



Cusick School District #59

305 Monumental Way
Cusick, WA 99119-9761

Phone: (509) 445-1125
Fax: (509) 445-1598

August 18, 2020

Dear Panther Families,

Tonight, I write to you on behalf of the Board of Directors to share how Cusick School District intends to reopen school. This is the single most important decision we are currently faced with and are trying to successfully “thread the needle” in doing what is best to meet the collective needs of our students, staff, families and communities as a whole. Without a doubt, our plan will not please 100% of our stake holders, 100% of the time. However, we ask for your patience and to remain steadfast as we unroll this phased approach. It is critical that **ALL** students remain actively engaged as we move towards “business as usual” as fast as safely possible. **WE WILL GET THERE!**

As you read this plan, we ask that you take a moment and allow the following words to resonate. It describes precisely the monumental task we have been faced with in making decisions.

“In the end, it will be impossible to know if we overreacted or did too much, but it will be quite apparent if we underreacted or did too little.” ~ Douglas Massengill, ED.D

Therefore, after extensive review and careful consideration of the facts, information and input received from our area health officials, state agencies, district legal counsel, school reopening task force, district staff, families/community members and community partners, we have adopted the following reopening plan for Cusick School District beginning Monday, August 31, 2020. Opportunities for connections will be critically important as teachers and families navigate new school structures and educational models this fall. Therefore, we are designating the first week of school, August 31st through September 3rd as “Family Connections.” This will allow staff to help families understand the educational platforms being offered under our reopening plan. In addition, we will checkout educational materials/equipment (including Chrome Books) to families for use under our reopening plan. District staff will be contacting each family to schedule a time that works for them.

Approved Reopening Options:

Grades K-5: Parents may choose one or the other

1. **Hybrid Model** –Under this model, students will receive some weekly on-site face to face learning/instruction and some remote distance learning/instruction.
2. **Distance Learning Model** – Under this model, students will receive remote distance learning instruction each day.

Grades 6-12

1. **Distance Learning Model** – Under this model, students will receive remote distance learning instruction each day.

Please visit our website at www.cusick.wednet.edu to see further details of these plans.

In closing, as I begin my 32nd year in education, the start of the 2020-2021 school year will undoubtedly look very different than the previous 31 years. However, what I promise you will not look different is the love and dedication every staff member of the Cusick School District has for our Panther students. We are committed to working diligently in order to meet the needs of **ALL** of our learners and are confident we have put a successful plan together. We thank you for sharing your most valuable treasures with us and we look forward to the return of daily face to face learning/instruction as soon as possible. Panther Pride!

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Don Hawpe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Don Hawpe
Superintendent
Cusick School District