



UNION TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS

Nicholas A. Diaz, Superintendent

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www.uniontwpschool.org · #TigerPride #TheU

August 28, 2020

Dear Tiger Family,

I hope this letter finds you well. As you may know, the Board of Education voted to begin the school year with our hybrid model. Therefore, Cohort B (students with last names M-Z) will begin in-person on August 31st. Cohort A (students with last names A-L) will begin in-person on September 8th). As a reminder, in-person instruction will be Monday-Friday until 1pm. Please take the time to read through our Restart and Recovery Plan that was BOE approved on August 24th. It is located on our website and can also be accessed [here](#).

Health Screenings

Our district is requiring a pre-screening of all students and staff. A parent/guardian must complete a pre-screening form for their child before the child comes to school. **The form will be located in the Realtime Parent Portal.** Please ensure you log into the system for the first time prior to Monday. The form will be displayed immediately after logging in.

If a pre-screening is not completed and your child arrives at school, the child will not be able to attend class and will be placed in one of our health isolation areas. At that time, the child will need to be picked up immediately by the parent/guardian or they may be released to class once the pre-screening form is completed.

Masks

All students are required to wear a mask while riding the bus and throughout the school day. Mask wearing will be strongly enforced. Students are required to bring their own masks. We encourage students to wear surgical masks or cloth masks. We strongly recommend that students do not wear "gaiters" or "bandanas" as recent [studies](#) have shown these to be the least protective. Masks with valves or vents should not be worn per new [CDC guidelines](#). Students are to also bring a back-up mask, though the schools will also have a supply of masks if a student's mask breaks or is soiled during the school day. If your child cannot wear a mask for health reasons or disability, you must submit a doctor's note to the school nurse. Maria Prentice is the nurse for the elementary school and can be reached at mprentice@uniontwpschool.org. Sue Mason is the nurse for the middle school and can be reached at smason@uniontwpschool.org.

Visitors

Visitors are not allowed at either school. If you have an emergency and need to pick up your child, you must contact the main office. Students who need to be dismissed early will be brought outside to their parent/guardian. The main office will contact families to schedule an appointment to drop off any necessary items or paperwork. Please know that if you come to the school without prior approval we will not be able to speak with you or let you in the buildings. This is for the safety of all of our community members.



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While these measures may seem harsh, the health, safety, and welfare of all our community members is our first priority. School will not look or feel the same this year. However, our staff will do their best to make your child's school experience as positive as possible. We are committed to making the hybrid approach work but we need your help. We anticipate the community's full cooperation with our new protocols and we humbly ask that you remain patient throughout this school year. This remains uncharted territory. We may have glitches with technology and our families at home may become frustrated. Please be patient and kind with the teachers and staff. I can assure you that they are committed to the education of your children. We have a committee that will continue to monitor the progress of our hybrid model and we will make changes as needed.

Thank you for being an amazing community. Let us work together to make the 2020-21 school year a positive one for all.

Yours in education,

Nicholas Diaz, Superintendent