

In this week's Parent Update, we want to share important information and updates about:

- Opening of School updates
- Current COVID updates
- Superintendent appointment

OPENING OF SCHOOL

The first day of school is coming fast! Here is a link to the school calendar for the 2021-2022. Please take a few minutes to review the important dates and please contact your child's school if you have any questions.

https://www.eastwindsork12.org/files/8216/1011/4621/2021-2022_Calendar.pdf

Information for students is being sent through the Portal and also being shared on the EWPS website so please check for updates.

Information about kindergarten registration and orientation can be found here. Orientation has been changed to a virtual event.

https://www.eastwindsork12.org/files/1116/2870/6041/2021-Kindergarten_Registration_Letter.pdf

A reminder that all students are expected to attend school in person for the upcoming school year. The CSDE no longer requires districts to offer voluntary, remote learning and the East Windsor schools will not be providing this option.

COVID PROTOCOLS

The Department of Public Health has issues interim guidance for schools. This guidance was issued on July 25 and no changes have been shared as of this date. I anticipate that there will be changes or at least updates between now and the start of school. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we wait for official guidance from DPH and/or the Governor's office.

Parent Updates will be provided weekly going forward so please look for those as well as check the School Year 2021-2022 tab on the East Windsor Public School website for ongoing updates.

Masks

Based on the current guidance from DPH, all staff and students will be required to wear masks in school regardless of their vaccination status. This guidance is provided consistent with an Executive Order still in place from the Governor's office requiring masks in school buildings. The CDC currently requires masking on transportation so all

students must wear masks on the buses. Masks are not required when students are outside for physical education or recess.

Masks must still cover both the mouth and nose and may not include vents.

We are providing additional space as feasible within our classrooms and in the school environments. Students will be using individual desks again this year rather than tables to help reduce possible spread of illness. We will have additional space available for lunch since students will have their masks off to eat.

Information about fall athletics has just been shared and is being reviewed with athletic directors at the state level next week. More information will be shared in the Parent Updates and on the EWPS Athletics page of the website.

Our buses will have more students riding than last year given the change to all in-person learning. As shared, the CDC mandates masks on public transportation which includes school buses. Please help ensure your child has a mask on when getting on the bus. We will be using seating charts to help with contact tracing and the bus company will have windows open unless the weather prohibits to increase ventilation.

We have received clarification from the Department of Education that remote learning will not be permitted for inclement weather days to count as part of the mandatory 180 days of school. The traditional structure of delays, early dismissal or "snow days" will be in place this upcoming year.

SUPERINTENENT'S APPOINTMENT

I am pleased to share that Dr. Patrick Tudryn has been named as the next Superintendent of the East Windsor schools. Dr. Tudryn has worked in the district for many years as a teacher, assistant principal and now as Assistant Superintendent. Please join me in wishing him well in his new position. His appointment is effective August 18.

If anyone has questions, please feel free to email or call my office or the main office for your child's school. While staff will take vacation time during the summer months, we will check email or provide an alternative contact in our absences.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy last few weeks of summer.

Christine