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Shepherd School District #37

**7842 Shepherd Road
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Autumn Arlian
Elementary Principal
406-373-5516
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Rich Hash
Middle School Principal
Athletic Director
406-373-5873
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Kenneth Poepping
High School Principal
406-373-5300
FAX 406-373-5342

July 29, 2020

Dear Parents and Students:

As we approach the beginning of our school year, we are looking at the best way to serve our families. Last week we put out our reopening plan. Part of that plan mentioned an offsite learning option to ensure quality instruction for our students who medically could not attend school onsite due to Covid-19.

We will be planning our classroom sizes and we need to know which families will be using the offsite instruction format. If your family has a medical reason your child(ren) cannot attend school starting on August 19th, please fill out the [Family Onsite Instruction Opt-out Form](#) and submit it back to your building principal by Wednesday, August 5th. Below you will find a list of information we need parents/students to be aware of when choosing this option.

- Families choosing to use offsite instruction will be required to do so for the remainder of the MT Governor's Phase 2. Offsite or onsite options will then be revisited by the district when we move to Phase 3 in Montana and we fully open up. Students who are opting to be educated offsite will not be able to go back and forth between onsite and offsite, they will remain offsite through Phase 2.
- Students will be required to complete all assigned work and return it to the teacher on time in order to receive credit toward a standard/grade to be considered for promotion or credit. Failure to complete work assigned may result in a determination that the student will be retained or otherwise not earn credit.
- In order for a student at Shepherd Schools to participate in any sports or activity/club, they must attend school onsite.
- Offsite instruction will be done mainly on a virtual basis with students communicating with their teachers and classmates via Google Classroom. Again, if a device is needed to help families with online learning please contact your child's principal in order to check one out.

Here is the contact information for each building principal. Please contact them with any questions regarding offsite instruction.

Elementary: Mrs. Arlian a-arilan@shepherd.k12.mt.us

Middle School: Mr. Hash r-hash@shepherd.k12.mt.us

High School: Mr. Poepping kj-poepping@shepherd.k12.mt.us

Again, we want to thank you for your support as we move through this time. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,
Drea O'Donnell
Superintendent

