



SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jaime Alicea, Superintendent of Schools

Huntington PK8 School

Joanne M. Harlow, Principal

July 29, 2020

Greetings Huntington Families and Students,

This is just a quick message to keep you all updated on the situation regarding the District's plans for re-opening school in September. As you probably know, the NYS Education Department is expecting all NY schools to submit their plans for re-opening by this coming Friday, July 31st.

Our Superintendent, our District re-opening committees, and the SCSD Board of Education have created and agreed on three different plans: 1- full return to school, but still following all CDC guidelines; 2- a hybrid model where half of the students attend school two days per week, on Monday and Tuesday, and the other half attend on Thursday and Friday. The schools would be closed on Wednesday for cleaning and remote learning; and 3- all students learn remotely.

Per the guidance from the NYS Department of Education, we are currently in the process of planning for our students' return, no matter which plan is decided in the next few weeks. We are arranging our classrooms for social distancing, so there will be no more than 12-15 desks in every classroom, all 6 feet apart. The daily schedule is being revised to reduce movement during the day (including specials), and we are planning to serve breakfast and lunch ("grab & go") in the classrooms. Cleaning and sanitizing will take place during the day as much as possible. These are just a few safety measures we are putting into place, and we know there are many, many more. Transportation, arrival and dismissal, temperature checks, what happens if a student has symptoms or tests positive, etc., are certainly procedures that still need to be addressed, district-wide, and certainly for us at Huntington. Of course, we are also very concerned about curriculum and instruction, and making every effort to make up for lost learning time. However, our students' social-emotional health and well-being, as well as physical health and safety, are our priorities right now.

The plans continue to change, and so many questions still remain. There will be another parent survey sent out within the next few days, so please watch for it and share your concerns and feedback. I will continue to communicate information and updates as they become available over the next few weeks, and feel free to call the school (or e-mail me) if you have questions or concerns.

Be safe and stay healthy!

Respectfully,

Joanne Harlow, Principal