



June 6, 2021

Dear North Babylon Community,

As I indicated in my communication on Saturday, June 5 2021, I would like to share the most updated information I have received regarding the Department of Health letter to the CDC from June 4, 2021. At 1:43pm this afternoon all Superintendents in New York State received the following email communication (copied below) from the New York State Department of Education:

### *Mask Guidance for K-12 Schools*

*NYSED P-12*

*1:43 pm*

*Dear Colleagues,*

*As of September 1, 2020, school districts were permitted to reopen, under Executive Order 202.60, "subject to adherence to Department of Health issued guidance and directives." These have included the submission of reopening plans to address, among other things, distancing and health requirements.*

*SED has been in communication with Executive staff regarding the attached letter from Dr. Howard Zucker, New York State Commissioner of Health. According to conversations with Executive staff, the intent of this letter was to obtain a response from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding differing standards for summer camps and schools; it has not changed any existing arrangements. **Therefore, schools should continue to operate under their existing procedures until further notice.** No changes have been, or will be, made by the Executive until after Monday June 7 to afford the CDC an opportunity to respond to the letter.*



Based on the information in this correspondence from the State Education Department, and in line with all of our Western Suffolk BOCES School District neighbors, our **current mask requirements will be in place tomorrow, Monday, June 7, 2021 and until further notice or updated guidance changing current practices.** As always, I will share any additional information I receive from the Department of Health, the Governor, or the State Education Department regarding a change to the current mask requirements.

As we approach warmer weather, we will be providing more mask breaks for our students and look to take advantage of more time learning labs outside. Our Board of Education, administration, teachers, and staff are committed to successfully educating our students and ensuring they are safe and comfortable during their time in our schools.

Thank you for your patience, continued support and adherence to all of the protocols put in place to ensure a safe and healthy school environment for our students and staff. With our community following the safety protocols adopted in our Reopening Plan, North Babylon has done an outstanding job keeping our schools open throughout the school year and ensuring that our students and staff are safe at all times.

I look forward to a smooth end of the school year and celebrating the many successes of our students.

Sincerely,

Glen A. Eschbach  
Superintendent