



June 14, 2021

To all Lamoille North Families:

As we come to the end of the school year, I reflect on the unprecedented challenges that have been posed to us all: students, families, and the entire school community. We want to thank you for your support and for adapting to all the changes that have taken place over the past fifteen months.

As of this writing, Governor Scott has announced that 80% of eligible Vermonters have received a COVID-19 vaccine, clearing the way for the state to reopen. His announcement effectively brings an end to the pandemic-related restrictions imposed in March 2020.

Starting today, there are no limits on the number of people who can congregate in restaurants, performance spaces or other indoor venues. Previously, gatherings were capped at 300 unvaccinated people, plus any number of vaccinated individuals.

The State's "universal guidance" remains in effect, which encourages **unvaccinated** Vermonters to continue wearing their masks and practicing social distancing, although this is a recommendation only. For all practical purposes, Vermont has returned to its pre-pandemic norms and the State of Emergency will end Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at midnight. For all schools, we expect that fall will bring a "return to normal" five days per week of in-person instruction. As fall approaches, I will communicate any guidance that may be published.

We appreciate greatly the letters of support and kindness we have received from families and other members of our communities this past year, and although it was a challenging and complicated time, we weathered it well. Culminating with in-person graduations, for the most part, was the most wonderful way to end the school year and serves as a beacon of light for the future. Our work will continue throughout the summer with engaging and fun summer programs at each of our school sites.

Our deep gratitude must be expressed to the teams who have spent more than a year providing nutrition and resources to local families and keeping our operations moving forward and our buildings safe and clean. Our teachers, support staff, and administrators have done heroic work to deliver a myriad of learning models to our students whether in-person, via our website, email, Facebook, Zoom, Google hangouts, and a host of other online platforms. Our families have partnered with us at every step to communicate the things that worked and opportunities for doing things differently, and have come together in the best ways as a solid community of people who want the best for all of our students.

This work could not have been done as well without all of you and your constant feedback and support. We collectively thank you.

To our students: We are immensely proud of you for your resilience, adaptability and courage. We are so pleased that we were able to host end-of-year celebrations and gatherings. We are filled with joy at your successes and are so proud of you!

My hope is that all of you have a wonderful and fun-filled summer doing the things you love with the people you love.

My very best to you,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.  
Superintendent of Schools  
Lamoille North Supervisory Union