



July 1, 2020

Dear Rockville Centre School District Community,

We hope you are all well, safe, and healthy as we enter into the summer months of 2020. July marks the official start of preparations for the 2020-2021 school year, and I can assure you that everyone associated with Rockville Centre Schools is working diligently in making sure that we are ready for our students to have a safe and successful school year starting in September. We know that we have faced many challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic has thrust upon us as a school district, as families, and as a community, and although there are still many unknowns, we want to assure you that we will have a plan that will support our district's commitment to education. We will continuously monitor the progression of the COVID-19 virus and look to the guidance of our public health and safety agencies in all our decisions throughout this pandemic.

Our Preparation:

The administration and staff will be engaging in a series of planning sessions over the next few weeks that focus on the following four key areas:

- **Safety** – Safety is our first and foremost concern. Regardless of the directives that may change, we will have our key focus on the safety measures that we need to follow and implement to provide a safe environment for all students and members of the school district.
- **Instruction** – Our commitment is to the quality educational experience for all our students. The pandemic has put us in unusual circumstances. We will reflect and learn from our experience with remote learning. This means looking at all aspects of instruction from our resources to our practices. Teachers and the art of teaching will be most vital to building a foundation for instructional integrity.
- **Social-Emotional Learning and Mental Health** – Our students – your children – are most important in all that we do as a school district. We need to look at how we continue to provide support and proactively identify students who need support.
- **Co-curriculars, Athletics, and Activities** – Our support of all the activities that provide a well-rounded educational experience for our students is important. Setting expectations for returning to practices as well as scheduling events and meetings will be important in providing structure for how we will operate in this new “norm.”

To fulfill this effort, the Board of Education will form a reopening committee that will involve all stakeholders. It is prudent for us as a district to begin planning while awaiting further directives from state and local officials. Please know that we are fully committed to sharing our plans with our entire school community and that we will keep you informed at every step along the way.

It is our hope that we will be able to welcome our students back to our schools in September, and we will earnestly work towards this goal. As we articulated earlier, our decisions and plans will be guided by health and safety officials as well as the science in keeping all members of the school community safe. Our goal is to provide the safest possible educational environment for the 2020-2021 school year.

I wish you all a restful and enjoyable summer, and I hope to see you all very soon.

Sincerely,

June Chang
Superintendent of Rockville Centre Schools