

August 2, 2020

Dear Marcus High School Students, Parents, Families, and Community Members,

On behalf of the teachers, staff, and administration at Marcus High School, I would like to tell you that we are truly excited to begin our school year on August 19th. Even though all of our students will start the school year learning from home, our MHS staff is at our best and in our element when we are with our students. We look forward to seeing them via WebEx very soon!!

As we begin our 40th year of "Pride and Excellence" here at Marcus High School, we have encountered circumstances that none of us would have ever imagined. However, I am confident in our ability to collectively overcome these challenges based on the level of teamwork, communication, and support we provided for each other last spring. We can, and WILL, do it again! **"WE ARE MARCUS! WE ARE ONE!"**

In our initial communication this year, I would like to highlight a few items, as well as the plan to keep you informed in the weeks and months ahead.

- Please click [here](#) to access information from LISD pertaining to our return to school. All of the items listed below are housed within the lisd.net/covid19 website, but I would like bring the following specifically to your attention:
 - [In-Person Learning](#) (which will be "remote" learning until September 8th.
 - [Virtual Learning](#)
 - [FAQs](#)
 - [Special Education](#)
 - [District Level Support to ask Questions](#)
- If you selected the Virtual or Virtual Plus plan, last week you received a form from LISD to fill out, which is due by August 5th. I would like to request and encourage you to complete this form as soon as possible. As you may imagine, we are in the process of selecting our teachers who will serve our Virtual & Virtual Plus students. August In-Service begins August 5th. You can help us in a major way if you are able to complete this form today or tomorrow.
- Please click [here](#) to find out who your student's counselor will be this school year.
- Please click [here](#) to find out who your student's Assistant Principal will be this school year.
- We will send a letter home each week from Marcus High School with the most pertinent and helpful information that we can provide. We will also post this weekly letter to our social platforms. (Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram) Please make sure your email address is correct in Skyward in order to receive these weekly updates.
- We will continue to send our "This Week at Marcus!" flyer each week when school starts. This flyer contains our weekly calendar and many other helpful pieces of information. This flyer will be linked in our weekly letter to you and will also be sent home via Skylert email as well as through our socials.
- When students return to school in person on September 8th, our daily routine will be different from what we are all used to. Our school day will begin at 8:20 am and end at 4:00 pm. We will send more detailed information soon, but for now I would like to communicate several items which we are currently planning:
 - Students will enter through designated entry points. (Included but not limited to: Our main entry in front off Morriss Dr., our main rear entry into the cafeteria from the student lot, as well as an entry point into the W-Hall from the student lot.)
 - Students will need to wear a face covering as well their school ID upon entry into the building at the beginning of the school day and will head straight to their first-period class.
 - Upon entering the building, students will be provided with hand sanitizer.
 - Many of our hallways and stairwells will be "One Way." We will send out more information about this as we get closer to September 8th. Please know however that we have purchased signage to help our students, and our teachers and staff will be in the hallways supporting & helping students find their way.
 - Passing periods will be longer to provide for a staggered release into the hallways.
 - When "In-Person" learning begins on September 8th, our students who have selected the "Virtual Plus" option will come to school only for their "Virtual Plus" class period(s). For our

Virtual Plus students, we are working on a plan to provide easier access to the building through additional entry points which will be supervised by our staff. (All of the same entry expectations described in the bullet points above will remain.) For example, if your student is a Virtual Plus football player, it would not make sense to send our Virtual Plus football players all the way through the main campus if they are only attending football in person. Football players on the Virtual Plus plan will go straight to the football field house and will depart from the field house. Football is an easy example because the field house is a separate building located next to Marauder Stadium. The same will be true however for some of our fine arts & athletic programs, depending on their location on campus. We will send this information as soon as possible, including the identified programs and their designated entry/exit points..

I will try my best in the future to keep these letters *more* concise! We understand that there is a lot of information to digest and also that this continues to be a stressful time for all of us. That being said, please communicate with us to let us know how we can help. If we can provide you with the solution you are seeking, we will. If we cannot, we will work together to find the next best option for our students.

Our team here at Marcus is proud to serve the Marcus High School community and Lewisville ISD. We are also grateful to have you in our corner during this challenging time and we appreciate your support. Thank you for all of the ways you support our students, our programs, and our staff. Together, we will make 2020-2021 a great school year!

Sincerely,

Will Skelton

Principal

Edward S. Marcus High School

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