

August 9, 2020

Dear Families:

I trust you had a nice weekend and that you are all enjoying access to power following last week's storm. Since publicizing *Darien's Reopening Plan* for schools, the administration has continued to revise the plan in response to the State's changing guidance. Additionally, ongoing input from the Board of Education, local health officials, and staff and parents inform District planning efforts at the local level.

As shared last week, school districts may now make a local decision as to how they will reopen. The Department of Public Health provided guidance this week to help districts determine which scenario (In-Person, Hybrid, or Remote) is the safest for reopening. They also shared public health metrics to support district efforts in transitioning from one mode of learning to another.

As a result of the recent storm, the Board of Education's meeting scheduled for last week to discuss the plan was rescheduled for tomorrow night, Monday August 10 @ 7:00 p.m. This meeting will be conducted by Zoom for Board members and the public. The community may access the meeting and make public comment via the following link:

<https://darienps.zoom.us/j/99163568959?pwd=OFJOaXZaZllsOVdPb2JmaU5RSWILZz09>

The meeting will be recorded and posted.

The administration anticipates communicating the main details of the District's plan with parents on Tuesday. We will also share details of informational meetings via Zoom that will be scheduled over the next two weeks for parents to receive more details about the plan.

Thank you for your patience, participation and support as we work to reopen our schools. We will continue to need your assistance over the next few weeks as we partner together in making final preparations for your child(ren) to return. It is understandable that everyone may not agree with various aspects of the plan. Decisions have been made for the health and safety of students and staff with the best available metrics and consultation with State and local health officials. In doing so, we are confident in providing our students and school community with the best possible learning experience during this public health crisis.

The administration looks forward to sharing details about the plan at tomorrow's Board of Education meeting and communicating with parents shortly thereafter.

Sincerely,

Alan Addley, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools