

## ***ELPS Updates September 19, 2021***

### **Late Start for Students this Wednesday, September 22**

This Wednesday will be the first of four late-start Wednesdays throughout the 2021-22 school year to allow for all-staff professional learning. School start times and bus pick-up times will be two hours later than usual. Future late-start Wednesdays are October 20, February 23 and March 16.

Teacher conferences are also coming up in October - here is a link to district calendars at each level: <https://elps.us/our-district/district-calendar/>.

### **Homecoming Week at ELHS! Football Game Expectations**

This week is homecoming! The Homecoming Parade will depart from East Lansing High School at 5:30 p.m. this Friday - the football game will begin at 7:00 p.m.

For now, the weather is looking great for Friday, and we expect a large crowd. We will be asking students to sit in the stands during the game in order to allow for safer movement of folks trying to get to and from the restrooms and concessions stands. For the past two home games, we've had large crowds of primarily middle-school aged students congregating behind the bleachers and around the concessions stands and restrooms. We'd like to clear that area so that our spectators can move more safely and are asking for your help in communicating this expectation to our students. Thank you for your support as we want all of our students and adult fans to have a fun but safe experience at our games.

### **Board of Education Meeting – Monday, September 27, 2021**

The ELPS Board of Education will be holding its regular meeting Monday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board room in East Lansing High School. The meeting will be held in person and will be live streamed.

### **Dedication of Robert L. Green Elementary School - Friday, September 24, 2021**

ELPS will be holding a dedication event Friday, September 24 to celebrate the renaming of Robert L. Green Elementary School. The school dedication event will begin at 9:30 a.m. in front of the school and include comments from school and district leaders, performances from Robert L. Green Elementary school students and a dedication of the school to Dr. Green. The program will conclude with a march to 207 Bessemaur Drive, where a historical marker will be dedicated by the the City of East Lansing that morning at 11:30 a.m. Robert L. Green Elementary School families, neighbors and community members are welcome to attend. Following the program, students will participate in the march beginning around 10:00 a.m. and then return to school for lunch - they will not be staying for the 11:30 City of EL program. Our younger students will be bussed back to the school, and our older students will walk back.

If you plan to attend:

1. There will not be parking available on the school site. Pinecrest Drive will be closed between Blanchette and Crown Blvd. following morning drop-off and will reopen after the event. Attendees will need to park in the neighborhood, and we encourage walking to the school if possible.
2. A map of the site and assigned viewing areas will be sent out and placed on our website this week.

3. Due to the crowd density and the large number of students who are not able to be vaccinated, we are asking all attendees to wear masks while onsite.

### **Ongoing COVID Testing for Students and Staff**

We are ready to start our weekly COVID testing. As of Friday afternoon, over 200 staff members and students have created accounts and completed the consent and HIPAA forms for testing.

If you signed up for staff or student ongoing COVID testing but have not electronically signed consent forms, please search your email (and clutter) for an email from [support@testedandprotected.org](mailto:support@testedandprotected.org) titled "**Midwest Coordination Center Invitation.**" This email includes a code for creating your account so that you can electronically sign the consent and HIPAA forms and access your child's test results.

If you need support in creating an account on their site, please use this email to request assistance: [info@testedandprotected.org](mailto:info@testedandprotected.org).

If you signed up to participate in testing and have not received a registration email, please send a message to [kelly.hocquard@elps.us](mailto:kelly.hocquard@elps.us).

**In order to participate in this week's testing, consent and HIPAA forms must be completed no later than 4:00 p.m. today.** This is so we can prepare our testing lists for the week. If you register and sign the forms after 4:00 p.m. today, we will add your child's name to the list to be tested beginning Monday, September 27.

### **Testing schedule for each building is as follows:**

Mondays: Glencairn and Marble

Tuesdays: Robert L. Green and Whitehills

Wednesdays: MacDonald Middle School, Donley and Red Cedar

Thursdays: East Lansing High School

We will continue our process of notifying families of positive tests and close contacts per our usual process.

This program and process is new to us, and we are one of the first and few districts in the midwest participating in weekly COVID testing as part of this USDHHS program. Please bear with us as we navigate the unknowns and establish a process that works for everyone.

### **COVID-19 Reporting and Communicating**

**For students who are eligible for the vaccine, know that the state and local guidance allows vaccinated individuals who are identified as close contacts to NOT have to quarantine as long as they remain symptom free. Please let us know if you need assistance in getting your eligible student the COVID-19 vaccine.**

**Also, it is important to notify the school as early as possible if your student is presenting COVID symptoms, even before you may have COVID-19 test results. This will allow us to contact trace quickly and prevent potential transmission.**

Here is a link to the district's COVID-19 dashboard. Positive school-related cases must be posted on this site within 24 hours of the district learning of the case. If we are notified of a case over the weekend, updates will be posted Monday morning.

<https://elps.us/our-district/district-covid-19-dashboard/>

**COVID-19 Guidance from the Ingham County Health Department and Ingham ISD**

The ICHD has updated its COVID-19 guidance documents for schools to align with the new Emergency Orders. You can access these documents with the following link:

<https://hd.ingham.org/Portals/HD/Home/Documents/cd/coronavirus/ICHDSchoolCOVIDHandouts.pdf>

[Ingham ISD Close Contact Flow Chart](#)