



10 July, 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members:

As you may have seen in the media over the past 24 hours, the Governor announced yesterday the following timeline for the release of guidance and associated decision-making for school building reopening in the fall:

1. Guidance on school reopening will be released on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>. This is the same day that the Board of Regents is expected to release guidance from the State Education Department and so we will have to wait to see if there is the necessary alignment between the rules set forth;
2. District Reopening Plans based on that guidance will be required by July 31<sup>st</sup>; and then
3. A determination about reopening will be made by the Governor during the week of August 1-7, 2020.

Needless to say, we anticipate spending a good deal of time with the guidance and, based on our experience with previous guidance, spending time with our attorneys who will be needed to make interpretations of any conflicts or unclear language in the directives before we can begin articulating a plan. As we go about this work, I will continue to update you on our progress and the changes that might be necessary to implement our plan. To this end, I anticipate that my next communication with you will be next week when I will provide a general overview of the guidance, the required elements of the state-required plan, and where we are in our planning process.

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 well when we return to in-person schooling, whenever that might be.

Wishing you all a safe healthy summer.

Ken Slentz  
Superintendent of Schools  
Ballston Spa CSD