

Sayreville Public Schools Vision 2030

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Dr. Richard R. Labbe, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Marilyn J. Shediack, Assistant Superintendent

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Talk Sup Week 0 Review and Preview

September 6, 2019



Good evening and happy Labor Day Sayreville! I hope you had a most relaxing and enjoyable summer. Please remember that our **schools** will be **closed** for instruction **tomorrow**, **Tuesday**, **September** 7th in observance of Rosh Hashanah. That being said, I would like to begin my first edition of Talk Sup this year by once again welcoming all our staff, students, and parents back to what I hope will be a much better school year than last year. However, as you know, because of the resurgence of COVID-19, it will begin with some of the same challenges that we faced last year due to the pandemic.

As per the Welcome Back email that I sent to the community last Thursday, please remember that school will officially begin for all students in grades 1-12 on Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Students in preschool and kindergarten will have their respective orientations on Wednesday afternoon, but will start school the following day on Thursday, September 9, 2021. However, please also remember that if your child is entering preschool, Kindergarten, or 6th grade, they will NOT be able to start school without up to date immunizations. Therefore, if you did not upload your updated immunization certificate when you performed your enrollment update, you MUST submit them to your child's school prior to September 8th if your child will be in 6th grade or September 9th if your child will be in preschool or kindergarten.

In addition, please remember that <u>a schedule of approximate bus stop pick up and drop off times has been **posted** on the **Transportation page of our website**. To get to that page, click <u>here</u>. If your child(ren) take a **van** rather than a bus, the driver of the van should have contacted and informed you of the estimated times of pick-up and drop-off. However, please be advised that as a result of the current bus driver shortage in New Jersey and across the country, which was compounded in Sayreville due to the sudden resignations of several drivers, we are facing serious challenges in covering all of our routes, especially those in **preschool**. Therefore, while we will do our best to cover them all, we may need to cancel some and/or double some up, which is inevitably going to result in **delays** over the first several days of the school year. As always, **please be patient** during the first couple of weeks of school, especially on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.</u>

Finally, if you have not done so already, please make sure that you visit the Parent Page of our website (www.sayrevillek12.net). It consists of an abundance of information that you will find very helpful, particularly the 2021-22 School District Calendar, the September 2021 Monthly Activities Calendar, and the 2021-22 Our Schools Guide. In addition, please take the time to read these weekly Talk Sup messages. Finally, enjoy the Bomber Blasts and tweets that stream real time in the What's Happening section on the bottom half of the homepage, as well as on each school's page, and do not forget to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. which were sent out and posted last week.

Over the holiday weekend two individuals from the high school and one from the middle school tested positive for COVID-19. After conducting contact tracing in accordance with Center for Disease Control (CDC) and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, no individuals from either school were determined to be in "close contact" with the infected people. With that said, please also remember that, as I have been reporting in my broadcast emails to the community, in early August Governor Murphy signed Executive Order 251, which requires the **wearing of masks for all students, staff, and visitors in school and on school buses** for the start of the 2021-22 school year. Thus, as per our **Safe Return Plan**, which you can access by clicking here, with the exception of

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individuals working and/or learning in non-air-conditioned spaces on days determined to be excessively hot, only students and staff with accepted documented (in an individualized education plan, 504 assistance plan, independent health plan) medical reasons, will be exempt from wearing masks. Likewise, in accordance with Executive Order 253, which Governor Murphy signed several days ago, all school district employees, including people privately contracted to work in our school buildings, will be required to be COVID-19 vaccinated by October 18, 2021 or submit to testing 1-2 times per week.

Thus, as part of our aforementioned Safe Return Plan, please remember that this Wednesday, we will resume voluntary staff/family and student/family COVID-19 testing with Back to School Solutions from 2:30 – 5 pm and voluntary vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy from 4 -7 pm in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Below, please find the tentative dates for both of these services throughout the fall. With regard to testing, since we do not test people who are demonstrating symptoms, if you are symptomatic, you should ask your healthcare provider for an appropriate testing location. If you are a staff member or the parent of a student who is interested in learning more information about how you and your residing family members can participate in this vital virus spreading prevention activity, click here. Please note that if you have already participated in testing with us, you only need to conduct a telemedicine appointment. If you have never tested with us in the past, you would need to register using the following link https://backtoworksolutions.com/SayervillePSD.html. Once you have conducted your telemedicine appointment, you will receive a prescription for the PCR test.

As mentioned above the Parlin Pharmacy will once again administer Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson and Johnson vaccine shots to anyone 12 years of age and older in the Sayreville War Memorial High School Cafeteria. Naturally, any individuals under the age of 18 will need to be accompanied by a parent/guardian, who will need to provide signed consent for the vaccination. Therefore, anyone interested in receiving the vaccine must register online in advance by clicking here or by going to the Parlin Pharmacy website. Unfortunately, for safety purposes, no "walk-ins" will be permitted into the school. In fact, with in-district COVID-19 testing, all registered participants must report to Door 22 of the high school cafeteria (adjacent to the dumpsters), where they will be screened by our security team before being allowed into the vaccination room. Below please find the tentative dates and times.

