ONTEORA CENTRAL /CHOOL DI/TRICT

Victoria McLaren Superintendent of Schools

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July 24, 2020

Dear Onteora Families.

As you know, all school districts in NYS are developing plans for reopening in September. We have been gathering information from you and from our faculty and staff to create the plan that will best serve our students. We have reviewed the results from our family survey and felt that we needed to get more specific information from each family. The survey made it clear that all families have a diverse set of feelings on reopening and while we had a strong response rate, we need to ensure that we are really capturing everyone in our information gathering. As you may have read in the shout point email sent out, we are calling every family and asking what their preferences are for each of their children for the fall. While we cannot accommodate everyone, more granular information will help us to better understand how our families feel about reopening as it relates to each of their children.

We also feel strongly that our families need to be given the opportunity to participate in a discussion and while we cannot hold an open forum in the traditional way, we are planning on holding two virtual meetings so that we can hear directly from our families and answer as many questions as we are able to at this time. One will be on Thursday, July 30th at 6pm, and one will be on Friday, July 31st at noon. We wanted to provide opportunities at two different times of day to allow more people to participate. The results of our family survey will be shared during these meetings as well as the results of our phone survey.

We believe that our plan will continue to evolve as we progress through the remainder of the summer, and while we may begin the year in one learning environment, we may have to move between in person and remote instruction fluidly as the situation continues to change. Our priority is the safety of our students and staff, but we are also dedicated to providing the best educational experience possible for our students.

As always, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to partnering with you as we enter school this fall.

Sincerely,

Victoria McLaren

Superintendent of Schools