

The Farwell Eagle Update

8/26/2020

Returning to learn! On Monday, 8/31/2020, the Eagles of Farwell will return to learn. The vast majority of our students and their families have elected to return to in person instruction. Learning in this new environment will be a challenge for us all! We are going to need to be patience and offer grace to each other as we navigate our new (hopefully temporary) normal. Many of our fellow Americans have learned how to perform their job in this new COVID World. Now we must navigate our way through safely educating our students. Here is some information to get you started.

New Phones: Our new phones are in and working. We know this has been challenging, especially during this new and difficult times. Thank you for your patience as our staff worked tirelessly to overcome this challenge.

Transportation: Please contact our transportation department at 989-588-9111 and leave a message if you are planning on having your student ride the bus.

Doors open at 7:45 am: Please note that the doors to all three of our schools open at 7:45 AM. The buildings will remain locked prior to that time.

Drop Off & Traffic: We have been lead to believe by parents that fewer students will be riding the bus and more will be getting dropped off at school. This will very likely increase traffic congestion at our busiest locations. GO SLOW! Be PATIENT! Please be on the lookout for children and adults on foot. Cross Ohio Street only at the cross walk. Do not drop your children off on the North side of Ohio Street and expect them to safely cross one of the busiest streets in our county at 7:45.

1:1 with Chromebooks: The Farwell Area School Board of Education approved ordering enough Chromebooks to get to a 1:1 student/device ratio. The decision was made as soon as the funding to purchase these devices was confirmed. The devices were ordered the very next day on August 4. At that time, we knew we would not have them for the start of school. Our goal is and has been to have them in the hands of students by early October. As of today, they are still on schedule! More information regarding Chromebooks and the rules and procedures regarding them will following in the coming days.

On-line Open Houses: Your child's teacher has loaded a video of their on-line open house to our website. The decision to do video's versus in person complies with the Governor's current Executive Orders and distributes the information in a safe and informing way. Please take the time to attend a virtual open house with your student. The good news is, if you missed something really important, you can watch it again. Thank you to our staff for their amazing efforts to help our students and families be ready to learn.

Meals are available for Remote Learners: We are still willing to provide meals for our students who have either elected a remote learning option, or are on the Purple and Gold Plan. A week's worth of

meals can be ordered up to 1 PM on Mondays by calling 989-588-4313. Pick up will be from 4 to 6 pm in the Jamie Performing Arts Center (JPAC) Bubble.

Option #2 Remote Learning with FAS Teacher: Your child will be assigned to a Farwell Teacher or Teachers for the old grades. Your child's teacher/s will be contacting you to establish how they will provide your child their education. Please be patient and understand that your child's teacher is attempting to teach in person learning at the same time they are setting up your child's on line learning. Both environments are very new to our teachers. We will discover what is working and what needs to be altered and improved. We will all be learning together!

Option #3 Remote Learning with 3rd Party Educere: You should be contacted by September 3rd with your log in information to begin these 100% on line classes. Please remember you will need to sign a contract for a minimum of at least 1 trimester for this option.

We are looking forward to seeing your students on Monday, 8/31/2020! We know these are challenging times, we will work with you to rise above these challenges and turn them into opportunities.

~ Rise Above ~

Steven L. Scoville
Superintendent
Farwell Area Schools