COVID-19 Testing Schedule Via Back to School Solutions

- Wednesday, September 8, 2021
- Wednesday, September 15, 2021
- Wednesday, September 22, 2021
- Wednesday, September 29, 2021
- Wednesday, October 6, 2021
- Wednesday, October 13, 2021
- Wednesday, October 13, 2021
 Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021
- Wednesday, Setober 27, 2021
 Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- Wednesday, November 24, 2021
- Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- Wednesday, December 15, 2021
- Wednesday, December 22, 2021

COVID-19 and Flu Vaccinations with the Parlin Pharmacy

- Wednesday, September 8, 2021
- Wednesday, September 15, 2021
- Wednesday, September 22, 2021
- Wednesday, September 29, 2021
- Wednesday, October 6, 2021
- Wednesday, October 13, 2021
- Wednesday, October 20, 2021
- Wednesday, October 27, 2021
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Wednesday, November 17, 2021
- Wednesday, November 24, 2021
- Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Wednesday, December 8, 2021
- Wednesday, December 15, 2021
- Wednesday, December 22, 2021

If you did not have a chance to attend the Board of Education Business Meetings held on <u>July 20th</u> (<u>Agenda</u> and <u>Addendum</u>) and <u>August 24th</u> (<u>Agenda</u> and <u>Addendum</u>), please take the opportunity to peruse the agendas and addendums by clicking on each, so that you can see what we were able to accomplish over the summer, as all



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motions on them were approved by our Board of Education. You can also view the videos of the meetings by clicking on each meeting date noted above.

Throughout the summer, our students and staff continued to impress us with their amazing accomplishments. In fact, in late June/early July, 42 members of the SWMHS Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) Chapter competed virtually in the 2021 FBLA National Leadership Conference. The entire chapter was recognized with the Gold Seal Chapter Award of Merit and Outstanding Chapter recognition, the highest and second-highest awards extended to local chapters, respectively. Christopher Howard, who is in his seventh year overseeing our chapter, was recognized as New Jersey's recipient of the Outstanding Local Chapter Advisor Award, recognition extended to just one local chapter advisor in each state. Lastly, three of our chapter teams (Community Service, Local Chapter Annual Business Report, and Business Plan) notched national wins in the competitive events programs.

The Community Service Project team consisted of sophomore Ananya Kondur, senior Neev Mistry (the Class of 2021 valedictorian), and senior Minal Patel (the Class of 2021 salutatorian). After learning that more than 80% of blindness worldwide is preventable, chapter members were galvanized to address vision issues in their community and abroad, launching their "Mission for Vision" project. Partnering with the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), Johnson & Johnson, and the Ronald McDonald House Charities, chapter members raised \$1,535 to address vision loss in the developing world. The team thanked LCIF Executive Administrator Rebecca Daou, SWMHS nurse Denise Brown, and community members for their support and encouragement.

The Local Chapter Annual Business Report team consisted of senior Ojas Chitnis (the chapter president), junior Anoop Dindigal, and junior Joshua Gorniak. Their report centered around the chapter's theme of "Back to Business", inspired by the 1985 classic film *Back to the Future*, as well as the chapter's activities throughout the school year.

The Business Plan team consisted of senior Ojas Chitnis, junior Anoop Dindigal, and junior Vihaan Easwar (the incoming chapter president). They placed first in the Business Plan event, which tasks students with developing a business plan for a new or existing venture, including an industry analysis, marketing and sales strategy, corporate governance plan, long-term development vision, and financial information. The team developed a plan for a New York-based startup that develops technologies to enhance securities trading and consumer awareness.

Senior Ann Murickan was also recognized with the highest level of the Business Achievements Awards, FBLA's national program for out-of-classroom business education; she is just the second chapter member to earn such recognition. Chapter members were eager to support the NJ FBLA state president Jaya Singh, a junior from Old Bridge, as she sought the office of National President, to which she was elected by a wide margin. Ojas Chitnis was proud to be an integral part of her campaign. Likewise, State officers Ojas Chitnis (parliamentarian) and Krina Patel (historian), the first elected from the chapter, ended their historic terms at the adjournment of the conference. Neev Mistry, who served as the chapter's first ever national council member (National Parliamentarian's Council Resources Director), also ended his term after helping to host a workshop promoting the March of Dimes, FBLA-PBL's national community service partner, at the conference.



In addition, we commend and congratulate Sayreville Middle School (SMS) 7th grader Layla Wright, who over the summer was crowned the National Junior Talent Queen. Layla wants to devote her tenure as Queen this year serving the Sayreville Community. Finally, we would like to welcome and thank all our new staff members, their incredible mentors, and our Mentor Coordinators, who participated in New Staff Member Induction/Orientation in August. Bomber Nation salutes and welcomes you to our family! Moreover, we salute these and all our students, staff, and community



members for representing Sayreville in such an impeccable manner. They Rock!



In athletics, our SWMHS Bombers Football Team kicked off the 2021 fall sports season with a hard fought but heart-breaking loss to Bridgewater-Raritan 10-7. The SWMHS soccer, field hockey, cross-country and tennis teams will open up their 2021 seasons this week. Please visit the district website and click athletics for all schedules. Win or lose, all our amazing student athletes continued to compete



fiercely and demonstrate the teamwork and sportsmanship that makes us all proud to be Bombers. Thus, we thank them and their coaches for their hard work, dedication, and the manner in which they represent SWMHS and our community. Please remember that you can see all athletic team schedules and view all the action by watching them on the live streaming links posted on the Athletics page of our website or by clicking here.



As per the 2021-22 School District Calendar and the September 2021 Monthly Activities Calendar, on Tuesday, September 21st, there will be a Board of Education Business Meeting in the SWMHS Cafeteria. In addition, please remember that our schools will be closed for instruction tomorrow, Tuesday, September 7th in observance of Rosh Hashanah and on Thursday, September 16th in observance of Yom Kippur. Likewise, please remember that students will be dismissed early on Friday, September 24th. Finally, please note that we will hold Virtual Back to School Night at each school on Wednesday, September 29th.

If you or someone you know would like to advertise with us on our website and via Bomber Blasts, you should click here and submit an inquiry with School Revenue Partners. Naturally, we will continue to Bomber Blast activity information and community service announcements for our schools and the greater community at no cost. Likewise, if you would like to advertise on our busses, click here.

Have a wonderful first week of school!

Dr. Labbe