



Superintendent of Schools - Justin Gardner

PO Box 180
29 School Lane
Willsboro, NY 12996

Ph: (518) 963-4456
Fx: (518) 963-7577

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July 24, 2020

Dear WCS Parents & Community Members:

In recent weeks, Governor Cuomo has discussed the following timeline for the release of guidance and associated decision-making for school reopening in the fall:

1. Guidance on school reopening released by NYS Department of Education and NYS Department of Health during the week of July 13-17.
2. District reopening plans based on that guidance required by July 31.
3. A determination about reopening made by the Governor during the week of August 1-7.

In response to this timeline, the District has formed a reopening committee comprised of staff members from various roles and backgrounds. This group has spent a great deal of time reviewing the extensive guidance from the State and is in the process of articulating a reopening plan for Willsboro CSD. As we go about this work, we will continue to provide updates on our programs and changes that might be necessary to implement our plan(s). To this end, I anticipate that my next communication with you will be at the end of next week when I will provide a general overview of the final district plan(s).

While we will be communicating with you in the days ahead as to what our final district plan(s) will look like, you can safely assume that the following conditions will be in place for any plan that include in-person attendance:

1. Continued attention to **safety and security** of students, staff, and visitors;
2. **Health checks/screenings** of students at various times throughout the day;
3. Advanced and more frequent **cleaning and disinfection** of buses and buildings;
4. Protocol for how we will address and **isolate students or staff who become ill** during the school day;
5. Students and staff **wearing of masks/face coverings** on buses and in our buildings with certain exceptions;
6. **Social distancing** requirements and guidelines when entering the school building, in the school building, and in our classrooms;
7. **Training availability for students, staff, and parents** on health and safety protocols and effective components of remote learning; and
8. **Continuous communication** through consistent forms and various means including our school website, email, social media, mailings, and automated voice calls.

In the meantime, I ask that you please continue to work with your children on the importance of handwashing, how to properly contain a cough or a sneeze, the importance of wearing a mask in required places, and how to properly distance themselves when in public settings. This knowledge and their practice of it will serve us all when we return to in-person schooling. Managing our way through a pandemic is a team effort that will rely on each and every one of us working together as a school community.

Best Regards and Take Care,

Justin M. Gardner
Superintendent of Schools

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Guidance Counselor
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Michael Douglas