

**WHITEHALL CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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August 5, 2021

Good evening,

Since the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year, school districts throughout New York State have been anxiously waiting to receive the promised reopening guidance from the NYS Department of Health. Last night, districts were informed that the State of New York will not be issuing any guidance for school reopening and directed that schools should be working with their local county departments of health, their regional school district partners, and our local BOCES to develop reopening plans based on the recommendations from the Center for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Although we had been anticipating guidelines to be provided by the state, over the summer months we have been working with our partners to develop a potential plan in case the state did not provide assistance.

As Superintendent and as a parent, I appreciate that there are a lot of questions on what school will look like on September 8th. To that end, during the week of August 16<sup>th</sup> I will be hosting a virtual meeting to walk through the district's reopening plan. During this meeting I will do my best to provide you with most current and up-to-date information to help you plan for the 2021-2022 school year. A link for the meeting will be posted on the district's website as we move closer to the actual meeting date. The district does plan to offer 100% in-person instruction this fall and as I had shared previously, there will not be an option for remote instruction for 21/22.

During the meeting, I will address topics to include: health screenings, masking, social distancing, health and hygiene, transportation, meals, recess and outdoor learning, as well as the county quarantine procedures. Should you be unable to attend this meeting, I will record the presentation and post the video on our website.

As always, I continue to appreciate your support and patience as we work through this challenging time together.

Best,



Patrick Dee  
Superintendent of Schools