

## Sayville Public Schools

August 14, 2020

Dear Kindergarten Parents/Guardians,

The 2020-2021 school year is fast approaching. As per our last correspondence, our kindergarten screening procedure will look different this year. Our school nurses are an integral part of both the screening process and the daily practices of each building in order to ensure the health and safety of our students. Because we will be limiting visitors in our buildings this fall, Nurse's Office procedures will be different. **Please take note of the changes and reminders below.**

### **Immunizations**

New York State Law Section 2164 requires certain immunizations to enter kindergarten and to attend school. Please check with your health care provider as soon as possible to make sure that your child has all of the required immunizations. All immunization records must be up to date **prior to the start of school** on Thursday, September 10, 2020. Please refer to the chart found at <https://www.health.ny.gov/publications/2370.pdf> for the 2020-21 School Year New York State Immunization Requirements for School Entrance/Attendance.

### **New Procedures**

For the 2020-2021 school year, the elementary **school nurses will be in the school buildings the week prior to school opening on Tuesday, September 1st, Wednesday, September 2nd and Thursday, September 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** It is at this time that we will ask parents to go to the school building to drop off medication orders, update immunization and physical exam records, and to discuss medical concerns with the nurses. If you **only need to drop off updated records**, please feel free to mail, fax, or bring them to the school prior to these dates. **Typically, many of these tasks are done during the screening process or during the first week of school - this will no longer be the case.** We are asking that parents and guardians who need to discuss or meet about one of the above stated matters choose a day and time that is convenient for them within the parameters above. **No appointment is necessary.** Please note: When visiting your child's building, you are required to wear an appropriate face covering and/or mask and social distancing will be observed. If you are not feeling well or exhibiting any COVID-19 related symptoms, please refrain from coming to the building. Health and safety is the responsibility of all.

If your child has a significant medical concern that you would like to discuss prior to these dates, please email your school nurse directly. Contact information below:

**Teresa Lotito, R.N., Cherry Avenue Email: [tlotito@sayvilleschools.org](mailto:tlotito@sayvilleschools.org) Phone 631-244-6710  
Fax: 631-244-6707**

**Kathy Nolan, R.N., Lincoln Avenue Email: [knolan@sayvilleschools.org](mailto:knolan@sayvilleschools.org) Phone 631-244-6735  
Fax: 631-244-0242**

**Susan Rende, R.N., Sunrise Drive Email: [srende@sayvilleschools.org](mailto:srende@sayvilleschools.org) Phone 631-244-6760  
Fax: 631-244-6509**

## **Recommendations and Reminders**

1. As outlined in the District's Reopening Plan, students will be required to wear masks throughout the day. Students should be sent to school each day with **two masks**. **The CDC does not recommend using masks if they have an exhalation valve or vent as they have been shown to release respiratory droplets back into the air.** [CDC Recommendations](#). They will be given mask breaks throughout the day in addition to other times (i.e. lunch, outdoor activities) when masks will not be required. It is important to **begin preparing your child now** prior to returning. Here are three articles that you may find helpful in preparing your child to wear a mask:

### [Masks Toolkit](#)

(<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/strong-center-developmental-disabilities/resources/masks-toolkit.aspx>)

### [How to Help Children Adjust to Masks According to Parents and Experts](#)

([https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/on-parenting/how-to-help-children-adjust-to-masks-according-to-experts-and-parents/2020/08/05/c431c45c-cb7c-11ea-bc6a-6841b28d9093\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/on-parenting/how-to-help-children-adjust-to-masks-according-to-experts-and-parents/2020/08/05/c431c45c-cb7c-11ea-bc6a-6841b28d9093_story.html))

### [Masks at School: How to Prepare Your Child](#)

(<https://www.franciscanhealth.org/news-and-events/news/masks-school-how-prepare-your-child>)

2. Please send your kindergartener to school with a **change of clothes in a sealed bag labeled with their first and last name**. Suggestions: shirt, shorts/pants, underwear and socks.
3. The Emergency Contact Card and the information in Infinite Campus are our source of information when we need to reach you in case of injury or illness. This information is **extremely important**. **It is essential that we have the most up-to-date contact information for your child on file**. Additionally, the schools need to have an alternate contact person on file in case the parent or guardian is not available. Please make sure all phone numbers and email addresses are current and working. **Emergency Contact Cards will be given to your child on the first day of school**. These cards should be filled out and returned with your child the next day.
4. It is imperative, in order to curb the spread of illness amongst peers and faculty, to keep your child home when they are not feeling well. Now, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, it is even more important to take extra precautions.

As always we appreciate your support and cooperation in these very important matters. If you have any questions related to the procedures stated above, please feel free to contact me via email at [jmakris@sayvilleschools.org](mailto:jmakris@sayvilleschools.org) or via telephone at 631-244-6505. If you have a question specifically related to a medical concern, medications, immunizations etc, please reach out to the school nurse.

Sincerely,

Jillian Makris, Director of Student Services

