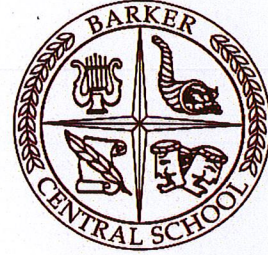


Barker Central School

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Jacob L. Reimer
Superintendent of Schools
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8/31/2021

Dear Barker Learning Community,

We are getting closer to bringing all of our students in next week on September 7th. The excitement is palpable and we can't wait to see our kids walk through the doors next Tuesday.

As we noted in a communication to the community on August 20th, Barker has been planning for a full return to in-person learning this fall. However, we were waiting on anticipated guidance from our Governor related to the opening of school before finalizing our framework for returning. The guidance we were waiting on came over the weekend and, as we expected, Governor Hochul implemented a mandate for staff and students to wear masks during most of the school day while inside school buildings and when on buses. Specifically, all individuals must wear masks during the day at all times when inside a school building or on a school bus, except when eating, drinking, or when being provided a mask break with specific physical distancing requirements being maintained. When students and staff are outside, masks are not required but will continue to be strongly recommended.

As such, the framework for returning to school that was provided on August 20th has been amended to include the District following any mandates that are passed down from the Federal, State or Local levels. A revised version of the framework is posted to the District website for your review.

Again, due to the mandates passed down by New York State, all individuals inside the school buildings will be required to wear masks until further notice.

Please continue to respect each other's views as they relate to masking in our schools. The respect, compassion, and tolerance we have for our fellow community members will strengthen our entire community as we continue our return to normal.

Please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

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

Jacob Reimer

Superintendent