

JESUP COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



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Dear Jesup Community School Parents and Families,

What a great start to the school year! While we are still facing the COVID battle that we were hoping was behind us last spring, our school day has returned to what can be described as more “normal” than what we dealt with last year. We are so very proud of the positive attitudes that each of our students has brought to this new school year...it is noticeable and appreciated. Let’s keep that strong and positive school spirit all year long! This year we are focused as a staff on the word, “Resiliency”. Last year was an all hands on deck approach to just “surviving” and figuring out how to get through the year unfortunately. This year, we are focused on coming back as a school district stronger than ever and that can be accomplished through each of us being resilient to the challenges that we have faced. We all have faced or are currently facing challenges in our school, personal, work, and home lives that most others don’t even know about. We can help each other work through those known and unknown challenges by being compassionate, patient, and kind to one another knowing that we all are very well “going through something” to one degree or another. When we receive compassion, patience, kindness, and grace, then each of us can find strength in being resilient in working through our struggles. We are here together, supporting one another, all with the main goal of helping each other be our very best. There is no other place that I know this will work better than within our J-Hawk Family!

Each Friday, I will continue to give these COVID updates along with updates on other happenings throughout the school district. In addition to the COVID numbers below, this week I would like to share our District Communication Chart that we approved at the beginning of the school year. This chart is provided to be a helpful tool in resolving issues and answering questions. The best way to get an answer or get an issue resolved is to always go to the sources first. The vast majority of questions can be answered or issues resolved by speaking first with those directly involved. However, we also recognize that situations arise where the issue may need to be discussed at a next step if the first step doesn’t provide the resolution we are looking for. The linked [communication chart](#) helps us all understand what those next steps are and who to contact. We have this chart distributed throughout our district, posted in each office, included on the district website, and now provided to each of you as parents. Please help us to resolve issues and answer questions the best we can by honoring the process outlined in this chart.

We will continue to report the number of COVID-19 cases we have each week as well as the county 7-day positivity rates. Currently as of today, we have **5 or fewer** positive cases to

report. The 7-day positivity rate is **7%** for Buchanan County and **8%** for Black Hawk County.

We appreciate your continued support and patience with us as your school district. We are here to meet your children's needs both academically and in regards to their health and well-being. If at any time you have questions or concerns, please reach out through email, phone, or stopping by my office. Have a great Labor Day weekend! #jhawkproud

Thank you and take care,

Nathan