## Richmond Community Schools

35276 Division \* Richmond, Michigan 48062 \* (586) 727-3565 \* www.richmond.k12.mi.us

Margaret Teltow, President Jessica Sexton, Vice President Kristine Furtaw, Secretary Kyle Simmons, Treasurer Sandra Fortuna, Trustee Angela Pacitto, Trustee Sherri Zube, Trustee

> Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S. Superintendent

Richmond Early Childhood Learning Center & Will L. Lee Elementary School 68399 Forest Richmond, Michigan 48062 David Kochan, Principal

Richmond Middle School 35250 Division Richmond, Michigan 48062 Keith Bartels, Principal

Richmond High School 35320 Division Richmond, Michigan 48062 Andrew Kastl, Principal

October 5, 2020

## Dear Parents/Guardians:

On Friday, October 2, 2020, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled that Governor Whitmer did not have the authority to issue COVID-19 Executive Orders after April 30, 2020 under the *Emergency Management Act*. The Court also ruled that the *Emergency Powers of the Governor Act*, an alternative basis for issuing the Executive Orders, is unconstitutional. The Governor has stated that the decision is not immediately effective and that all current Executive Orders could remain in place for at least 21 days. Members of the Legislature have opined that the decision could have immediate effect. Action by a federal court could also impact the decision's effective date.

Once again public schools are caught in the middle of a political battle in Lansing. After consulting with legal counsel over the weekend, Richmond Community Schools will continue to comply with its board-approved *COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan,* and any local health department orders, as it has since school started. **Students in grades K-5 will be required to wear a facemask on school buses and in common areas (e.g. hallways, gymnasium, recess, etc.), but will NOT be required to wear facemasks while in the classroom or eating in the cafeteria. <b>Students in grades 6-12 will be required to wear facemasks at all times.** In other words, no change to our current practice.

As required by law, the Richmond Board of Education will review its *Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan* at least one a month at a regularly scheduled Board meeting, where public comment on the plan is welcomed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your child's principal or my office.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Walmsley, Ed.S. Superintendent

## Guaranteed Learning for All Students!

In compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education amendments of 1972, Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, and Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act of 1977, it is the policy of the Richmond Community School District that no person shall, on the basis of race, color, religion, military status, national origin or ancestry, sex (including sexual orientation), disability, age (except as authorized by law,) height, weight, or marital status be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to, discrimination during any program, activity, service or employment. Inquiries related to any nondiscrimination policies should be directed to the Superintendent, 35276 Division Road, Richmond, MI 48062, (586) 727-3565.