



WHITNEY POINT

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Patricia A. Follette
Superintendent of Schools

Jo-Ann Sexton
Assistant Superintendent

Zachary M. Woodard
School Business Executive

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents, Students, Staff, and Community,

We have worked together to navigate the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and are looking forward to starting the new school year. Our experiences over the last four months have highlighted the importance of school and community collaboration when working toward a common goal, the education of our children.

I am sharing with you this *2020-2021 DRAFT Reopening Plan*. The plan guides how we will open our doors, physically and virtually, and is aligned with the regulations developed in collaboration with New York State and national authorities. Our commitment to the safety of our students, staff, and families was a priority when addressing the many areas outlined in this plan.

We are thankful to the many teachers, staff, administrators, parents, students, community members, and local health organizations who provided their input. To help guide our decisions, the district worked with nine committees, gathered data from multiple surveys, and called the homes of each family. If you did not speak to us, please call your child's school office. Our current plan is based on the data we collected, in addition to guidance from the New York State Education Department and the Department of Health.

Each district in our state and region faces different challenges in creating their reopening plan. The Whitney Point Central School District covers one of the largest geographical areas of any district in New York State. To transport our students, we currently have one bus run with about 60+ students on each bus. Due to suggested social distancing guidance, we need to reduce the number of students on each bus to about 20. Also, social distancing regulations require us to reduce the number of students present in a classroom at one time.

We believe we have found a balance between doing what's right for our kids, and what's safe for all. *There are many unknowns at this time, and this document will remain fluid and change as necessary based on guidance from state agencies, local health experts, as well as input from our students, staff, and families.* We hope that everyone will review this plan and be a partner in the work. Feedback is always respected and necessary if we are to change and grow together. Please see the district website for the district's full reopening plan (www.wpcsd.org). We look forward to the 2020-2021 academic year, no matter what challenges it may bring.

Sincerely,

Dr. Patricia A. Follette

Patricia A. Follette, Ed.D.

District Vision

To be a community of excellence achieved through a commitment to high performance, morale and involvement.