
August 16, 2021

Dear East Islip Community,

At this time, we are currently planning for all students to return full time to school on Thursday, September 2, 2021. We are working closely with our county and state health department officials, our local and state elected officials and school districts across the county and state to formulate a safe, healthy, and unified school reopening plan based on the changing nature of the COVID pandemic.

We announced at last week's Board of Education meeting that we have a deadline of August 27, 2021, to unveil our final plan. This deadline allows us time to adjust to any last-minute directives we may receive. You will begin to receive normal back to school communications electronically from your respective building principals by Wednesday, August 25, 2021.

Ladies and Gentlemen the hot topic for reopening revolves around mask wearing. At this time the only definitive word on masking is that we have been informed that masks must be worn by students riding a school bus. This is a highly charged, emotional issue and we are working hard with the officials mentioned before to formulate the most prudent and healthy way to address this issue. We understand that everyone is under stress and is entitled to their opinion. Please continue to express your opinion by emailing us your thoughts. At times like this empathy, respect, listening, and patience are the keys to guiding us through these difficult times. Whatever your feelings, please try to put yourself in the other person's shoes to understand how they feel. We must remain respectful of each other's opinions and with the help and guidance of our medical experts and elected officials we will continue on a safe and healthy path to reopening our schools. Once again, we have set a deadline for August 27th to unveil our final plan. This gives everyone a chance to express themselves to us via e-mail. Please note our next Board of Education meeting is Thursday, August 26th at 7:00 p.m. at which time our final reopening plan will be discussed

If you are seriously considering Home Schooling your child, please go to the District Website, and click on the link for Home Schooling for information or call my office at (631) 224-2010.

Please enjoy these last few weeks of summer as we continue to plan for the best possible education for our students in a safe and healthy environment. Thank you for your patience and support.

El Pride Forever

Sincerely,

John V. Dolan
Superintendent of Schools