



**Dr. Adele V. Pecora • Superintendent of Schools**

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Thank you for your support in passing the 2020-2021 school budget, as well as your partnership with our schools over the last several months. With the academic year officially over, we are beginning to plan for September. Last month, the Board of Education established the Reopening of Schools Task Force to design an instructional plan for the start of school. Because parent/guardian input is vital, the Task Force has developed the survey embedded in this letter to gather your thoughts regarding the potential reopening of schools.

As you know, the current environment is fluid and rapidly changing. To assist you with completing the survey, below is some recent information from the New York State Department of Health:

- Ensure at least six feet of distance between individuals, unless safety or core function of the activity (e.g., instruction) requires a shorter distance.
- Ensure acceptable face coverings are worn by all staff whenever they are within six feet of students or other staff.
- School districts/schools and employees may use alternate PPE (i.e., face shields or coverings that are transparent at or around the mouth).
- Encourage, but do not require students to wear acceptable face coverings. Face coverings should not be used by children under the age of 2, or for anyone who is unable to medically tolerate such covering, including students where such covering would impair their health or mental health, or where such covering would present a challenge, distraction, or obstruction to education services and instruction.
- Adhere to hygiene, cleaning and disinfection requirements from the CDC and NYSDOH and maintain logs on site that document date, time, and scope of cleaning and disinfection.
- Designate a staff person to be responsible for responding to COVID-19 concerns. Employees should know who this person is and how to contact them.
- Implement mandatory health screening assessment before employees begin work each day, asking about (1) COVID-19 symptoms in past 14 days, (2) positive diagnostic COVID-19 test in past 14 days, and (3) close contact with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in past 14 days.
- Prohibit any employee or student who screens positive for any of the above criteria (i.e., symptoms, test, or close contact) to enter the school and send them home with instructions to contact their health care provider for assessment and testing.
- Restrict nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups.

Ensuring the safe travel of our students taking a bus to school appears to be challenging at this moment. Our current bus company informed us of the following guidelines:

- Due to social distancing, only 12 students will be able to ride in a large bus and 4 students in a minibus.
- Students are not required to wear face masks.
- Students assigned to a bus cannot be denied entry.

- Buses are disinfected in compliance with CDC guidelines every night.
- Buses cannot be disinfected in between routes.

As it stands presently, if the situation does not change, we may need to recommend to the Seaford community an alternative plan for students' bus travel to and from school for the 2020-2021 academic year. Getting our children to school safely and reliably is paramount to being able to return to school.

Over the last few months, there have been significant shifts in recommended practices for school health and safety. Please know that the Seaford School District will adhere to guidelines issued by the Governor's Office, New York State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Our goal is to return to a traditional school environment as soon as possible while providing safe conditions for students, teachers and staff.

Please click here to complete the survey: [Parent Survey](#)

Thank you for your participation in filling out this important survey and I wish you a healthy and restful summer!

Yours in Seaford Pride,

*Adele V. Pecora*

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Superintendent of Schools