



August 10, 2020

Groves Families,

Thank you to those of you who have reached out to welcome me; it is greatly appreciated, and I continue to be very excited to be here, and to be able to work alongside the great students, families and staff at Groves.

I hope you are staying healthy and safe this summer, and I know this summer has not been easy for many of you. I want to acknowledge that. Much has been asked of you since March, but I also want to ask that everyone continues to support each other, and understand that everyone is having a difficult time with all that is happening – not just in BPS, but in our community and across the nation. Thank you for doing your best to ensure we remain united as a Groves family

Many of you, like me, have a difficult time when there are more questions than answers, and I know we are all working to exercise patience and flexibility as changes continue to happen frequently. I want you to know that typically I would communicate much more frequently with families, but I did not want to communicate information that was subject to change; I hope you understand.

As you are aware, we will return to school in the fall with all BPS students receiving virtual instruction until at least November 1st. **Instruction in the fall will be very different from how it looked last spring.** I want to assure you that the Groves faculty and administrators will work diligently to plan rigorous, collaborative and enriching lessons for your students using our robust virtual platform (Schoology), and we will create a student experience that mimics an in-person classroom as much as we can. This will be our top priority. We know that students have varying needs, and we are going to problem-solve and work creatively to support all students. Our goal will remain that all Falcons continue to feel connected to the Groves community.

Below you will find information regarding our registration processes for this year, as well as information about athletics.

### **Online Returning Student Verification Process (RSVP)**

- **All families will need to complete this process.** This is very important as we ask you to confirm emergency contact information among other items. The registration portal will open on Monday, August 10. You will receive an email when RSVP is open. The portal does not work well from the app, so it is best to utilize a browser on a laptop or computer.
- Here are directions for the online registration system (RSVP):
  - Log into the Parent Portal at <https://birmingham.powerschool.com/public/home.html>
  - Select the student you wish to register along the top.
  - Select the “Returning Student Verification Process 2020-2021” icon on the left side.
  - Enter the birthdate for the student you have selected.
  - Click continue and you will launch the forms that need to be verified and completed.
  - Once you finish entering your information click “SUBMIT” to ensure the information is shared with Groves. Then you will receive a confirmation email. Please send a copy of this email with your student to registration the week of August 17.

- You will need to complete this process for EACH student within your family group. Each process would be completed individually for each student.
- If you can not remember your log in credentials, please click “Having trouble signing in?” and if you still can not sign in, please contact Mrs. Reeves at [lreeves@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:lreeves@birmingham.k12.mi.us).

## Student Schedules

**It is very important to note that the schedule that is viewable in Powerschool for your student is NOT finalized.** Counselors return to the office on August 17, and are still working to fulfill requests, and to balance class sizes. Please use Powerschool ONLY for the online student registration component at this time.

## Registration In-Person

- All of the information concerning in-person registration is pending state and district decisions, and may be subject to change.
- Please save the dates below for student in-person registration. For students/families that are not comfortable being on campus, we will offer later dates to complete these registration items.
- Registration will take place **outdoors** near the west porch. Masks will be required for all staff and students participating in registration, and an online health screener will be required to be completed on the same day that a student will be on campus. This health screener is electronic and will be sent to families. Students will be scheduled for registration in small groups by last name, and we have allowed time to disinfect stations between each group. Social distancing will be maintained in this process.
- August 17 – 12<sup>th</sup> graders
- August 18 – 11<sup>th</sup> graders
- August 20 – 9<sup>th</sup> graders (Incoming freshmen will have an opportunity to participate in small group team building with Big Brothers Big Sisters student mentors and to meet their school family members).
- August 21 – 10<sup>th</sup> graders
- In-person registration will include the following: returning textbooks assigned to students last year, picking up purchased yearbooks that were ordered last year, retrieving personal items that were left in lockers last year, and getting school pictures taken. The PTA Membership Form can be submitted at registration, and will be emailed to families.
- Our school photographer, Lifetouch, has publicized their safety procedures for photographing students, and can be viewed on their website here: <https://schools.lifetouch.com/>.
- More details will be provided later this week concerning registration.

## Fall Athletic Information

The MHSAA continues to provide updates about the status of athletic practices and competitions. It is **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** that you visit our athletic website for Fall Athletic Information [www.grovesfalcons.com](http://www.grovesfalcons.com) . Physical information and Tryout Schedules can be found under the Announcement tab on the right side of the home page. Blue slips will be available one hour before the first scheduled practice at the pool/gym entrance. Continue to monitor the athletic website [www.grovesathletic.com](http://www.grovesathletic.com) for further information regarding online registration. If you have any questions please contact Diedra Righter at [drighter@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:drighter@birmingham.k12.mi.us)

## Materials for Fall Classes

We will also communicate a plan for a date later this summer for students and families to pick up materials that will be needed for classes in which students are enrolled this fall, as well as to distribute laptop devices to students who need one.

Thank you again for your patience as we plan for the reopening of school, and please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Dr. Susan Smith, Principal

[ssmith4@birmingham.k12.mi.us](mailto:ssmith4@birmingham.k12.mi.us)

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