April 8, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I am writing to update you on the latest events at the Pine Plains Central School District. This week, all three of our schools transitioned to four days of in-person instruction. An overwhelming number of students have taken that option, although we still have some students on full-remote learning.

Thanks to a great deal of hard work by the staff in preparing for this change, things are going well. We are observing social distancing to the greatest extent possible with masks worn at all times, except for eating and short mask breaks. I am confident that our students and staff will observe the precautions necessary to maintain a safe environment in our schools.

Interscholastic athletics are underway for the shortened Fall II season. Girls’ soccer, volleyball, field hockey and football have games through the end of next week. Unfortunately, we did not have sufficient sign-ups for boys’ soccer or cross-country. The spring season of baseball, softball and track will begin in mid-April. The plan is to offer modified (junior high) sports if there is sufficient interest. If your student wishes to play this spring, Family ID is now open. Please call the athletic office if you have a question about a student’s eligibility.

Next week you will be receiving a brochure describing the proposed capital improvement project. Outlined in the brochure are the details of the project. In brief, the work necessary addresses a number of serious health and safety concerns at each of our school buildings. You can access the brochure now at our website by clicking on the heading marked “Capital Project”. You can also open a link to a six-minute video that describes in detail the project work. As you review this information, if you have any questions you can contact me at m.handler@ppcsd.org. If you have questions regarding the financial arrangements for the project, please contact Mr. Michael Goldbeck, Assistant Superintendent for Business & Finance at m.goldbeck@ppcsd.org.

A final thought, it is great having almost all of the students back in the school buildings. The vibe from having our youngsters back with us is special and has been greatly missed.

As always, be well and stay safe.

Dr. Martin Handler
Superintendent