



## Johnstonville Elementary School District

*A tradition of performance, a future of possibilities*

July 28, 2020

Dear Johnstonville Families,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year at Johnstonville School. I hope that this communication finds you all well and that you enjoyed a safe and healthy summer!

I know we are getting closer and closer to our return to school and there are a lot of questions about what we are doing. As we anticipated in June, the changes that have occurred weekly (and often daily) have created many challenges for us as we plan for the reopening of schools. At this time, we are working hard to reopen our school on August 19<sup>th</sup> on-campus and in-person. In order to do this, we must follow Governor Newsom's conditions for reopening. These requirements include:

- All students, 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades, are required to wear face coverings. Please contact the school as soon as possible to submit a medical exemption for your student, if needed
- Face coverings are recommended for students in grades TK-2<sup>nd</sup>, but are not mandated
- All adults, both staff and visitors, are required to wear face coverings
- We must maintain physical distancing. The updated guidance does not require a 6-foot distance requirement. Instead, the new guidance refers to "maximum distance, as practicable."
- Daily wellness check of students and staff
- Frequent hand-washing, use of hand sanitizer and other good hygiene practices
- Lassen County must remain off the California Department of Public Health's County Monitoring list for at least 14 consecutive days

In addition to the outlined requirements, we will be instituting a variety of changes to help increase student safety. These changes include the implementation of new sanitation protocols throughout the school, staggered lunch and recess periods to minimize possible cross classroom exposure, and clear screens in the main office and the kitchen area. Finally, we wanted to give you an update on both the school hours and drop-off and pick-up times.



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- Office hours will remain from 8:00am – 4:00pm
- School hours will remain 8:23am-2:40pm on a regular day and 8:23am-1:30pm on a minimum day.
- Student drop-off will begin at 8:00am. There will be *no adult supervision* of students prior to this time.
- Student pick-up will be at 2:45pm on regular school days and 1:30pm on minimum days. There will be no after school care this year.

We appreciate your support as we prepare to return to school. We are currently planning to make a number of short videos to help your students prepare for our reopening. These videos will be posted both on our website and Facebook page.

Due to the fluidity of information regarding Covid-19, Johnstonville School will release our complete return to school protocols on or before Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>. It is our desire for our return to school plan to be based upon the most current information and/or mandates. As mentioned in previous communications, our plan will continue to provide for a distance learning for a student to continue their educational plan should a parent choose to pursue that option.

As one who is immune-system compromised having had high dosages of chemotherapy and radiation in my past due to cancer, I understand the concerns associated with considering the ramifications of returning to school. At the same time, I am committed to serving our families and providing our students with a much-needed educational experience at school so I will faithfully wear my face covering and practice frequent hand washing. In the meantime, please be well, and I look forward to seeing you August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Smith".

Scott Smith, Ph.D.  
Superintendent/Principal  
Johnstonville Elementary School District