

Superintendent Message

March/April 2021

In my March/April Superintendent message, I wanted to update the community on some important items that are happening within the district.

On Monday, February 22, 2021, the Board of Education approved closing Lincoln Elementary at the end of the school year as well as the repurposing of Jacobs Primary. Preschool students who have been housed at Washington will be transferred to Jacobs beginning in the 2021-22 school year.

Elementary students will be divided into three buildings for students in kindergarten through second grade, and three buildings for students in grades three to five. The district's elementary schools are currently divided into four primary schools (kindergarten through second grade), three intermediate schools (third through fifth grade), and one K-5 building, which is Lincoln Elementary School.

A Frequently Asked Questions page on restructuring the district can be found at www.fcs.org/faq. We will continue to update the community throughout the process. We also plan on inviting students to tour their classrooms prior to the start of the 2021-22 school year.

The Board of Education also approved to return the district to a full-time, five-day schedule on Monday, March 29, 2021. Spring Break for the district will be April 1-5. Trojan Academy students will remain in the remote learning model. We have been encouraged by the low numbers of COVID cases in Hancock County as well as the vaccination distributions throughout the county.

District leadership unveiled a five-year strategic plan that was approved by the Board of Education in January. The plan will focus on three objectives: excellence, belonging, and opportunity. I am very proud of the district and the staff and community members who assisted in the development of the strategic plan. The full plan can be viewed at <https://docs.fcs.org/news/StrategicPlan.pdf>.

The state testing window opens in mid-April; however, we are uncertain at this time if the tests will be waived for the 2020-21 school year as they were last school year. We will keep you updated if the decision is made to waive the testing requirements.

I applaud the dedication and efforts of our teachers and staff throughout the pandemic. I am encouraged by the five-day return to school learning model as well as the vaccination clinic that was hosted at Findlay High School on February 27th. I am grateful to be a part of a community that cares so much about students.

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and healthy.

Mr. Troy Roth