



Dear POB Families,

I hope you have enjoyed a restful weekend. As we await Governor Cuomo's guidance on school reopening, there are many questions and/or suggestions being shared with the District. Some questions we cannot answer yet; however, having as much information about the District's intensive planning might alleviate some of your concerns until we have more guidance.

In late April, the District's Health and Safety Committee added parents, teachers, administrators, students, custodians, nurses, and the District's doctor to begin the reopening planning. From May 1st-June 18th, the committee and subcommittees met. Surveys were sent to families and students to solicit feedback about schedules, models of instruction, student groupings, and resources needed. The work of this committee and its recommendations were presented to the Board of Education at their June 22, 2020 meeting. To open safely and to comply with the CDC and Governor's guidance, the District has taken the following actions:

- PPE's were ordered for all staff.
- Flexible seating and tables were removed from all elementary classrooms and individual desks were ordered.
- Disinfectant foggers were ordered and have been received in all buildings.
- Additional hand sanitizer dispensers were ordered and installed.
- Informational signs were printed and posted around all buildings.
- Traffic arrows were painted or applied to floors in most buildings.
- Classroom configurations have been adjusted for desks to be 6-feet apart.
- Transportation routes are being studied against the current regulations on student seating configurations.
- Summer professional development for teachers on instructional technology, COVID-19 contact tracing, and social and emotional health and well-being has begun and will continue throughout the summer.
- Health screenings have been put in place for staff, students and visitors in our buildings this summer.
- Quarantine rooms have been created to care for students and staff that exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.
- Mental health and well-being lessons for K-12 students are being written.
- Transition curricula for "MS 101" and Freshmen Seminar" are being written.

The Governor is expected to make an announcement about school reopening regulations tomorrow. Our team will quickly study his guidance against our plans and communicate more information to you on Wednesday, July 15th. As always, your input is valued and encouraged. Please use the "AsktheSupt" button on the District's homepage to share your questions and suggestions. Keeping the lines of communication open between home and school is critical to a successful and safe reopening of schools.

We have made it a priority to safely bring as many students to school as often as possible in September. While bringing all of our students back to school is something we all understand as a priority, we will do this only if it is safe for them and our staff. We have all sacrificed a great deal since March and Nassau County's data evidence that those sacrifices helped to save lives. Keeping the health of our school community at the forefront of our planning and decision making will assure our sacrifices will not be in vain.

Thank you.

Dr. O'Meara, Superintendent of Schools