June 3, 2020

Dear EJPS Families:

Since March 13th, we have experienced many challenges personally and educationally due to the coronavirus pandemic. These challenges have impacted families and individuals differently and I want to thank you for understanding and supporting our school district. I want to especially express empathy to our senior class of 2020 for this unfortunate situation. As the Stay Home Stay Safe order in Michigan has come to an end and another school year is finishing up, I wanted to come back to our most important reason for our existence here at EJPS and that is our students. What a year! This has surely been one for the books and one none of us will soon forget. Below, I have outlined a few key areas that I would like all of our students and parents to read as well as give feedback to the district as we look ahead to the 2020-2021 school year.

Thank You: On behalf of our entire faculty and staff, I want to say thank you for all that you have done to support our students during our Remote Learning process. As the proverb states, “it takes a village to raise a child” and we have certainly come together as a community to support all of our children. Your partnership has ensured the success of our students. We could not have been successful without your support! A huge THANK YOU to all our Parents and Students for all you have done during this unusual time in our history. Oh yeah, I don’t want to forget the Grandparents, Neighbors, Aunts and Uncles, everyone who has come together to make this Stay at Home timeframe manageable.

Seniors 2020: We welcome our whole community to “Line the Streets” in support of the graduating class of 2020. We will have a “Graduation Parade” this Saturday at 7:30 pm through East Jordan. Please check out www.ejps.org for specific parade route details. We are so proud of this group of seniors and are impressed with their perseverance as they have endured so much. This is truly a remarkable group of kids that have made a huge impact on our school and community, so please come out and celebrate their success!

Remote Learning: We know the last three months have not been ideal in the learning department for our students. We would never look at remote learning as the answer for our entire student body, but know it is preferred by some. Right now, we are planning to come back with face to face instruction this fall. As we look at next year, we also know that there are many factors that could affect our ability to return in a face to face manner and this decision will be dictated to our local districts from the state level. We also are cognizant that we have families that do not feel comfortable sending their students to school in the post Covid-19 pandemic or their children or family members are at high risk for contracting the disease. In any case, we are planning to meet the needs of all students in the fall.
In an attempt to better plan for the coming school year, we need your input. Please fill out the survey below for each of your students that attend East Jordan Public Schools. Click Here To Take Survey, your input and response to this survey will be invaluable as we work to develop options for our families and maintain safe learning options for all.

Calendar: As we look ahead to next year, I am including the 20-21 School Year Calendar. One area of interest that I would like you to start planning for is a Pre-Labor Day start. We will begin school on September 1st this year. With Labor Day being the latest it can possibly be, we looked at this as an opportunity to get kids started before Labor Day, but not attend a day of school in the month of August.

This allows us to be done with school in the second week of June without pushing our kids schedule later and later into the beginning of summer. This calendar will be subject to change based on changes that are mandated from Michigan Department of Education and the State of Michigan.

I look forward to hearing your input as we move forward and I want to thank you all once again for your support of our kids, school and community.

Sincerely,

Matt Stevenson

Matt Stevenson, Superintendent
East Jordan Public Schools