July 24, 2020

Dear Centennial Parents and Guardians,

We hope that you are having a safe and healthy summer. This letter provides an update on the planning that is occurring to prepare for reopening for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Like your resident school districts, Centennial School is required to create an individualized Health and Safety Plan and post the Health and Safety Plan on our website prior to reopening school. To that end, we have been reviewing and considering recommendations from various resources such as the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and local county Departments of Health.

We are also grateful for your feedback from the Fall Planning Survey. The majority of respondents indicated they wish for their child to return to school with safety precautions and social distancing measures in place. We also recognize your concerns regarding the online instruction that occurred in the spring and the difficulties that some families experienced in motivating learners and juggling responsibilities at home.

Centennial School is planning for a total reopen for all students and staff on September 2nd with adherence to social distancing and other mitigation efforts as guided by the PA Department of Health. If you are uncomfortable with your child returning to school, please contact your student’s program coordinator as soon as possible.

The first day of school is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2nd. Back to school packets will be mailed to families by August 10th. While it is our hope that we will begin the school year by offering in-person instruction, we must all be mindful that circumstances change quickly and a hybrid or fully online opening cannot be ruled out at this time as guidance from departments of health shifts.

Your local school district may be asking you to complete an Intent to Return survey for their planning purposes for transportation and enrollment. This is something separate from the survey you were invited to complete by Centennial School. If you have questions on any communications from your local school district, we encourage you to contact your district’s special education department.

Currently, there is a statewide order requiring universal face coverings (e.g., masks, face shields) that apply to students returning to school. We encourage you to begin practice face covering wearing with your child to assist in their successful return to the school setting.

Please continue to be strong, kind, and united against COVID-19.

Julie B. Fogt

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