

# Harrison County School District

11072 Highway 49 Gulfport, MS 39503

Telephone: (228)539-6500 Facsimile: (228)539-6507

Roy Gill, Superintendent of Education

E. Mitchell King, Assistant Superintendent

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August 5, 2020

Dear HCSD Family,

Navigating the return to school amid COVID-19 is incredibly challenging and I am aware of the many emotions that all of you are struggling with currently. There are so many uncertainties about COVID-19 and its effects. The data and information changes almost daily and I recognized there are many questions without immediate answers. I hope that we all can agree that this virus has made our typical routines challenging. We have all been faced with ever-changing responsibilities and together we must find solutions and support one another with kindness and grace remembering that this is new for every one of us.

School will most certainly look very different this year, regardless if families are selecting virtual learning or traditional education and I understand the anguish this may cause. There are many decisions to be continuously made as issues arise. Our world is simply not the same as it was six months ago. It is frustrating and our families and staff are afraid, angry and confused. Emotions are at their highest and it is evident throughout the media, social media and the in-person conversations that I have witnessed, and I do understand this is a tough time for us all. I want to assure you we will work through these difficult times, uncertainties and the many decisions that may come as a result of a global pandemic. We are truly in uncharted waters and I ask that you try to be positive as we enter 2020-2021 School Year.

Myself, the HCSD Board of Education and all of our staff are doing the best we can to provide students with quality public education, while keeping them safe. We are taking extreme measures for the protection of the Harrison County School District staff and our focus has always been and will always be doing what is best for our students and their future. My hope is that we can partner together as a community and place our focus on unity. Please be patient with our schools as we work through the minor details of distance and in person learning. No student will be penalized regarding log in issues. Many resources have been made available on our district website and FB pages, each school has a plan how to assist parents and students. There is a dedicated email address to submit questions for assistance in the distance learning option. Working together, we will be stronger. I hope everyone has a wonderful first day of school.

Sincerely,



Roy Gill  
Superintendent

