



# WEST SENECA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**Matthew J. Bystrak**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

July 8, 2020

Dear Members of the West Seneca School Community,

I hope this letter finds all the members of our school community healthy and enjoying the summer. With all the attention placed on the resumption of schools in the fall, I thought it important to outline some of the steps we are taking within our district to prepare for a safe and meaningful educational experience this September as we continue to navigate the challenges associated with the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are engaged in a planning process that will continue in a variety of forms throughout the summer and will result in a district-wide plan that will address the safety, educational, and social-emotional needs of the members of our school community. Below are just some of the measures we have taken thus far. We have:

- Begun reopening planning sessions including a wide variety of members of our faculty and staff. The purpose of these planning sessions is largely logistical in that we are working to identify areas of concern that exist within the scope of our typical school environment as well as potential solutions that will mitigate these concerns and risks to the maximum degree possible.
- Solicited feedback from stakeholders (staff, families, and students) regarding the return to school in September through various mechanisms including but not limited to a multi-district survey.
- Purchased Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and products such as hand sanitizer that will help to safeguard our students, staff, and any visitors to our campus.
- Secured additional supplies and equipment that will enable us to establish and maintain a more rigorous cleaning regimen responsive to the needs associated with COVID-19.
- Purchased of Chromebooks for all students and teachers.
- Developed and begun implementation of a multi-phase approach to training teachers in Google Classroom. This training will continue through the summer and into the fall. Additionally, we are in the process of developing resources that will enhance the ability of our parents and families to assist their children in accessing their education remotely in the event this becomes necessary in the future.

- Engaged our educators and curricular leaders in strategic planning around our academic programming in order to ensure our students have the enriching educational experience they deserve.

It is important to note that our plans are subject to change based on expected guidance from State officials sometime in the coming days or weeks. Ultimately, there is no higher priority than the safety and well-being of our students and the members of our school community. As a district, we are committed to providing an educational program that is both safe and helps our students to grow as learners and as people. We will continue to communicate with our stakeholders as the planning process progresses throughout the summer. I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to you, the members of our school community, for your continued dedication and involvement during these challenging times.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Bystrak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" and last name "Bystrak" clearly legible.

Matthew J. Bystrak

Superintendent of Schools