



VALLEY PARK
SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Developing students today in preparation
for tomorrow*

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April 23, 2021

Dear Valley Park Community:

I want to thank every member of our school community for your continued flexibility, patience, and grace. Your support and commitment to health and wellness and your willingness to work together through the pandemic's uncertainty and challenges were paramount to our student's success this school year, and we sincerely appreciate your partnership.

An increased sense of hope is more evident each day as vaccinations become more available to the general public, Covid-19 transmission numbers stabilize, and restrictions across the county and nation begin to loosen a little. The favorable conditions and a renewed sense of hope have allowed us to start to shift our focus to planning for the future and moving forward in anticipation of the 2021-2022 school year.

As of this writing, we anticipate welcoming all students back to campus and providing **in-person instruction five (5) days a week, beginning with our first day of school on August 24, 2021**. You can [view our full calendar by clicking here](#). Full details of our Return to Learn Plan for 2021-2022 will be released later this summer.

While the district is committed to providing some virtual options for those with extenuating circumstances, and immune-compromised systems, the district does not plan to continue the concurrent (live streaming) model implemented this year at the elementary and secondary schools. If there are extenuating circumstances that make it difficult or impossible for a student to learn in-person, we will work with families to determine if virtual learning or homebound instruction is in the best educational interest of the student in accordance with our school board policy. Any virtual instruction will occur independently through Edgenuity, our district's online learning platform (Grades 6-12), or through a state-approved virtual learning vendor or partner school district for elementary students (K-5).

In preparing for the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to prioritize our student's and staff's health and wellness and develop, revise, and implement safety protocols and mitigation strategies recommended and required by the Center for Disease Control and the St. Louis County Department of Health.

Our united efforts to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 have proven successful and allowed us to sustain in-person learning since the fall, but now more than ever, we must remain vigilant and practice [sound health and safety measures](#). We will only end this pandemic if we continue to practice social distancing, wear a mask whether we are on campus or in public, and take advantage of any opportunity to obtain a vaccine. Every collective safety step taken today will ensure a brighter tomorrow, and a more traditional learning environment come the fall. Thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,
Dr. Tim Dilg
Superintendent