



## School District of the City of Iron Mountain

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Good Afternoon Iron Mountain Families,

This is a short update from Iron Mountain Public Schools referencing our current status both locally and across the state regarding the state of public education. Today, Wednesday, June 17, 2020, Governor Whitmer announced that if our region is in Phase 4 of the MI Safe Start Plan, in-person instruction may go forward with strict mandatory health and safety protocols, which will be defined in the Roadmap for Return to Learn. Currently, the UP is in stage 5 of the MI Safe Start Plan.

What this means for us, is that right now we can plan on face-to-face instruction in Fall when school resumes. However, please note this decision could change depending on the community spread of the virus, and if evidence tells us, as well as health care professionals, that for the sake of community health and safety we need to suspend once again face-to-face instruction.

We expect the Roadmap for Return to Learn, referenced above, to be released around June 30th. I would like to inform you this plan is not an Iron Mountain Public Schools Plan, but rather a plan that will be put forth by the Governor, which will give us direction on when, where, and how face-to-face instruction can resume. The Return to School plan will align closely with the MI Safe Start Plan. Additionally, the Governor will consider the six phases of the MI Safe Start Plan and the Michigan Economic Recovery Council's 8 regions of the state when making her decision.

The Roadmap for Return to Learn will set the minimum health and safety requirements districts will need to follow, although Iron Mountain Public Schools may choose to enact more aggressive requirements in consultation with local public health offices if there is evidence to suggest we need to do so. The minimum requirements will apply to all schools, including traditional public, charter, private, and parochial schools. Once we have the minimum requirements, Iron Mountain Public Schools will then begin putting together the details of how we will return to school in the Fall.

We are encouraged today with this news, but please keep in mind this situation is still very fluid and continues to change quickly. Once we begin developing the Iron Mountain Return to School Plan, we will be prepared for several circumstances ranging from face-to-face instruction to full online learning in the event we need to move back to that format at any given time at the beginning of or during the school year.

We will continue to update families and the community as quickly as we can when we receive information and begin making plans for the Fall.

Please stay safe and healthy and if you have any questions please email or call.

Sincerely,

Jerry Sardina  
Superintendent