



DEER LAKES

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders

Monday, June 29, 2020

Good morning,

Plans are underway for a safe return to instruction this fall. As you prepare for your child's return to school, we imagine you are feeling a mix of emotions -- excitement, perhaps some anxiety, as well as a need for clarity about what the school experience will be like this fall. While we frankly don't have all of the answers just yet, please rest assured that we are doing our very best to plan for every potential scenario as we navigate our way through this complex and continually evolving situation.

Over the past few weeks, Deer Lakes has sought feedback from a number of internal and external stakeholders and we are still sorting through the information we have collected to inform us on how we can best educate our students going forward. Also, the District will continue to follow the health and safety guidelines set forth by the Allegheny County Health Department, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DoH), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. We are also building on this guidance with a comprehensive report prepared by the DoH in partnership with the Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Mid-Atlantic at Mathematica, one of the nation's foremost social policy research firms. This report summarizes existing research on COVID-19 and generates a Pennsylvania-specific body of research—both qualitative and quantitative—that can inform decision making around completion of local health and safety plans and preparations.

The District is also in regular contact and collaboration with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Pennsylvania Department of Education about some of the best educational practices school districts, their students and their families can follow during a pandemic.

DEER LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

DR. JANELL LOGUE-BELDEN, SUPERINTENDENT

19 EAST UNION RD., CHESWICK, PA 15024

724.265.5300 EXT. 1210 * JLOGUEBELDEN@DEERLAKES.NET

WWW.DEERLAKES.NET



DEER LAKES

SCHOOL DISTRICT

Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders

Deer Lakes has convened a Pandemic Team to develop protocols for all likely scenarios. While the planning timeline is extremely tight, we will continue to provide opportunities for staff, parents, students, and members of the community to share their thoughts about how the District can best serve its students and their families. We encourage you to participate in this process, and in the coming weeks, we will also provide further communication about some of our plans and how you can further contribute to the planning process.

On Monday, June 29, at 6 p.m., the school board will hold a virtual special meeting to formally adopt the athletics reopening plan, the first step in the larger District-wide reopening plan, which will be released and voted on later this summer. Details for how to join that meeting can be found by clicking on the event on the calendar portion of our website.

Finally, please note that as per the state's reopening guidelines, all District indoor facilities will remain closed to everyone except essential staff until the reopening plan has been formally adopted and approved by the Deer Lakes school board and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Sincerely,

Janell Logue-Belden, Ed.D
Superintendent of Schools
Deer Lakes School District

DEER LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

DR. JANELL LOGUE-BELDEN, SUPERINTENDENT

19 EAST UNION RD., CHESWICK, PA 15024

724.265.5300 EXT. 1210 * JLOGUEBELDEN@DEERLAKES.NET

WWW.DEERLAKES.NET