

PINE PLAINS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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May 7, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you know, last week the Governor closed school buildings in New York State for the remainder of the school year. While an unfortunate decision, it was necessary given the structure and logistics of how school works. There is no way that we could safely open schools at this time.

It is my belief that this situation will continue to evolve at a rate similar to what we have experienced since mid-March. In the immediate future we are working on plans for students to gather their personal belongings. You have received or will receive information from principals on this topic. Decisions on summer school and the like will be made later in May to allow time for evolution of the situation and further information to become available. Rushing to make decisions now would likely be futile as information changes often.

Later in May or early June, as we know more, we will provide information regarding the senior awards night, graduation and moving up ceremonies. We hope to also have a more solid "end of remote learning" date. When we do, we will organize procedures to return laptops and schoolbooks, pick up yearbooks and the like and get that information to you.

Many people are asking about September. The Governor has acknowledged that reopening schools will be a major undertaking. It is our understanding that multiple groups are being assembled from a variety of departments to analyze this process and what it might look like. The County Executive has offered the services of the County Department of Health to assist schools when the time for reopening arrives.

The school budget vote and election have been scheduled for June 9th. Residents will get information on how to vote in the mail. The requirements of this election will be cumbersome and very costly to every school district in the state as we move to mailed paper ballots and return envelopes.

As information is available to us we will pass it on to you. Once again, if you have any questions please email me at m.handler@ppcsd.org or call the office at 518 398 7181 ext. 1401.

Until then, stay well.

Martin D. Handler
Superintendent