Dear WLCSD Parents:

With the release of the Governor’s MI Safe Start Roadmap Plan last week, Walled Lake Schools is working to finalize the WLCSD Safe Start Roadmap Plan. Beginning immediately after the completion of the school year, WLCSD has had committees meeting regularly.

- **The Fall Planning Task Force**, made up of more than 80 stakeholders, including staff members, parents and community members, has met several times to consider the feedback from more than 4,000 returned surveys and the many recommendations in various plans and ideas posed by schools and organizations throughout the country.

- **The Fall Planning Steering Committee**, some 25 District leaders, has met to draft the plan based on the WL Fall Planning Task Force input, the parent and staff survey data, the State requirements and recommendations, and many well-known plans. The Steering Committee has sifted through opportunities and challenges for reopening scenarios including full face-to-face instruction, full virtual instruction and possible hybrid models.

**Moving forward:**

The Steering Committee is meeting this week in small groups and collectively, and the Task Force will meet again on Monday, July 13, 2020, to provide feedback and suggestions on the work of the Steering Committee. We plan to disseminate a plan to our parents as soon as we are able. Our plan will be shared with the WLCSD Board of Education and then submitted to Oakland Schools.

**WLCSD plans to begin the school year with virtual and face-to-face options.** More details will be shared and your feedback will be considered as these options are further developed. Lastly, Walled Lake Schools will also continue to devise a hybrid-option to ensure we are ready, if the State requires this.

**Safety is a priority:**

Rest assured, safety is our number one priority and **there will be a virtual option** for students of families who do not feel comfortable returning to school for face-to-face instruction. Walled Lake Schools will be following the required safety protocols. Being proactive, the Walled Lake Schools plan will include information from the three pillars that parents prioritized as most important: health and safety, social emotional well-being, and quality instruction. Most importantly, a process with proactive protocols will be collaboratively defined, with the assistance of local and State public health officials, for what will occur when a student, and or staff member tests positively for COVID.

There is much to consider as we prioritize safety and re-enter school this fall. Thank you for your patience as we compile the information from both committees to create a thorough and detailed plan, while keeping the safety of our students and staff as the priority.

Please stay safe,

Kenneth Gutman

Superintendent of Schools