



MIDLAND BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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MR. SEAN TANNER, SUPERINTENDENT

MS. BRENDA MILITELLO, PRINCIPAL

July 30, 2020

Dear Midland Borough School District Community:

As the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year approaches, we face the unprecedented challenge of operating our school as safely as possible during this public health crisis. We wish that we could return to school without the many mandated restrictions required to permit the in-person instruction that we know is best for our students. However, at this time that is both impossible and imprudent.

The Midland Borough School District has developed a Health and Safety Plan to coincide with a plan to reopen our school building for the 2020-2021 academic year. Please know that the plans in place are fluid and contingent upon directives from the Office of the Governor, the Department of Health, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and what we feel is best for the Midland Community.

We understand that this virus has implications that are unique to each family and we have taken that into account when developing the plans for this new school year. The plans we have developed are to offer choices for our families in order to provide you with the quality education we strive for your children and the model you feel is the best fit for your family.

At this time, we are asking families to prepare for the Hybrid Program and we will provide you shortly with further details of that program. In order to implement those plans and prepare our staff with the proper training and equipment for a smooth transition, classes for the 2020-2021 school year will begin on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. An updated school calendar is posted on the school website and adjustments to the bus schedule, arrival, and dismissal times will also be adapted for mitigation purposes. You will be notified of those changes at a later date.

The Hybrid Program will allow half the students to report to the school building for two days to attend in-person instruction and the remaining students will participate remotely at home on a rotating schedule. When students are not in the school building they will receive live instruction via a video link into the classroom while the teacher is teaching the students in the building through a remote learning platform.

The schedule for the Hybrid Program consists of students being divided into two groups, Group A and Group B. Below please find the schedule for the Hybrid Program:

2020-2021- Hybrid Program Schedule				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<u>Group A & B</u> Students at home, participating in online instruction directed by the teacher. (synchronous and asynchronous)	<u>Group A</u> Students in school, face to face following their class schedule	<u>Group A</u> Students at home participating in live online instruction at scheduled class times directed by the teacher	<u>Group A</u> Students in school, face to face following their class schedule	<u>Group A</u> Students at home participating in live online instruction at scheduled class times directed by the teacher
	<u>Group B</u> Students at home participating in live online instruction at scheduled class times directed by the teacher	<u>Group B</u> Students in school, face to face following their class schedule	<u>Group B</u> Students at home participating in live online instruction at scheduled class times directed by the teacher	<u>Group B</u> Students in school, face to face following their class schedule

Students with siblings in the same household will be grouped together. For the safety of our students and staff we will be following the PDE mandated guidelines for schools to include best hygiene practices and building disinfection and sanitization protocols. Facemasks or face shields must be worn by everyone while on school property unless at specifically designated times and spaces. This hybrid program will safely maximize the ability to provide social distancing of 6 feet amongst students and staff.

In addition, another option available to families is the Leopard Online Learning Academy (LOLA). LOLA is a full-time synchronous on-line program for students who will attend school full-time while remaining at home. Students will receive daily instruction remotely, via a classroom document camera and through Google Classroom. While enrolled in LOLA children will remain students of the Midland Borough School District. If you should decide to enroll your child(ren) in the Leopard Online Learning Academy for the school year, please email Kelley Schulte at kelly.schulte@midlandpa.org so we may begin that process.

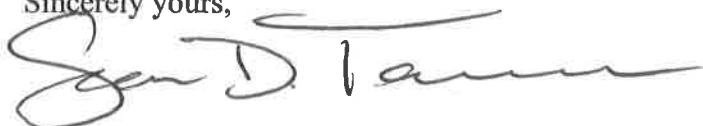
If circumstances allow for full-time in-person instruction, we will convert to a Traditional Program where students will attend school Monday through Friday. We will continue to follow the guidelines of our Health and Safety Plan and will practice the directives for schools that we receive from the Department of Health and the PDE.

The District may plan for a specific program of instruction then need to adjust that plan for a time if we are experiencing a high number of positive COVID-19 cases or if we receive directives from the state. We will continue to monitor and evaluate the issuance of recommendations from the Pennsylvania Department of Education and state and local health officials so we may utilize those resources collectively to determine the best health and educational guidance for our students.

For more information on the District Health and Safety Plan, the school calendar, and for updates on the 2020-2021 academic year, please visit our website at www.midlandpa.org.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Administration, Faculty and Staff of the Midland Borough School District we would like to thank you for your continued support. We appreciate you recognizing that the success of the school year will require flexibility and solidarity as we work together to overcome these challenges and serve the best interests of our students, staff, and community.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean D. Tanner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Sean D. Tanner
Superintendent

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