



Updates from the District Office

November 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Caregivers –

For this version of the *Updates*, there are **four** important items for your attention as well as an opportunity to “get away” after a fairly anxiety-producing week.

1. **District Attendance Plans versus School Instructional Models** – In our last update we noted that instead of holding you to the specific date of November 20 before we would allow a change to instructional models for your children (hybrid to remote or remote to hybrid), we would instead be utilizing a “rolling” appeals procedure through the next several weeks until December 18. This is for the ***instructional model only*** and should not be confused with our ***in-person attendance plans*** for each level – K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. As a reminder the plans are as follows based on the number of students that we can accommodate in our buildings and on our buses:
 - a. ***Grades K-5*** attend Monday – Thursday. All students are fully remote on Fridays.
 - b. ***Grades 6-8*** are divided in half by alphabet with ½ attending on Monday and Tuesday and the other ½ attending Wednesday and Thursday. All students learn remotely on Fridays.
 - c. ***Grades 9-12*** attend in-person every other week with grades 9 and 10 one week and grades 11 and 12 the other week. Students are fully remote on the alternative week. All students learn remotely on Fridays.
2. **UPDATE: Traveling during the Holidays to NYS Advisory States** – On Saturday, October 31 the Governor issued [Executive Order 205.2](#) and the NYS Department of Health subsequently issued [Interim Guidance for Quarantine Restrictions on Travelers Arriving in New York State Following out of State Travel](#) on Tuesday, November 3. The Guidance states, in part, that

All travelers entering New York from a state that is not a contiguous state, or from a CDC Level 2 or 3 Travel Health Notice country, shall quarantine for a period of 14 days, consistent with Department of Health regulations for quarantine, unless: 1. For travelers who traveled outside of New York for more than 24 hours, such travelers must obtain testing within 72 hours prior to arrival*

in New York, AND 2. Such travelers must, upon arrival in New York, quarantine according to Department of Health guidelines, for a minimum of three days, measured from time of arrival, and on day 4 may seek a diagnostic test to exit quarantine.

**Contiguous states are Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont. Travelers from these states are not subject to this guidance. Travelers who leave New York State for less than 24 hours do not need to obtain a diagnostic test before departing and do not need to quarantine upon return. However, such travelers must fill out the traveler form upon entry and must obtain a diagnostic test on the fourth day after arrival in New York.*

Please see the attached document from Saratoga County Public Health Services- *Saratoga County Holiday Travel Guidelines* or find it on our website.

3. **School Closure in Anticipation of Uptick in Cases** – Although this question is becoming increasingly common in the region, we have no such inclination at this time given the success in the District and the region in controlling the spread of the virus to this point. That said, as with all things that we are collectively dealing with this year, should the data change and tell a different story, we will have the necessary conversations, adjust our thinking where it is advisable to do so, and keep you informed as we do. For now, I ask that we stay focused on staying healthy and well, and remember that [Staying Vigilant Means Staying Open](#).
4. **Winter Sports Opportunities** – At this week's meeting of the Board of Education meeting, administrators discussed a draft proposal to the Board for winter sports. This proposal was based on lessons learned from school reopenings across the state and country (cases are not being generated from schools) and over the course of our District's last five weeks of our hybrid model. Our current proposal is to offer low-risk sports (Bowling, Alpine Skiing, and Boys Swimming and Diving) and, should the state allow for competition in them, high-risk sports (Girls and Boys Varsity Basketball, Boys Hockey, and Cheer/Dance) in the upcoming season. We are only able to offer Varsity level only for basketball as we have reduced gym space based on temporary classrooms occupying many of our gyms. We are now awaiting the release of additional guidance from the state before going back to the Board on November 18 with a final recommendation. I will provide any additional information we have in our next *Update*.

2020: The World on Pause – And finally, for a change of pace this weekend, please join [Schuylerville Community Theater](#) for their first event since the impact of the global shutdown. You can watch from the comfort of your own home but once again get close to the many

talents of their dedicated performers and members. *2020: The World on Pause* is an honest, sometimes humorous, perspective into the many lives that were touched by Covid-19. It is an original play written in part by one of our very own faculty members, Mr. Andrew Greenwald. There is no admission fee to view this performance on their Facebook page. Click here to watch the show (November 6 & 7, at 7pm): [SCT FB page](#)

Should you have any questions about this information, please do not hesitate to let us know via our school opening email box at schoolopening@bscsd.org.

Our continued thanks for your ongoing support!

Ken

Ken Slentz
Superintendent of Schools