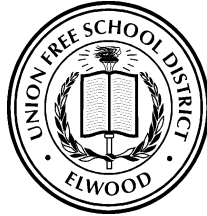


Elwood Union Free School District  
*Office of the Superintendent of Schools*  
100 Kenneth Avenue  
Greenlawn, NY 11740  
Phone: 631-266-5400  
Fax: 631-266-3834



Board of Education  
James Tomeo, President  
Heather Mammolito, Vice President  
Thomas Scarola, Member  
Sara Siddiqui, MD, Member  
Deborah Weiss, Member

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**Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D.**  
**Superintendent of Schools**

August 27, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are enjoying the final few days of the summer of 2021. The administration, faculty and staff are working hard to prepare for the return of students on Thursday, September 9. We look forward to welcoming them back for the 2021-22 school year.

As you are aware, the administration has been working throughout the summer to evaluate all recommendations and requirements related to COVID-19 management. The presentation made at the August 17 Board of Education meeting can be found on the district website here:

[http://www.elwood.k12.ny.us/Assets/Reopening/081821\\_Reopening\\_presentation\\_8-17-21\\_v10.pdf?t=637648938906970000](http://www.elwood.k12.ny.us/Assets/Reopening/081821_Reopening_presentation_8-17-21_v10.pdf?t=637648938906970000) Thank you to the members of the community who took the time to provide feedback to the plan using the [Reopening21@Elwood.K12.NY.US](mailto:Reopening21@Elwood.K12.NY.US) email address. Your feedback has been shared with the Board of Education and district administration.

Earlier this week, New York's newly appointed Governor, Kathy Hochul, announced that universal masking would be required for all public schools in New York State. As of the writing of this letter, we have not yet received the written guidance document from the New York State Department of Health to support the announcement made. However, we have been given every indication that it will arrive imminently. As soon as the document is received, it will be posted to the district website.

Barring any changes from Albany, the attached FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) document illustrates the essential elements of the plan we intend to follow when faculty/staff return on September 2 and students return on September 9. Please review it at your convenience. In addition, the plan will, once again, be reviewed at the public meeting of the Board of Education on Thursday, September 2 at 7:30 p.m. (in the EMS auditorium).

If you have any specific questions or concerns, please contact the appropriate district administrator or my office directly. Enjoy your weekend, and please stay healthy and safe.

Warm Regards,

Kenneth R. Bossert, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools