

Dear Pioneer Pleasant Vale Parents,

As the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year draws to a close, I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience, understanding, and willingness to help during these last ten, unprecedented months of 2020. Without your help, our students would not have been able to experience in-person learning at school as much as they were able to this year. I want you to know that your efforts to keep your student healthy at home and at school are greatly appreciated and have made a huge impact on our school being able to navigate Covid-19 and stay open for in-person learning these past four and a half months. Your teamwork, along with our staff's, has been imperative to our overall success and is a good reason why I believe we will continue to have in-person learning at Pioneer Pleasant Vale in spite of Covid-19. I feel tremendously blessed to have parents and a community that values our students' health and education.

I'd also like to take a moment and say how thankful I am to have a staff of dedicated school board members, principals, teachers and support staff who have gone above and beyond for our students and school thus far this year. Through their commitment, they have put their personal health on the line to show up each and every day to teach our students while risking sickness from Covid-19. They have worked many long hours of their own time, learning new skills so that they can offer more effective lessons on distance and virtual learning for our students.

Entering this very unusual school year, our goal as a district has been to minimize down time and ensure that our students never miss out on important information. Our teachers and staff have spent countless hours during the summer and evenings after school making packets and preparing lessons for students who may have been quarantined. They have also done their very best to accommodate all the changes that have been thrown their way by the CDC, Health Department, and State while keeping focus on their students. Although it has not been perfect, I am proud of our Pioneer Pleasant Vale family.

In a year that some might consider to be miserable and forgettable, I prefer to focus on the blessings we share in and around Pioneer Pleasant Vale Public Schools, from the community we live in, the school district we work for, the people we work with, and the students we have the opportunity to teach every day. I am truly thankful to be part of something so worthwhile, and I appreciate the opportunity to build on and add to the strong foundation and tradition of Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools.

I hope and pray that 2021 brings some form of normalcy back to our community and that you stay safe and healthy as you celebrate this joyous season of Christmas. Please remember that the week of January 4-8, 2021 will be virtual instruction and we will resume in-person learning on the 12th. I speak for all of the Pioneer Pleasant Vale school board and staff when I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Brent Koontz
Superintendent
Pioneer Pleasant Vale Schools