, August 25th, will be here before we know it.

I know that many of you are wondering what school will look like this fall. Right now our plan is to have our schools operate on their normal schedules and calendars. That means five days of in-person instruction for our students. We are planning on holding all of our traditional back-to-school events on the evening of August 23rd. As has been the case since COVID first arrived, a lot can change in a very short amount of time. Please keep in mind that we may have to change our plans as conditions change.

Since June 22nd, when the masking restrictions were lifted across the state, we have not required our students or staff to wear masks and plan to continue with this policy. Anyone is able to wear a mask if they choose, but it is their individual choice. This decision was made after consultation with the Jackson County Health Department and reviewing the local data available to us. If local case numbers change for the worse or new rules are implemented, there is always the chance that students and staff may have to wear masks at some points during the next school year. We will continue to make the best decisions we can while keeping the overall health and safety of everyone at the forefront of our decision making process.

August 3rd is Election Day and the district has a new Sinking Fund Millage Proposal on the ballot. For those families living in our district, the proposal is asking for a continuation of the one mill levy that has been in place since 2007. Changes in the sinking fund rules allows revenues to be spent on technology for the first time, but requires the district to ask for a new millage rather than simply renewing the existing millage that expires this year. Passing this millage will not increase your tax rates. Our district would continue to levy the two mills that have been in place for the last few years: one mill for the 2019 bond and one mill for the sinking fund millage. If passed, it is estimated that the millage would raise just under \$300,000 annually for the district. The funds are restricted and would be used to address a wide variety of needs throughout the district for the next five years. There is an FAQ page posted on our website (www.hanoverhorton.org) which has more information. You are also more than welcome to reach out to me with questions or concerns.

I hope that you are having a healthy, safe, and fun summer! Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Go Comets!

John Denney, Superintendent