

## Lebanon Public Schools

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ROBERT J. ANGELI, Superintendent of Schools robert.angeli@lebanonct.org

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Dear Parents and Guardians.

I hope this letter finds everyone continuing to be safe and healthy as you enjoy the summer months. Below are some updates regarding school opening and reminder about the summer meal program.

## Reopening

The State has mandated that when schools reopen to students and staff, all people will be required to wear masks. There is no option for local decisions for wearing masks. People who have documented medical reasons not to wear a mask will be exempt. The State plan to reopen schools requires districts to plan for 3 reopening scenarios:

- 1. All students return to school every day. Parents may opt to keep their children home for distance learning.
- 2. A hybrid model where, on an alternating schedule, half the students come to school and half stay home for distance learning. Parents may opt to keep their children home for distance learning.
- 3. All students stay home for distance learning.

Look for a short survey coming soon to get your feedback on an alternating schedule for a hybrid model of instruction.

We have a Reopening Committee of 50 people working on details for each of these three reopening models. The Reopening Committee has divided up the work into these subcommittees: Health/Safety; Curriculum, Instruct and Assessment; Special Education; Scheduling and Operations; Professional Learning and Evaluation; Social/Emotional Learning; Sports, Clubs and Activities; and Staffing Concern and Contracts.

We had 719 responses to the recent parent survey for reopening schools. Thank you for participating. We understand that it may have been difficult to answer some questions because you did not have details that you may have wanted. Once we have a draft plan to submit to the state, we will share that plan with you and you will have opportunity to provide more input. It is very likely that adjustments to the plan will be made throughout the summer. Results from the survey are included with this letter.

This week, the State Board of Education reduced the school year for students from 180 days to 177 days. The three days will be used by district staff to continue planning and preparation for a safe reopening. We will recommend the school calendar be adjusted with the first day of school for students to be August 31, 2020. We will also recommend the first 2 weeks of school be early release days. We will communicate the calendar changes as soon as the Board of Education has approved them.

We have placed copies of Connecticut State Department of Education documents on safe reopening of schools on the district website, <a href="https://www.lebanonct.org/o/central-office/page/school-reopening-information">https://www.lebanonct.org/o/central-office/page/school-reopening-information</a>.

## Summer Meal Program Reminder

We have received a waiver to continue with the meal program for July and August. This started July 1 and will end on August 21. See below for new summer days and times.

ALL students of the Lebanon Public Schools and ALL school age children, including non-Lebanon residents, are eligible to receive free meal packages. The children do not have to be present at meal pick up. It is OK to have someone do the pick-up for you.

Pick up Location: Lyman Memorial High School

Days/Times: Every Monday and Thursday 8:00 a.m to 9:00 a.m.

Monday packages will have 3 breakfasts and 3 lunches Thursday packages will have 4 breakfasts and 4 lunches

Sincerely,

Robert J. Arigeli Superintendent of Schools