

Floral Park-Bellerose School District

Administration Office

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KATHLEEN SOTTILE, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

September 24, 2020

Dear Parents,

As we are concluding our second week of school, we are excited to share that the students are doing amazing, adjusting to the new protocols. We are very proud of them and thankful to our entire staff for establishing the routines necessary to keep everyone safe and healthy, which is and will continue to be our priority.

As I communicated to you this past Saturday, September 19th, we have been working closely with our administrative team and staff to transition to the next phase of our reopening plan. We are working to expand our in-school learning plan, which will enable more students to safely return to our schools. Our State approved Re-entry Plan was designed to be fluid and, as such, has allowed us to monitor our progress on a daily basis using multiple criteria and determine when adjustments can be safely made to our current instructional programs.

Why do we believe we can begin this conversation and make changes?

- Arrivals and dismissals have been smooth as observed by the timeliness of the students entering and exiting the building following the school protocols.
- Ridership on our buses has been low. Thank you to all parents who have been dropping off and picking up their children. We are asking all that are able, to continue to support us in this way which allows for more spacing on our buses.
- Mask breaks have successfully been included in all daily schedules.
- Recess has been included in all daily schedules.
- Outdoor schedules have been successfully implemented.
- Movement in the buildings has been systematic.
- Bathroom use and proper hygiene protocols have been closely supervised by our hall monitors without issue.
- Cleaning protocols are routine including, but not limited to, regular cleaning of high touch areas and daily classroom cleaning and disinfecting.
- Eating lunch in the classrooms has gone smoothly.
- The regional COVID-19 rate has continued to remain low.
- Our school nurses are professionally managing all questions and concerns associated with students feeling ill.
- Our online systems are nearly 90% back up and running.

- Since the K-2 room set-ups have been successful, additional barriers are scheduled to arrive next week. In our K-2 rooms, a three-sided polycarbonate desk top barrier has been provided for every student and will now be provided for every 3-6 grade student.

The district has also been able to put into place many additional aspects to support staff and students, including hiring additional aides, custodians and teachers. We have also purchased tents, which will be arriving this week. This will enable students to benefit from a variety of outdoor activities, weather permitting.

Due to the above mentioned, we are excited to put the following schedule into place to increase the number of students in the buildings:

September 30 (Grade 3)	Beginning September 30, all HYBRID 3rd grade students will return to school five days a week . School hours will remain the same.
September 30 (Grades 4-6)	Due to the school closure on September 28, All HYBRID Cohort A (Mon./Tues.) students will come into school on Wednesday, September 30 . Cohort B will be at home working on independent work. Specials will be as scheduled.
October 5 (Pre-K)	Our Pre-K program begins.
October 7 (Grades 4-6)	During our last Wednesday (October 7) of the HYBRID program for grades 4-6, we will extend the live teaching hours to include other content area material.
October 13 (Grades 4-6)	Beginning October 13, all HYBRID 4-6 grade students will return to school five days a week . School hours will remain the same.
October 13 (All Remote by Choice Families)	A letter will go out to our all-remote-by-choice families to inquire if they are remaining all-remote or if their children will be returning to school for the next trimester.

****OUR HYBRID MODEL WILL BE SUSPENDED AS OF OCTOBER 9th. (last day)**

****ALL PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO ADDITIONAL CHANGE, INCLUDING OUR RETURN TO HYBRID OR FULLY REMOTE IF OUR REGIONAL OR LOCAL COVID RATES INCREASE TO CONCERNING LEVELS OR THE IMPOSITION OF ADDITIONAL STATE REQUIREMENTS. IF FOR ANY REASON A SCHOOL OR SCHOOLS CLOSE, PLEASE REFER TO YOUR REMOTE SCHEDULE PROVIDED BY YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHERS AND/OR RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS.**

As always, if you have any questions, please reach out to me or your building administrators.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kathleen Sottile
Superintendent of Schools