

SOUTHPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL



Home of the Seals
where we make learning happen

P.O. Box 279 438 Hendrick's Hill Road Southport, ME 04576 southport.aos98.net

August 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Enclosed with this letter is this year's School Handbook, the Reopening Schools document, the revised school calendar for 2020-2021, and the letter I emailed out to you all last week. I hope you will take the time to read over everything, knowing there are many changes happening due to Covid-19.

There have been a few questions asked of me recently, and I will do my best to answer them for you. Please know that changes from the Department of Education (DOE) and CDC are coming my way daily; I will do my best to keep you informed.

Will the school be supplying face masks for my child?

No, parents are expected to see that the children board the bus, or arrive at school with them already on. We will, however, have a supply of extras on hand to give out to students who need them.

Is it okay for my child to wear a face shield instead of a face mask?

This language was taken from the DOE website on August 12, 2020...

Face shields may be an alternative for those students with documented medical or behavioral challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings. (Updated 8/12/20). The same applies to staff with medical or other health reasons for being unable to wear face coverings. Face shields worn in place of a face covering must extend below the chin and back to the ears.

This would mean that a child or staff member would need a doctor's note to be approved for wearing a face shield instead of a mask.

Is there a specific type of mask required?

No, although they must cover the face and nose.

How do I get school supplies for my child this year?

Thankfully, the Southport Island Association (SIA) is meeting that need this year. You can count on a new backpack, lunchbox, and school-requested supplies for your child - all which will be ready for distribution by the first day of school. I will let you know how and when they will be distributed.

When can I speak with someone to help me decide about in-person learning, remote learning or homeschooling?

I will be calling all homes during the week of August 17th - 21st to discuss this with you personally. By doing so, I hope to be able to answer questions specific to your family. Be sure to check your voicemail boxes; if I leave you a message, it is up to you to follow-up.

Am I required to provide transportation to and from school for my child?

No, however, we have strict guidelines we must follow, so it would be helpful to know that you could.

What is the bus schedule for this year?

Due to changes in schedules for BRES and BRHS, we may have to adjust our bus schedule, although we hope not. Once these schools have confirmed their arrival and departure times, we can solidify our bus schedule. Watch for this on our website (southport-aos98.net) , on our school's Facebook page, and in The Boothbay Register.

As always, thank you for all your support and help in making SCS a warm, thriving community. I recognize the many challenges we face during this time, but together we will get through this. Please be in touch with any questions you have; meanwhile, be well and stay safe.

Best always,

Lisa M. Clarke
Proud Principal