

SULLIVAN WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

33 Schoolhouse Road, Jeffersonville, New York 12748

Kathleen Bressler, Ed.D Interim Superintendent of Schools

Tel. (845) 482-4610 ext. 3000 Fax (845) 482-3022

February 14, 2022

Dear Bulldogs,

I hope the letter finds you and your loved ones well. Over the past few weeks, the Governor's mask mandate has been a topic in the news across the State. Last week the Governor lifted its statewide mask requirement for indoor businesses, but it was not lifted for schools causing confusion and frustration. Currently the Governor's school mask mandate is in effect. Local districts do not have the legal authority, authorization or power via the superintendent, nor the board of education to alter the mask mandate. That change must come from the Governor's Office, the New York State Department of Health (DOH), the New York State Education Department (NYSED), and our local Department of Health. Sullivan West Schools continue to follow all mandates, guidelines and regulations. The implementation of these safety measures increases our ability to provide five days a week, in-person instruction for all our students.

We do, however, anticipate a change in the Governor's mask mandate in schools in the next couple of weeks. As with any change we expect significant guidance for schools from NYSED and DOH. In anticipation of a change, our District Steering Team, Building Re-Opening Committees and School Board Members have been deeply invested in developing plans for a mask-optional school environment. The priority of the District, is to do so in a way that is compassionate and considerate for all, including those students, staff, and families that have significant health needs. To that end we are offering the following:

- 1. If your student has a significant medical need, please reach out to Mrs. Sheri Parucki, Interim Director of Student Services at paruckishe@swcsd.org or (845) 482-4610 x3011. She will be there to answer questions and assist you with your students' needs.
- 2. We are offering a vaccination clinic to be held Tuesday, March 1st, with a follow-up clinic on Tuesday, March 22nd. The clinic is offered to anyone in our school community. Please see the links below from our local health department to sign up for Pfizer Boosters, Pediatric Pfizer or a Pfizer Vaccination.
- 3. New guidance was issued for Test to Stay programs. Sullivan West is currently seeking a temporary nurse to assist with starting the program.
- 4. We continue to have test kits available for any student by parent request. For a kit, please contact your school nurse.

We appreciate everyone's continued patience and understanding as we look ahead to new guidance. Above all, we recognize that this is an emotionally charged topic, and we ask for a continued respectful environment where we can hear all voices and work toward solutions for our students, families, faculty, and staff with kindness.

We will let you know if there are any changes regarding masks in schools. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns to bresslerkat@swcsd.org or (845) 482-4610 x3000.

With care,

Kathleen Bressler, Ed.D Interim Superintendent of Schools

"...enriching the lives of all students"

Links to sign up for the vaccination clinics:

3/1/22- Pfizer Booster clinic- for anyone >12 yrs old that received 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna more than 5 months ago or single dose of Janssen 2 months ago.

 $\underline{https://apps2.health.ny.gov/doh2/applinks/cdmspr/2/counties?DateID=D784A988332B024CE0530A6C7C1664D4}$

3/22/22- Pfizer Booster clinic- for anyone >12 yrs old that received 2 doses of Pfizer or Moderna more than 5 months ago or single dose of Janssen 2 months ago.

https://apps2.health.ny.gov/doh2/applinks/cdmspr/2/counties?DateID=D784A988332D024CE0530A6C7C1664D4

3/1/22- Pediatric (5-11 yrs old) Pfizer 1st dose- second dose is automatically scheduled for 3/22/22 https://apps2.health.ny.gov/doh2/applinks/cdmspr/2/counties?DateID=D784A988332F024CE0530A6C7C1664D4

3/1/22- Pfizer (12+ yrs old) Pfizer 1st dose- second dose is automatically scheduled for 3/22/22 https://apps2.health.ny.gov/doh2/applinks/cdmspr/2/counties?DateID=D784A9883333024CE0530A6C7C1664D4