



*We promise families a school with a challenging academic program and a culture that values integrity, academic excellence, civic responsibility and accountability that centers on college and career readiness.*

August 18, 2021

Dear Charlton Heston Academy School Community,

I hope this letter finds everyone safe and healthy. As the Academy prepares for the upcoming school year this letter is not only a welcoming back, but also provides important information regarding the 2021-2022 school year.

Similar to all other schools in Michigan, the Academy continues to receive guidance, best practices, recommendations, and mandates from local, state and federal agencies. At this time, CHA will return to face-to-face instruction with the following guidance:

- All students and staff **MUST** wear masks on the school buses at all times.
- Mask wearing in the buildings is strongly recommended by CHA for all staff, students, and community members, but it is not required. CHA will provide masks for all.
- All students, staff members, and community members will social distance as much as possible.
- The Academy will offer for students, staff, and community members to conduct self-temperature checks at thermometers local throughout the building or at the main offices.
- All staff and students (and community members who have entered the school or respective events) must report illnesses immediately to one of the main offices at 989-632-3390 or in person.
- CHA will immediately report all illnesses to the local health departments and seek ongoing guidance regarding each case.
- Frequent hand washing and sanitizing will be the norm at CHA with hand sanitizing stations located throughout the building.
- Students and staff members are able to use the sneeze guards that CHA has to offer, but this is not mandated.

The Academy will continue to receive guidance and inform all stakeholders on health and safety information, while implementing practices at the level that makes sense for our school community.

The Academy is strongly encouraging all students to return to face-to-face learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Simply put, students learning at school in 2020-2021 far out performed those who learned at home through the virtual/online schooling option. However, if parents have circumstances that warrant their child(ren) to learn virtually CHA will have a virtual school option. This option is typically best for students who are highly independent, and whose academic performance is generally at or above grade. The Academy will provide all resources including:

- a laptop or similar required technology
- an exhaustive educational program including all curriculum and assessments
- a certified teacher assigned to deliver instruction and support, and to perform required two-way weekly communication
- internet connectivity for qualifying students/families
- students will be able to learn at their own pace in an effort to master skills and complete classes according to their abilities
- students are still eligible to participate in all school events, field trips, extracurricular activities/athletics, and other school-related programs
- parents/guardians will need to be prepared to support children with virtual learning on a daily basis, and communicate with teachers regularly

If parents have any questions about uniforms, curriculum, athletics/activities or anything else the main office is open from 9am-3pm Monday-Thursday at 9889-632-3390.

As always, I very much thank you for your support and commitment to CHA.

We look forward to seeing you for the first day of school on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, and so does your child's teacher/homeroom teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Patterson".

David Patterson, Superintendent

*Community*

*Teamwork*

*Excellence*

*Love*

*Grit*