



July 21, 2020

Dear Dove Academy Families,

As we approach the upcoming school year, I want to reassure you that we are actively creating and refining our plans for the upcoming school year, and following the Governor's Executive order. In the past three months, we have been working tirelessly to create a Return to School plan that balances the safety of our students and staff with a return to a learning environment that allows our students to thrive.

The health and safety of our students and staff are the pillars of our plans. As you know, on June 30, the Governor released the [MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap](#) that all schools within the state of Michigan are required to follow in the fall. Our next step as a school community is to create a Preparedness Plan based on each phase of the pandemic, which is currently under development.

As we build our plan, we have to consider our ability to provide an excellent education to students whether they are in-person or remote. That means we have to consider the capacity of our teachers to provide an education to both kinds of students and to make sure that the quality of learning is equal, whether at home or at school. Like the Jack-of-All-Trades axiom, if we try to be everything to everyone, we won't do anything well. Therefore, we will be providing either in-person schooling, or remote learning and cannot offer alternate day/week schedules.

As proud as we are of our staff for having responded so well to the Stay Home/Stay Safe school closure, we know that we had two days to prepare for three months of learning at home. Therefore, we are training our staff to deliver lessons, direct students to resources, identify materials, and provide assessments that will provide opportunities for students to demonstrate learning at grade level and beyond whether they are in school or not. As you can imagine, this is a huge undertaking.

Most importantly, we want to address the needs of your family. If you need to have your child in school, the environment will be safe and welcoming. If you need to keep your child home, we will do our best to replicate the school experience with work that is on a par with in-person instruction and that allows for your child to interact with their peers, albeit remotely.

The Preparedness Plan will be multi-faceted and will include three main scenarios:

(The phase is determined by the state based on current COVID-19 data by county. As of July 17th, our region is currently in Phase 4 of the [economic MI Safe Start Plan](#).)

Scenario 1: Schools open for in-person instruction with minimal or moderate safety protocols (Phases 5 and 6).

In this scenario, Dove Academy will take extra cleaning measures every day to ensure we have a safe and clean building. We would also follow the strongly recommended state guidelines as much as possible.

Scenario 2: Schools open for in-person {and virtual learning options} instruction with more state-required stringent required safety protocols (Phase 4).

This scenario will include more stringent safety protocols with face-to-face and instruction. We are also working on an online learning plan to provide continuous learning for all students, including those who may not be able to attend in-person school because of personal or household health risks.

Scenario 3: The state will require schools to remain closed for in-person instruction and instruction is online (Phases 1 - 3).

Scenario 3 would be if we continued learning at home and the building was closed due to being in Phase 1-3. We have purchased a new online platform called Canvas, which will make communication and online instruction much easier for students, parents and teachers.

What we are certain of:

- We will be returning to school on September 8th, 2020, either in-person or virtual, whatever option, using our school's educational curriculum and learning outcomes, or a hybrid model.
- Your administrators and staff are steadfast to ensure your child's educational and health and safety needs will be met within the guidance of the MI Return to School Roadmap.
- All students, families and staff will be required to follow safety protocols.
- Your enrollment in our school means that we will fully support you with whatever option you commit to for your child. In the fall, we will take attendance, grade assignments, and give credits.

Like you, we are currently experiencing how quickly news and information changes. We are using our trusted sources, including our local ISD, health department, authorizer and management company to guide us during these unprecedented times. Our plan is and continues to be built to adjust to evolving conditions regarding COVID-19, knowing that there is a chance that all three of these scenarios could happen in the same school year, so it is important that we have plans in place that will allow us to seamlessly switch from one to the other. Please know that all students will have school-provided electronic devices issued to ease

the transition from in-person instruction to online instruction if needed. We will also train parents and students on how to use Canvas and important learning behaviors for online learning.

We will continue to seek feedback and update you as plans become more clear.

We are here for you and your family!

Sincerely,

Tommy Brooks

Dove Academy

Principal

Paul Ezel

Dove Academy

Vice Principal