

Herscher Community Unit School District No. 2

DR. RICHARD S. DECMAN, SUPERINTENDENT
SHELLY PARSONS, SPECIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR
PETE FALK, CURRICULUM DIRECTOR

10/14/2020

Dear Herscher CUSD No. 2 School Community,

Over the past several months our teachers have been working very hard to provide quality learning opportunities for our students who have chosen Remote Instruction and for those students who have chosen In-Person Instruction. We have added the following protocols in our district to help lower the risk of spreading COVID-19 for staff/students who are in our buildings:

- Our custodians have increased their cleaning routines throughout the day.
- All students/staff must wear face coverings throughout the day with few exceptions.
- Students are sent home immediately if they show any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Students have been quarantined if they have been within 6 feet (for more than 15 minutes) of a COVID-19 positive individual.
- We have limited large group student interaction at all of our schools.

Directly related to the above actions and the diligence of our students, staff and community, we have limited the spread of COVID-19 in our district, thus far. To date, we have had 11 positive COVID-19 cases reported in our District and currently 41 students/staff are being quarantined. We believe that by continuing to follow the guidelines above that we will be able to extend the school day for our In-Person learners.

Yesterday evening the Herscher Board of Education approved **extending the school day for all Herscher CUSD No. 2 schools to a 2:05 pm dismissal starting on January 5, 2021.** Each school will be communicating with parents and students in the near future about how this will specifically impact instruction in their respective building. In addition to a change in In-Person Learning, we will be adding more requirements to our Remote Instruction students. Specifically, at the 9-12 level, most teachers will be Live-Streaming their classes. As a result, we will be **requiring** students to attend these classes “Live” per the student’s schedule/bell schedule. Further details will be released shortly by HHS administration/teachers.

We realize that by extending the day and by requiring Remote Learning students to be in attendance during Live Streaming/class there may be new challenges to “tackle.” However, I believe by working together we can overcome these obstacles. By extending the school day, we are moving closer to normalcy which will help us provide an even better educational and social experience for all of our students.

Thank you in advance for your support and efforts. It is truly appreciated. Have a great rest of the week and **Go Tigers!**

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard S. Decman, Superintendent

“Education... The Ultimate Investment.”