OUR MISSION: TO DEVELOP SELF-DIRECTED, LIFELONG LEARNERS OF GOOD CHARACTER.

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Miss Elaine M. Thomas, Principal Ms. Michelle Jaros, Assistant Principal

Mr. Marco Galante, Assistant Principal

December 14, 2020

Dear Hoover Middle Dragon Families in a Hybrid Model:

Our school community looks forward to welcoming students back to our school in a Hybrid Model the week of January 4-8, 2021.

> Grade 5-7 Hybrid Cohort A: Monday, Tuesday: Return 1/4/21 (a "Day 1") and 1/5/21 (a "Day 2")

> Grade 5-7 Hybrid Cohort B: Thursday, Friday: Return 1/7/21 (a "Day 4") and 1/8/21 (a "Day 1")

Self-Contained classes (Bonda, Rice, Austin, Kulpa, Coley)/Entering Emerging ENL students: Return 1/4/21 (a "Day 1") for 4 days a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

We hope the following important information will help ensure a smooth transition for your child:

#### **Instruction:**

- Students will be following their current schedules in person and when home online, and are expected to attend all classes.
- Wednesdays will be remote learning from home. Students will complete assignments in Google classroom.
- Students will need to carry their belongings, including their Chromebooks, chargers, and jackets, from class to class.

#### **Orientation Week**

• On January 4 and 7, classes may be shortened in order to allow for teachers to run orientations for the in-person students. Certain special area classes may be shortened on January 5 and 8 for the same reason. All students are still expected to log in for class.

### **Random COVID Testing**

- Secondary students will be tested randomly during the school day by our school nurse.
- Students will only be tested if parent consent is received. Link to Consent.
- Students will be tested using the Abbott BinexNOW nasal rapid test, which is a quick, simple testing method that is not as invasive as other tests.
- Families will only be contacted if a student tests positive.

### Transportation, Drop Off and Pick Up

- Doors 27 and 31 open for students at 7:45 am. (on Thorncliff/front of the building)
- At 8:15 am, both doors 27 and 31 will be closed. After 8:15 am, students should use Door 1 only.
- You will receive a letter from transportation with your child's pick up and drop off times and locations.
- Families who plan to drive their students to school should drop them off at Door # 27 (near the corner of Thorncliff and Jewell). Please be swift in exiting the vehicle near the crossing guard. We hope this will minimize traffic on Thorncliff Road. Pick up in this same area after school.
- Due to the need for temperature scanning, students must be dropped off on the Thorncliff side of the building.
- The Sheridan Drive entrance is closed to students.

#### **Chromebooks**

- Beginning January 4th, if you have a district Chromebook, you must bring it to school every day and home every night. Please ensure devices are fully charged, and bring the power cord. Headphones are also recommended.
- If a student does not have a district issued chromebook yet, they will receive one upon their return to school. Please do NOT bring a personal device to school. Charging stations will be available at school.

#### **Student Attestation**

- Consistent with our safety procedures, children who are sick or may have been exposed to COVID-19 must stay home.
- <u>Prior to each school day</u>, parents/students will be asked to attest to the fact that, within the past 14 days, their child has not exhibited symptoms or a fever, tested positive, been in contact with someone who has tested positive, or traveled to an at-risk area.
- Families of students attending school in person must complete the daily health screening form which will be sent to parent emails from EdVista daily. Please complete the form prior to arrival.
- As an additional safety measure, all students will enter the building and pass by a thermal scanner that will take their temperature

### Medication

Please schedule an appointment with our School Nurse, Jen Cudzilo, to drop off your child's medication, by calling the school at 874-8405, option 2. When dropping off your child's medication, the following items are required:

- Medication needs to be in the original container
- A doctor's order with instructions for giving the medication
- Parent signature on the Medication Form
- If indicated: attestation form for self-carry (e.g. for inhaler)

## **Safety**

- **Masks:** Please ensure your child wears a facemask to school daily. A mask must be worn throughout the day, including on school district transportation.
  - **Mask Breaks** will be provided as needed with the permission of a staff member while social distancing.
- **Social Distancing** will be expected in hallways and common areas. Classrooms are set up to ensure 6 feet of space is provided between desks.
- **Polycarbonate dividers** will be in place in common areas as well as in classrooms where 6 feet of social distancing is not possible.
- **Handwashing and Hand Sanitizer:** Handwashing will be encouraged throughout the day. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school for student use as needed.
- **Breakfast/Lunch:** Students will be seated 6 feet apart at desks with polycarbonate shields in our cafeteria. Students have the option to bring lunch from home or, as a reminder, breakfast and lunch are both free for all students this year.

# Checklist of items needed daily:

- ✓ Mask (always a good idea to have a spare mask with you)
- ✓ Chromebook
- ✓ Charger
- ✓ Backpack/Bag
- ✓ Jacket/Sweatshirt (windows will be open around the building)
- ✓ Agenda
- ✓ Any other school supplies your teacher asks you to bring

We look forward to a successful school year and to reconnecting with our students personally! Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

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