

Big Foot High School

401 DEVILS LANE • P.O. BOX 99 • WALWORTH, WI 53184 • VOICE: (262) 275-2116 • FAX: (262) 275-5117

Dear BFHS Students and Parents/Guardians,

August 19, 2020

I hope this letter finds all of you well. July 1st was my first day in the Big Foot High School office and it did not take me long to see how special this place is to so many people. I have had countless warm and welcoming conversations with students, staff, parents, and alumni who have wished me well and offered their support. My family and I are beyond excited to settle in here and become part of this great school and community.

After a couple of days in the office, it quickly became apparent to me of how much had to be done to get ready for school to start on September 1st. On top of the normal routine of building maintenance, summer school, DPI reports, and hiring new staff we had HUGE questions and challenges regarding what school would look like for 2020-21. Everyone on staff contributed and the teamwork has been AMAZING! Together, in that short amount of time we have:

- Developed a school reopening plan with new health and safety protocols for mitigation of COVID-19
- Physically prepared the building for social distancing with added signage and classroom adjustments
- Reduced class sizes to allow for safe spacing in classrooms
- Developed new procedures for classrooms, hallways, the cafeteria, and beyond to help us stay safe
- Organized a safe and efficient registration process for families
- Built an improved online learning platform for students and parents that choose a virtual option
- Increased staff training and professional development time to prepare for a unique school year

As a school system we have had to address so many new challenges that we never would have imagined just 6 short months ago. **We are up to the task, but continue to ask for your patience and flexibility as we navigate our new reality.** Whether your child is here each day or working virtually from home we will work hard to serve and support your child and provide the best education experience possible.

There will be great things happening at Big Foot High School this year! New growth, new friendships, and new memories. Let's stay positive and work together to have a fantastic year! Here are some of the answers to frequently asked questions regarding the start of the school year. Please look this over and do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Go Chiefs!



Jeremy Andersen
Serving as Principal at Big Foot High School

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Freshmen and New Student Open House

We know that there are always a lot of questions about starting a new school. Even though we have had to reduce some of our orientation activities for safety we want to invite all new students to BFHS on **Wednesday, August 26th from 5:00-7:00pm** for an open house event. Students and parents pick up their schedule, find your locker, walk the halls, and ask questions about the new school year. Families can arrive and leave at any time. Please help us by remembering your mask and practice good social distancing while in the building.

The First Day of School

Tuesday, September 1st will be the first day of school for all students. Classes will begin at 7:45 a.m. and upon arrival students should report directly to their first period classroom. To increase passing time and support the best learning environment possible, we have temporarily changed our daily bell schedule and removed all block days. See the schedule below. Students needing IDs will have pictures taken and ID cards printed when the photographer is scheduled on September 11th.

Period	Time
1	7:45 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
2	8:35 a.m. – 9:20 a.m.
3	9:25 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.
4	10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
5A Lunch	11:00 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.
5A	11:35 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.
5B	11:05 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
5B Lunch	11:50 a.m. – 12:25 p.m.
6	12:25 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.
7	1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
8	2:05 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.

Updated Health/Safety Information

Our most up-to-date health information is posted on our school website under [COVID-19 Information Hub](#). Please continue to follow the recommended guidelines for home self-checks each day and the safety protocols recommended for reopening schools safely.

Face Coverings and Masks

We continue to follow the State of Wisconsin Emergency Order regarding mask requirements until at least September 28th. Students will be provided with 2 masks and we ask them to bring a clean mask to school each day. If a student needs another mask, some will be available in the main office.

Arrival and Departure

In order to minimize large gatherings, we ask that students not arrive any earlier than needed in the morning. Doors open as before at 7:05 am. Students can get breakfast, use their locker, and prepare for their day before heading to their first period class. We must avoid large gatherings to minimize risk. After school, we ask both students and staff to exit the building when they do not have scheduled activities to allow for our custodial staff the time they need to clean each night.

****NEW ATTENDANCE OFFICE NUMBER****

Please use our new automated attendance office number to report student absences 24-hours a day.

New Automated Attendance Office Number: (262) 394-4550

Please listen to the automated message and leave a detailed message about your student and the absence. If you need to speak with someone in the office, please use the main office number (262) 275-2116. Also, parents do not need to come into the building when picking up their student for an appointment, etc. If parents have already contacted the office about the absence and departure time, the student will be able to sign out and just exit the building to your vehicle. This will help ensure safety by reducing the amount of people in the school building. The black "Registration Drop Box" located in the circle near the flagpole can be used to drop off paperwork 24 hours a day.

Daily Procedures

There have been a number of changes to building procedures to ensure staff and student safety. From hallway signs, classroom procedures, to lunchtime spacing, students and staff will have to make some adjustments to their normal routines to ensure safety. Keep an eye out for a fantastic new video being produced by BFHS National Honor Society students explaining some of these changes.

2020-2021 Student Schedules

Students and families making decisions on scheduling options (both in-person and online) should contact Mr. Paul in the school counseling office as soon as possible to set up preferred programming. He can be reached at ajpaul@bigfoot.k12.wi.us or by calling (262) 394-4510.

Bus Information

Bus routes should be set and posted on the BFHS website under [Bus Schedules](#). Please contact Dousman Transport at (262) 728-2166 with any questions or changes regarding busing needs. A late bus will be available as part of our tutorial program running after school on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The bus is scheduled to leave at 5:15 p.m. on those days.

Late Bus

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Laptops and School Supplies

Students will be issued laptops during their first period class on September 1st. Students must bring their laptops and charger every day. Please communicate issues with the laptops to the tech department as soon as possible to ensure that students have access to the device for learning activities. Students should bring basic learning materials for the first day (pens/pencils, planner, notebooks, calculator, etc.) for the first day. Teachers will communicate other supply needs on a class by class basis. Backpacks and string bags can be used throughout the day to help students transport materials and stay organized.

Getting Up-to-date Information

There are changes happening daily. Students and parents can stay up-to-date with Big Foot High School (especially for athletics/activities schedule changes) by checking out links to announcements and calendars on the [BFHS website](#). Also, follow Big Foot High School on [Facebook](#) for great stories, pictures, and new information in an interactive format.

Locker Assignments

All students will get a locker assigned to them for the entire school year. Students must use a school-issued gray lock for the hallway lockers. Non-school issued locks will be removed and the student will be charged \$5 for new or lost locks. Due to limited space in the hallways during passing times, we are asking students to only use their lockers before and after school until further notice.

Room and Schedule Changes

Due to the changes and adjustments needed to safely schedule and balance class sizes there have been a number of (and may continue to be) schedule and staff room changes. Please check PowerSchool for the most up-to-date changes and continue to be flexible as we make adjustments during the start of the year.

Registration

If you have not registered your child on [PowerSchool](#) yet, please go to PowerSchool to log in and complete the online registration. We really need forms completed and up-to-date contact information for accurate records and emergency procedures. If you have any problems, please contact Chrystel Hovestol at (262) 394-4402. PowerSchool is the best place to help support your child access attendance and grades.

Parking Passes

Parking Permits will be distributed after the start of school. Please remember to park in the designated student parking areas on the east side of the building. Those students who have not purchased a parking pass may do so in the office for \$60.

Lost and Found

Many items remain from the sudden school closure last spring. If you are missing something from a locker please stop down to the office before the end of the first week to look for items. Unclaimed items will be donated after September 8th.