

# Hudsonville Public Schools

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April 18, 2020

Dear Parents,

Once again, I truly hope you and your families are doing well. I can't express how much we miss physically seeing your kids grace the hallways and classrooms in our buildings. Our staff is working hard to finish the academic year in this new norm, and we are also deep in conversations regarding what next year might look like.

As we all continue to navigate our continuation of the remote learning plan, we want to express our appreciation for your dedication to your child. You can anticipate communication from your building principal regarding any changes to the instructional expectations. Several of our staff have received training on an accessibility tool called Read&Write for Google Chrome. Over the next couple of weeks, your children may be hearing more about this tool from their various teachers about how it might assist with their coursework. We encourage you to [take a look at this application](#) and the features that could provide additional assistance for your child's education.

Your child may be invited to participate in live instruction, activities, or social "check-ins" with staff and other students through applications such as Zoom. These are excellent opportunities for your child to not only experience learning and support in a more personal way, but to also have a chance to see and connect with their peers. Please know that we will take every precaution to ensure the safety and security of these conversations; however, we would greatly appreciate your support by refraining from sharing the meeting ID and passwords for these meetings with others. As always, the safety and security of our students is a priority, and our staff will continue with their roles and responsibilities as mandated reporters or seek additional support if they believe a student is at risk of harm or otherwise needs assistance.

I would be remiss if I didn't stress the importance of the May 5th non-homestead millage election has on the operational budget for Hudsonville Public Schools. This is an annual renewal request that voters have approved every year for the past 25 years. The millage would generate approximately 5.3 million dollars of operating revenue for our school district. Keep in mind that this election will be primarily conducted by absentee ballot due to the unusual circumstances caused by the coronavirus. If you are a resident of Hudsonville Public Schools, you should have received an application in the mail regarding this election cycle. We ask that you please fill out and mail back that application so you will be mailed an absentee ballot. Know that this is not a tax on primary residences and is not a new tax. We do encourage you to apply for an absentee ballot, but if this is not an option for you, please get out and vote that day.

The partnership between our staff and community is what makes our district a premier district in the state. Please continue to visit our [website](#), as the information available can be of great value. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do to support our kids, our community, and each other.

Sincerely,



Doug VanderJagt, Ph.D.  
Superintendent