



# VALLEY PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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October 23, 2020

Dear Valley Park Families:

The weeks since the end of September as our younger students returned to school have been incredible. We have enjoyed seeing our students' joy and excitement about finally being back in the classroom, and we look forward to welcoming back our middle school and high school students on Monday, October 26th. On October 26th, students in grades k-12 will attend in-person learning 4 days a week (Monday-Thursday) through winter break (December 22nd). Fridays will continue to be a virtual learning day to ensure students and staff are prepared to pivot to at-home learning if the need arises. On Fridays, elementary students (K-5) will be provided with asynchronous digital learning opportunities, independent assignments, and extra reading to reinforce their instruction and personal development. Students in grades 6-12 will follow a modified class schedule and meet with their teachers virtually on Fridays and also have time to work asynchronously. The Virtual Friday Schedules can be [viewed by clicking here](#). Students and families who committed to the [6-12 Virtual Learning Pathway](#) will continue to learn through our [Edgenuity Program](#) for the entirety of the first semester and have an option to return to in-person learning when the second semester begins.

The Valley Park School District has been working for months to develop and execute a reopening plan predicated on sound health guidelines to mitigate the Coronavirus transmission and want nothing more than to see our students return to school and stay in school. We continue to work with the St. Louis County Department of Public Health to update our safety measures. You can review these precautions by [clicking here](#):

For families of students participating in in-person learning, we need your help with the following:

- All students must wear a cloth mask while on the bus and at school.
- All families must review the [Health Hawk Checklist](#) each day. If your student exhibits any of the following symptoms, please keep them home and notify our [district nurse](#): Fever of 100 or more/chills; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; and diarrhea.
- If your student has been tested for COVID-19 but has not received a test result yet or has been asked by their doctor or county health department to isolate or quarantine at home, please keep them home from school and [contact our district nurse](#).

We are looking forward to welcoming our middle school and high school students back into the classroom and will [take every precaution](#) to keep students and staff safe during in-person learning. As always, thank you for your patience and continued support.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Tim Dilg*

Superintendent



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## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

### BUS ROUTES

Families may access their child's bus stop and estimated pick-up/drop-off time by logging into the [Infinite Campus Parent](#) or Student portals, clicking "More" (on the left side), and clicking "Transportation". If you need additional support, please email Katie Henderson, Lead Bus Driver, at [khenderson@vp.k12.mo.us](mailto:khenderson@vp.k12.mo.us).

### COMMUNICATION OF COVID-19 CASES

The district will communicate with families and staff regarding positive COVID-19 cases in the district only if they are personally impacted or determined to be at risk as per CDC guidelines. Federal privacy laws protect student and staff confidentiality; therefore personally identifiable information on any individuals testing positive or being asked to isolate or quarantine will not be shared.

### DROPOFF & PICKUP LOCATIONS

**Middle School and High school** drop off parents are encouraged to enter the parking lot near the baseball field and exit near the softball field. 6th-12th grade students should be dropped off by the double gate near the softball field. Middle school drop off students should enter on the side doors of the middle school. High School students should use the sidewalks and enter at one of the designated high school entrances. A sign will be visible to clearly mark the designated secondary drop off zone. Students are to report directly to their classrooms upon arrival.

### ELECTION DAY

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3. Our school district is a polling location and school is not in session.

### LEARNING PATHWAY SELECTION SECOND SEMESTER

On Wednesday, November 11th we will email all families information about selecting their learning option for the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year. Families will have the same two options for learning: in-person (which could change depending on the spread of COVID in the community) or the Virtual Learning Pathway, which will be 100% virtual instruction for the entire second semester of the school year. Families will register through the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

### MEAL SERVICE

Breakfast and lunch will continue to be FREE for ALL students through the end of the 2020-2021 school year. St. Louis County Public Health revised its Food Operation Guidelines permitting establishments to operate at 50% (fifty percent) capacity based on the facility's authorized fire and building code occupancy. Beginning October 26, student lunch will be eaten in the middle school cafeteria, the high school commons, the elementary cafeteria, and multipurpose room accordingly. All students will have assigned seats for contact tracing purposes and will eat with grade-level and classroom cohorts. Alternative locations, including classrooms, may be used in the event 50% capacity is no longer attainable or if county guidelines reduce capacity in the future. Breakfast will continue to be bagged (grab and go) or delivered to rooms each morning.

### NOW HIRING

We need your help to fill our substitute teacher and nurse openings and our full-time bus driver openings. The coronavirus and need to quarantine staff will challenge our ability to stay open for in-person learning. Please help us spread the word to anyone you know who is currently looking for work [www.vp.k12.mo.us/careers](http://www.vp.k12.mo.us/careers).



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### **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Virtual Parent-Teacher conferences will take place the week of October 26th-29th. Look for more information from your building principal. Friday, October 30th is Conference Break for students and staff and school is not in session.

### **SCHOOL START & END TIMES**

- Middle School and High School: 7:40 AM-2:40 PM
- Elementary Grades 3-5: 8:15 AM-3:15 PM
- Elementary Grades K-2: 8:50 AM -3:50 PM
- Preschool: 8:15 AM-3:15 PM