January 12, 2021

Dear Seymour Families,

Happy New Year! We hope that this communication finds you all healthy and well. We look forward to seeing our students in person for hybrid learning, which is scheduled to begin on Tuesday January 19, 2021. This letter contains important information regarding bus transportation, since we are returning to in person learning.

At the December 21, 2020 Special Board of Education Meeting, the Board of Education supported the reopening phase that on January 19, 2021 we would return to school in the current hybrid model with the addition of select high needs students being invited back 4 days a week. In order to accommodate the additional numbers of students, on January 19, 2021 we will be returning to the original bus numbers assigned in August, 2020.

This will mean many students will have different bus numbers and bus drivers. In addition, there will be days that the bus passes by your house and your student will not board it, because your student attends only Cohort 1 days or Cohort 2 days. The bus company and Central Office are working on the bus routes and the revised bus routes will be uploaded to Transfinder I on Wednesday, January 13, 2021. (Please go to the district’s website under Transportation and there will be a link to Transfinder I.) Any parent that has problems with getting their new busing information can reach out to the secretaries at their student’s respective school or Pat Boyle at pboyle@seymourschools.org. Please be aware that the times posted may vary by a few minutes for the first few weeks, and your patience is appreciated. Once we notice varying bus capacities, we may find a need to tweak ridership to promote social distancing.

The next phase of re-entry is tentatively scheduled for February 1, 2021 and allows for all Pre-K to Grade 5 students invited back for 5 days a week. More information about what this means for everyone will be provided as we approach that date, pending health metrics and the ability of the district to welcome back that elementary population in full. It is anticipated that after February break Grades 6-12 will return for 5 days a week as well, pending health metrics.

Mitigating strategies will continue to be in place to help keep everyone safe. All-Star Transportation will continue to board students back to front as much as possible and social distance students to the best of their ability on the buses. All students will be expected to wear their masks at all times. We are also requesting that students who live together, sit together. By doing this, it will free up seats for the other students. Buses will continue to be cleaned after every bus run. Any questions, please feel free to e-mail Sherry Holmes at sholmes@seymourschools.org.

Sincerely,

Sherry Holmes
Business Manager