

SMETHPORT AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Home of the HUBBERS



**Smethport Area
School District
Administration Office**

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August 25, 2020

Dear Parents, Students and Community;

We are ready for our students, teachers, staff and families to return to school for the 2020/2021 school year! School opens on Wednesday, August 26, 2020 as scheduled. We continue to make improvements to our school and academic program and we encourage everyone to take pride in moving forward.

This year, technology will be in action in grades K to 12 as our district goes one to one with devices for all students! Our teachers will be streaming content into the homes of our "at home distance learning" students and our regular classroom students will be utilizing technology and working on 21st Century Skills in our classrooms. Teachers will be learning new ways to teach with technology as well as relying on their tried and true methods of providing solid instruction in the classroom. Please be patient with us as we learn to manage our students at home and in class with synchronous learning. Work hard on the asynchronous learning activities that the teachers assign for your child. Be sure to oversee your child's online learning program and keep them focused on completing the work.

Working together we can keep our schools safe and free from the COVID-19 virus. Students and staff will need to wear face coverings, social distance to the extent possible, wash hands frequently, avoid touching their face, limit travel out of the area, and avoid close contact with others. Above all students who are not feeling well, need to be kept at home. We will be cleaning and doing the extra things at school to help us avoid the virus. The strategies are very simple. If everyone joins in and supports the effort, we can keep students and staff safe and keep our schools open all year long! Area doctors are all very supportive of students wearing face coverings. Wearing face coverings is a practice that will help us stay safe and keep our schools open!

There will be some new transportation features this year. All of our regular school buses are equipped with video and audio recording cameras and devices. The new system was purchased with funds from a school safety grant. The cameras provide full bus coverage and are designed to display a camera angle between the seats. Stop arm cameras have also been installed for recording the illegal passing of a school bus when the stop arm is out. Students and families are advised that audio and video recording may be used to support disciplinary actions and for teaching students proper bus behavior. Student safety is always the number one priority. We have several new short bus runs to reduce student numbers on our buses and we are expecting increased numbers of parents at drop off and pick up times at school. Please utilize your assigned drop off and pick up time to spread the traffic out and prevent traffic jams and long waits.

Be smart and stay safe! Do your part to keep our schools open all year long!

Go HUBS!

Dave London, Superintendent