

A MESSAGE FROM
SCOTT BOJANICH

RIVER VALLEY SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Mustang Families,

First, I am excited to share our Return to Learning Plan for River Valley School District. Our plan was carefully and deliberately thought out by a team of over twelve people including River Valley Education Association members. Without River Valley teacher's willingness to go "above and beyond" their responsibilities, we would not be able to provide the level of instruction your children deserve. Our plan is different than most plans, in that we are using our teachers, our curriculum, our instruction, in our school. We thought it was important that River Valley students be educated by River Valley teachers throughout this entire process, no matter the phase. Our virtual option in River Valley will be our teachers "streaming" lessons to our students. Many school districts in our area and throughout Michigan have opted to provide their students with a virtual plan either in another school district or by a large national virtual school. No-one involved in creating our Return to School Plan wanted to send our Mustang students to another school or entity.

River Valley School District will start school on August 31st as originally planned in two different ways. Students Kindergarten through 5th Grade will start either face-face or virtually. Students in grades 6 through 12 will begin school only virtually until Tuesday, September 8th. The reason students are in a virtual environment from August 31st until Tuesday, September 8th is to make sure our systems and processes have been tested prior to having students in class with other students live-streaming at the same time.

If the State of Michigan is in Phase 4 or above, we will begin learning face-face for students who wish to attend school as normal. If a parent chooses not to send their child to school, a virtual option will be offered from each school. The virtual option will consist of River Valley teachers providing the instruction in a manner appropriate for the age of the student.

If the State of Michigan is in Phase 3 or below, all students in River Valley and across the State of Michigan must not be present in the school building and pursue virtual options.

Kindergarten through 12th grade students will begin school face to face or virtually depending upon the choice of the parents. Because of the age of the students, careful consideration was given to the appropriate content and duration of time a child needs to spend using technology.