



Excellence



Commitment



PRIDE



Success

Eau Claire Public Schools ~ 6190 West Main Street ~ Eau Claire, Michigan ~ 49111

August 27, 2021

Greetings Friends and Families of Eau Claire Public Schools,

I hope that everyone has had a fun, exciting, and relaxing summer! On behalf of the Eau Claire Public School Board of Education and staff, I welcome you to the 2021-2022 school year.

Whether you are new to the district or a returning family, we are looking forward to seeing all of you on the first day of school, **Monday, August 30, 2021**. Please read next week's [Peek at the Week](#) by clicking on the blue text to learn more about specific events happening next week at Eau Claire Public Schools.

As you are well aware the COVID-19 delta variant is causing an increase in cases throughout the nation and state. The impact of these increases on schools and particularly each unique school is not known at this time leaving us with more unknowns than knowns as we begin the 2021-2022 school year. While no one can predict what the future holds, we remain hopeful that 2021-2022 will allow us to restore the quality and continuity of education our students and families deserve. We strongly believe that what our students need most is a return to school with as much consistency and normalcy as possible and remain committed to creating an environment where staff love to work and students love to learn. This requires the continued cooperation of ALL stakeholders (i.e. staff, students, and all ECPS families).

We want you to know that as we begin to navigate the impact of the pandemic, we will continue to make staff and student safety a priority by implementing our [2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan](#). The *2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan* provides detailed guidance to ensure that COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures are implemented in a way that fosters optimal learning environments while simultaneously ensuring health and safety for students and staff in Berrien County. This plan was collaboratively developed by Berrien County Superintendents with the

support of the Berrien County Health Department to ensure that all Berrien County School Districts have an aligned and detailed plan for a successful return to the classroom this fall. However, please note that due to the uncertainties of this Pandemic, our plans and mitigation strategies may change at a moment's notice to ensure that our staff and student's safety and well-being are prioritized. But rest assured that no matter what challenges we face, we will continue to work together in the best interest of our students, staff, and community. We will do our best to keep you updated as we learn more. You can also continue to monitor specific data for Eau Claire Public Schools by visiting the required [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) on our website using this [LINK](#). Also, specific case information may be found on our website by clicking this link: [ECPS COVID Case\(s\) Update](#).

Now onto the important stuff. This letter contains a myriad of informational items to hopefully assist you in successfully preparing for the upcoming school year. Please take the time to read the information linked and share key dates and material with your student. If you have any questions please feel free to contact us via phone or visit the website at www.eauclaireps.com for additional information.

We are looking forward to a great year!

GO BEAVERS

Ann Marie Cluff

Superintendent

Eau Claire Public Schools



Learn Today, Lead Tomorrow.

Central Office Administration	Middle/High School	Lybrook Elementary School
6190 W. Main Street Eau Claire, MI 49111-0398 (269) 461-6947 Fax (269) 461-0089	7450 Hochberger Road Eau Claire, MI 49111-0398 (269) 461-6997 Fax (269) 461-0065	6238 W. Main Street Eau Claire, MI 49111-0398 (269) 461-6191 Fax (269) 461-6662

IMPORTANT DISTRICT INFORMATION:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: [Monday, August 30, 2021.](#)

- ★ Doors open at 7:35 a.m. and students are dismissed at 2:45 (High School) and 2:55 (Elementary).

WELCOME BACK LETTERS

- ★ Lybrook Welcome Back to School Parent Letter [LINK](#)
- ★ MSHS Welcome Back to School Parent Letter [LINK](#)

STUDENT HANDBOOKS

- ★ Lybrook Elementary Student Handbook [LINK](#)
- ★ MSHS Student Handbook [LINK](#)

BUS AND TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

- ★ Bus routes have been posted to our district website which can be found using this [LINK](#)
- ★ ****PLEASE NOTE: Face masks must be worn by all staff and students (regardless of vaccination status) on ECPS school buses in alignment with a federal CDC mandate which is currently still in place.**

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE Off Campus Classes)

- ★ If any students are taking off-campus CTE classes, then please be aware that the first CTE class will not meet until Wednesday, September 8.

DISTRICT CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- ★ [2021-2022 District Calendar](#)

FACE MASKS

- ★ Please see the Return to Learn Plan for detailed information.
- ★ As we know, the response to COVID-19 has been, and will continue to be, driven by state and federal guidance and law. ***Although ECPS STRONGLY ENCOURAGES all staff and students, regardless of vaccination status, to wear a mask while inside, they are not required.***

FOOD SERVICE

- ★ ALL students enrolled at our school can receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at NO CHARGE to your household each day. All menus are posted on our website. [LINK](#)
- ★ Breakfast and Lunch are FREE to ALL but we still need your household to fill out and sign the Free and Reduced-Price Meal Application (if applicable).
 - Applications can be found online at www.lunchapp.com or a hard copy from your school. This information is **critical** in determining the amount of money that our school receives from a variety of State and Federal supplemental programs like Title I A, At-risk (31a), Title II A, E-Rate, etc.

NOTICES & PUBLICATIONS

★ Photo / Media Annual Opt-Out Notice for Students

While attending the Eau Claire Public School District, students may be photographed or videotaped and their name and/or work displayed for educational and/or not for-profit use in the newsletter articles, school informational publications, building videos, school news broadcasts, athletic team rosters, club rosters, as well as district, building, and classroom webpages, etc.

- **If you do not want** your child identified in publications such as above, please print off the [opt-out form](#); fill out the form and submit to the Building Secretary by September 7, 2021. Requests must be made every year in order to ensure that the student's identity will not be released.
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- ★ **Directory Opt-Out Notice** Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), The School Board of Eau Claire Public Schools may disclose, in its discretion, directory information of a student in any grade level, if the parent or student age 18 or over did not "opt out" of the disclosure.
 - "Directory Information" is personally identifiable information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed.
 - Secondary Students (Class Lists & Directories)- Federal law requires the School District to provide secondary school students' names, addresses and telephone number to recruiters upon request. A secondary school student or the parent of the student may request the student's information not be released. This can be done by completing and returning the Directory Opt-out form linked below. If you do not want your child's information made available to recruiters (i.e. military

recruiters; recruiters from post-secondary institutions, including trade schools; private institution recruiting, such as banks and credit unions; and recruiters from prospective employers, etc.),

- ***If you do not want*** your child identified in publications such as above, please print off the [Directory opt-out form](#); fill out the form and submit to the Building Secretary by September 13, 2021. Requests must be made every year in order to ensure that the student's identity will not be released.

★ **Pesticide Application Annual Opt-Out Notice** - Eau Claire Public Schools has adopted an Integrated Pest Management program to reduce pesticide use as much as possible. While it may occasionally be necessary to apply a pesticide, we will not rely on routine pesticide applications to resolve problems. We use various techniques such as habitat alteration, sanitation, mechanical means, exclusion, etc. to prevent pests from becoming a problem.

For more detailed information, please see the [ANNUAL ECPS PESTICIDE NOTICE](#).

- Parents or guardians of children attending Eau Claire Public Schools are entitled to receive advance notice of a pesticide application, other than a bait or gel formulation, by first-class United States mail postmarked at least 3 days before the application, if they so request.
- ***If you would like to be notified*** by mail please print and complete the following [PRIOR NOTIFICATION REQUEST FORM](#) and you will be put on the advance notification by US Mail list.

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL

★ PLEASE make sure you register for the PowerSchool Parent Portal. This is the main platform for communication and information about your student.

- [INSTRUCTIONS here](#)
- **Login Portal** [LINK](#)