

# Hancock Central School District

**The Wildcat Pledge:** We nurture and empower each learner's unlimited capacity to become a responsible citizen with a promising future.

**Our Vision:** Striving for excellence as an innovative, advanced and reflective school community.

**Core Beliefs:**

- Our mindset: We do whatever it takes to ensure continuous growth because we believe each of us can learn.
- Collaboration: We work better together, always.
- Innovation: We embrace creativity and advancing technology.
- Integrity: We trust, respect, support and care for one another.
- Learning environment: Our approach is engaging, learner-centered and adaptable to individual needs.
- Student centered: We put students first.

## 'Cat Resurgence: Mitigating Risk to Increase Opportunity

*February 9, 2021*

Dear Wildcat Parent/Guardian/Caretaker,

On Monday, February 8, the Hancock Central School District Board of Education unanimously voted to amend our school reopening plan, *The Wildcat Reset*, to increase in-person teaching and learning opportunities for students.

Specifically, starting on Tuesday, February 16, in-person instruction for elementary school students will increase from four to five days per week. For students in grades 7-12, in-person instruction will increase from two to four days per week – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday – starting during the week of February 22. Wednesday will remain a deep cleaning day for the middle/high school building. Recent academic scholarship and our own anecdotal observations strongly support this change in our instructional approach.

Moving forward, we remain deeply committed to actively engaging all of our stakeholders as the modified in-person instructional approach unfolds. During the week of February 8, in your home mailbox, you will be receiving two extremely important letters, each pertaining to a specific aspect of this updated process. First, on Thursday, February 11, a continuity of instruction update letter will be sent home. Second, on Friday, February 12, a letter detailing various health, safety, and welfare updates will be mailed to all stakeholders.

Your child's health, safety and welfare are our top concerns, and we are extremely confident we will safely and successfully increase in-person instruction. Parents and students will be given the opportunity to elect to remain in remote instruction, within certain parameters.

Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated! All of the information updates will be posted on the HCS website, <https://www.hancock.stier.org>, under the *School Reopening* tab. I urge you to frequently check our website and social media platforms as updates are being added daily.

Thank you. Working together, we look forward to taking on this important challenge!

Sincerely,



Terrance P. Dougherty, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
[tdougherty@hancock.stier.org](mailto:tdougherty@hancock.stier.org)  
(607) 637-1301