

Regional School Unit No. 56

147 Weld Street, Dixfield, Maine 04224

Phone: (207)562-4300 - Fax: (207)562-6075

www.rsu56.org

Pam Doyen, Superintendent of Schools

August 7, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We all want school to resume as “normal,” however, under the current pandemic conditions and the MDOE/CDC requirements, school will look different as we start the 2020-21 school year. Because we are well-aware that families have varying health and safety needs, we want to offer our families two choices for schooling in RSU 56:

1. in-school learning (students attend school daily and follow all MDOE/CDC guidelines) or
2. virtual learning (students learn online from home)

The RSU 56 School Board has approved the RSU 56 Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction. The full framework can be found at www.rsu56.org. RSU 56 will be following all MDOE and CDC guidelines for students opting for in-school learning. These guidelines include, but are not limited to, wearing facemasks, social distancing and frequent hand cleaning or sanitizing. All students who opt for in-school learning must comply with the established guidelines as outlined both in schools and on the bus.

For families who are not comfortable with in-school learning, virtual learning will be provided by RSU 56. Please know that virtual learning may look different from school to school within RSU 56. If families choose to participate in virtual learning, students must show up for scheduled classes or individual tutoring sessions and complete assignments. Virtual learning will be graded. Attendance will be taken. Although students will be issued an RSU 56 device (laptop or i-pad depending on grade), families should have connectivity in order to participate fully. If you choose virtual learning for your child(ren), this decision will remain in effect until the end of the first quarter/trimester at which time you may opt back into in-school learning by contacting your child(ren)'s building principal.

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At this time, we are asking all families to complete an RSU 56 2020-21 Student Registration form that indicates whether you will be opting for in-school learning or virtual learning for your child(ren).

Here is the link to the RSU 56 2020-21 Student Registration form (you will need to type the link into your web browser): www.tinyurl.com/Dirigo2020

The RSU 56 2020-21 Student Registration Form can also be found at www.rsu56.org or on any of our social media pages.

Please complete the RSU 56 2020-21 Student Registration Form by Friday, August 14, 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pam Doyen".

Pam Doyen, Superintendent of Schools