



BROCKPORT

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Sean C. Bruno, Superintendent of Schools

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Howard A. Zucker, M.D., J.D., Commissioner of Health
New York State Department of Health
Corning Tower
Empire State Plaza,
Albany, NY 12237

February 19, 2021

Dear Dr. Zucker,

Thank you for your leadership through this pandemic. The safety protocols issued by you, Governor Cuomo and the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) have resulted in our schools being safe.

I am proud to inform you that our staff, students, unions, families and community have supported following the safety protocols with fidelity, which has resulted in no COVID-19 transmission on our campus. Furthermore, our staff and unions have been, and continue to be, supportive in delivering a safe environment while maximizing in-person and remote learning opportunities as well as providing athletics and clubs for our students. Students, families and community members have partnered with our District to provide equal levels of support. As such, we believe our District, along with many others in our State, has been a model for our Country.

While we appreciate the safety aspects, we have witnessed that there is a significant price to pay academically as well as socially and emotionally for our children. Furthermore, remote learning has had discriminatory effects. We firmly believe the best form of education for our children is in-person, full-time. If we want what is best for our children, we certainly cannot continue the current educational models indefinitely.

We respectfully request that you, Governor Cuomo and the NYSDOH use the data, information and experiences from the past six months of schools operating safely as well as the increased vaccination rates and decreased infections rates to update current safety protocols and create and communicate clear, precise, full re-opening metrics for schools without further delay. Due to the six-foot distancing guideline being the most significant challenge in bringing more students back on a more regular basis, we also respectfully request that the updates and full re-opening metrics include specific science-based, safe guidance on social distancing when masked and unmasked specific to classrooms, buses, breakfast, lunch, mask breaks and in hallways.

Our children, staff and families deserve these updates and metrics without further delay. Furthermore, this information is critical to successfully plan for the upcoming year and required immediately.

We are confident that you have already been working diligently on this, and we expect to receive this guidance in the upcoming weeks. We look forward to working with you facilitating increased in-person learning opportunities for our students.

Thank you again for your time, support and dedication!

Sincerely,

Sean C. Bruno