July 31, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am pleased to present to you the Nyack School District Reentry Plan for the 2020-21 school year that was submitted today to the NY State Education Department (NYSED). All New York public school districts and charter schools are required to submit reentry plans on July 31, 2020 that meet mandatory elements outlined in the NYSED’s Reopening Guidance Document and in the guidance released by NYS Department of Health (DOH).

The District plan, which is developed for each school building, may be viewed on our website www.nyackschools.org. Our reentry plan addresses many different important areas including health and safety, transportation, facilities and operations, teaching and learning, social-emotional needs and food services. In accordance with NYSED requirements, our plan is designed with flexibility to meet the unique needs of our students. This will include the opportunity for remote learning for students at increased risk for COVID-19 illness; a hybrid model of learning that will ensure appropriate social distancing while students are receiving in-person schooling on a rotational basis; and opportunities for our most high need students to have access to in-person learning on an everyday basis. Schools have been advised to develop a reentry plan that can quickly shift to remote learning for all students depending on the current level of COVID-19 infection rates. In addition, our plan is aligned to the District’s racial equity vision that demands equity and access to high quality learning experiences for each and every student.

To assist our parents in learning about the plan, we are inviting you to a Zoom meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 5th @ 6pm. You will be receiving a flyer with the Zoom link and reminder of the time and date. It is important to note, the decision to open our school district in September will be made by Governor Cuomo. He is expected to announce his decision on or around August 7th.

Lastly, we will be sending out a parent survey on Monday asking about the unique needs of your child(ren) as related to the District reentry plan.

I am greatly appreciative of the efforts of our administrators, staff members and parents who have assisted the District in the development of our Reentry Plan. On behalf of all of us in the Nyack Schools, I wish you continued good health and to stay Nyack Strong!

Sincerely,

James J. Montesano, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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