August 6, 2021

Dear Seymour School Families and Community,

I hope you are enjoying these last sweet weeks of summer and reading one more fantastic book before we return to school on September 1, 2021.

I wanted to keep everyone informed of our most current information regarding our return to school this fall. As always, our priority is to keep everyone safe and promote a rich learning environment for all students. Please know that we receive new information almost daily from the CT State Department of Education and the CT Department of Public Health and I will do my best to keep you informed. Recently this group released interim recommendations for our return to school and you may find that guidance by clicking this link: PowerPoint Presentation (ct.gov)

We do expect further information coming soon, so please keep referring to our website at www.seymourschools.org and our Facebook page Seymour Public Schools | Facebook

Important considerations and reminders for our families:

- Seymour Schools will continue to be guided in partnership with the Department of Public Health, supported by our Naugatuck Valley Health Department, and the State of Connecticut Department of Education.
- Schools will open for fully in-person learning on September 1, 2021 for all students. Yay!
- Face coverings are required of all students and staff in all schools and on our buses.
  - The CT Governor’s Executive Order on masking in schools does not expire until September 30, 2021 and that status is subject to change.
- In-person learning is our priority, the state of CT’s priority, and the priority of our nation. All efforts will be focused on keeping our students and staff both safe and in school learning.
- There is no longer an option for voluntary remote instruction.
- Additional information will be provided regarding protocols for COVID positive cases, quarantining, and instruction prior to September 1, 2021.
- Social distancing of 3 feet or more whenever possible will be in place.
- Masks are not required when students and staff are outside.
- Building and bus cleaning protocols will continue to be in place and ventilation systems will continue to be monitored.
- After school and extra-curricular activities will begin as soon as possible to the start of school.
- Sports and student-athletes will receive additional information about interscholastic sports. At this time, the CIAC is moving forward with fall sports.
- Create a plan now to have in place in the event that your child needs to be quarantined.

I encourage you to continue to practice and model healthy habits that have kept us safe during this pandemic. Our teachers, administrators, Board of Education, and every staff member who has worked to bring us back in September eagerly await the return of our students. We look forward to starting our school year together, as a Seymour family.

Sincerely,
Vonda Tencza
Interim Superintendent, Seymour Public Schools