



## VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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Dr. Don Sturz  
*Superintendent of Schools*

June 30, 2020

Dear Staff and Parents:

It has only been two weeks since the last day of school instruction, but we continue to work on planning for the fall. Unfortunately, we still have not received new executive orders from Governor Cuomo nor any guidance from the New York State Education Department on school buildings re-opening. The status of COVID-19 is also uncertain. We are all anxious to know what the parameters would be for re-opening. Given all the uncertainty, it is difficult for us to plan regarding school without government guidance and difficult for you to plan regarding home and work as well. That being said, we have nonetheless been discussing and planning since the end of May.

Precautions in the buildings will follow the most current CDC and Health Department guidelines available. Use of face masks, social distancing protocols throughout the day across situations, and building cleaning regimens are all being outlined. With regard to scheduling and instruction, a few different plans are being considered so that the district has flexibility to adapt to changing conditions. Full in school attendance, staggered scheduling and full distance learning are not perfect solutions for all but do meet the needs of many and are being considered. This has all been created by input from parents, staff and students and is being reviewed by the District Safety Committee and the Board of Education.

As I indicated above, safety is the main concern. COVID-19 is unfortunately surging in many areas and much still needs to be learned about it so we can move forward safely. I hear the frustration and the aggravation, and I wish I could make that all go away. Unfortunately, I cannot. All I can do is continue to do what I have been doing, which is to consider all input, consider all options and make decisions that keep everyone safe and do what I believe is best for our children.

I will continue to keep you updated as new information becomes available.

Stay safe and be well

Dr. Don Sturz

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