



## VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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Dr. Don Sturz  
*Superintendent of Schools*

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff:

As per the New York State Education Department requirements, our district has posted a COVID-19 Reopening Plan 2020-2021 on the district website. It is the culmination of months of work based on input from all stakeholder groups through multiple meetings and surveys. The plan was also reviewed by the District Health and Safety Committee and the Board of Education. This was truly a community effort and we are grateful for the participation and support.

At this juncture, based on current guidance and keeping health and safety as our highest priority, the district will utilize the hybrid model as phase one for reopening school in September as described in the Reopening Plan posted on the website. This alternate day model will allow us to reopen in a safe and pragmatic way and assure that all protocols are being implemented with fidelity and that all students are able to comply consistently with the protocols. This plan allows for smaller cohort groups, students socially distanced six feet and desks facing in same direction in each classroom, and limited movement throughout the buildings, as per recent guidance.

We request that parents notify the district in writing by Monday, August 10 if they intend to keep their children home rather than have them attend school, so that we can plan accordingly for remote home instruction.

Parents and staff will be receiving more details regarding cohort groups, scheduling, arrival and dismissal procedures, and other pertinent information from the building principals in the coming weeks. At this time, we are planning for all Kindergarten students and students with disabilities in self-contained CID classes to attend on a daily basis given the high needs of the students in these groups.

As we move forward, we will continue to assess the status of the COVID-19 infection rate in our area as well as attend to updated guidance from the New York State Department of Education and the New York State Department of Health. Based on these factors, we will update you and make decisions about the next phase. We are prepared to be flexible and to be able to adapt as conditions change.

Building principals have been designated as the COVID-19 Safety Coordinator in each building. Please feel free to contact them at any time with questions you may have.

Stay safe and be well,

Dr. Don Sturz

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