

Good evening parents, this is Vaughn White, Superintendent of Hesperia Community Schools with a brief message.

Well parents, we experienced our first few days at school and overall, I think it was a pretty good week. It was certainly a different experience with kids and staff wearing masks, but this is just what we have to do to have kids in school. I am very proud of the students and the staff on how they handled these new challenges and I think we are set up for future success.

As you know parents, things change very fast during a pandemic with constant updates from the health department, the State, and our sports organization. This week the Governor presented an executive order allowing football and volleyball to be offered this fall. There are many requirements with this new order, but the one most important to our parents and community is attendance at sporting events. We are only allowed to have two guests for each participant at the event. These participants must be identified prior to the event and be placed as names on a guest list. There are not any exceptions to this rule and our fear is that someone not knowing of this circumstance will travel to a game and not be let in. So please help us by spreading the word that you must be on the list as a participant guest in order to attend. Also, everyone attending, including the players must wear masks during the entirety of the event and participate in social distancing protocols. These are rules coming straight from the governor's office. The only exception is that cross country runners may run without their masks.

Also, we have determined a deadline for changes for our in-person and virtual school options. The deadline is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 18, 2020, if you want your child to switch. These changes are for a student that has been attending in person and now wants to go virtual or a virtual student that now wants to attend in person. This deadline is set up in order to have students in either program have a consistent education without a prolonged interruption because of the transition. It is also important as we set up our social distancing arrangements with our in-person students.

Parents, upon applying and signing the contract for your child to attend Panther Virtual, you acknowledged that you must have access to a computer and be connected to high-speed internet. Our school is not a one-to-one school with computer access for every child so we do not have enough computers to give to virtual students. We are in the process of purchasing more computers but they are not expected to be delivered for 4 to 6 months. There is just a huge market for devices right now due to the pandemic. We certainly wish we could accommodate this, but we just don't have the resources available.

It has been a great week for kids at school, being able to see their friends again, laughing, and joking, and taking it all in. We appreciate your continued patience as we work to create the best education possible for your children. Thank you and have a great weekend.