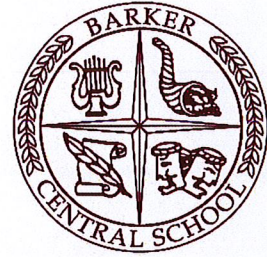


# Barker Central School

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**Jacob L. Reimer**

Superintendent of Schools

716.795.3832

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8/4/2021

Dear Barker Learning Community,

It is amazing to think that we are already halfway through our summer recess and the start of school this fall is just around the corner with our students returning to the buildings on September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We are extremely excited about seeing all our kids walk back through our doors in about 5 weeks. And, while we do not have final guidance yet, we are eagerly anticipating and planning for full-time, 5-day per week, in-person learning for all of our students.

It should be noted that while we expect to have all of our students back for in-person learning, at this time we are anticipating that all individuals within the school building and while on busses will likely be required to wear masks. To date, much of the information being released by various agencies, including but not limited to the CDC, the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Education, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, are recommending that all individuals wear masks inside of school buildings/buses, regardless of their vaccination status.

Again, we do not have final guidance, but this is what we currently expect we will have to do. As always, when final guidance is released by the New York State Department of Health, we will be sure to let the entire Barker Learning Community know exactly what school will look like for our students and staff when we return.

We also know there are some families who may wish to continue with a remote learning option for various reasons. As of today, unless required by the state, the district does not plan to provide for remote learning within the District. However, we are looking to partner with other regional and statewide educational institutions to offer digital learning opportunities for students who have a medical reason for not attending school in person. Students needing this option will not be taught by Barker teachers but by others outside of the District.

With this in mind, we are asking families to contact the main office of the school your child(ren) attend (Jr.-Sr. High School - 716-795-3227, Pratt Elementary School - 716-795-3237) between 8:30 am and 3 pm, to let us know if you wish to enroll your child(ren) in the remote learning option this fall. Written documentation from your medical provider will be required for enrollment in the remote learning

option and you will be notified if your child is eligible after a review of all documentation provided to the District.

We are asking that parents notify us with their request by August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in order for your child to be considered for remote learning this fall. Please note that if you choose to enroll your child in digital learning to start the school year, they will not be able to attend in-person learning in the Barker Central School District for the entire 21-22 school year and must remain in the remote option for the entire school year.

Again, as the most up-to-date guidance is released to school districts across New York State, we will continue to review what we are able to do within the Barker Central School District. Further, we will update the entire Barker Learning Community as soon as we are able so everyone has as much time as possible to plan for the return to school this fall.

Please continue to have a fun and safe summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Reimer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jacob Reimer  
Superintendent of Schools