



OLD FORGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

“Home of the Blue Devils”

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Erin Keating, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Brian Rinaldi
Business Manager

July 23, 2020

RE: Fall 2020 Reopening of Schools, COVID-19

Members of the Old Forge Community-

The *Health and Safety Plan* for reopening schools was approved at the July 22, 2020 School Board meeting. The plan outlines a hybrid means of reopening for Grades 1- 12, with half the building population attending school on Monday/Wednesday and the other half attending on Tuesday/Thursday. Friday’s instruction will be reserved for online work, and for teachers to conduct small group and one to one virtual instruction with students. Kindergarten students will attend daily, either AM or PM session, for onsite instruction.

The Google Classroom learning platform will be fully developed and facilitated by our Old Forge teachers. They are working hard to ensure that new material is created for each day, and that students receive a quality education under these unusual times. A fully online option will be available to parents who prefer not to send their child back into the physical school structure. A registration form is attached to allow parents the option of the cyber learning platform.

The decision to open in this hybrid manner was not made easily. We weighed the input from parents /guardians and staff members on the best means to reopen and valued your questions, concerns and comments in the process. This plan aligns with Center for Disease Control (CDC) and PA Department of Health guidelines for reopening schools to the maximum extent possible, to try and ensure the healthiest, safest educational environment.

This is an ever-changing situation. The District will continue to provide the Old Forge Community updates if this plan needs to be amended or changed at any time. Though frustrating, parents should be prepared to have child care for all five (5) days of the week, as the need to move to fully remote learning could be necessary for a variety of reasons or state level directives.

The District will be hosting parent meetings in mid-August to review the *Health and Safety Plan* and to go over Google Classroom and the remote learning requirements. Please do not hesitate to contact administration with any questions or concerns. We look forward to the day when we return to a traditional school setting.

Respectfully,

Erin Keating, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Christopher J. Gatto
High School Principal

Michelle Hopkins
Special Education Supervisor

Shelly Egan
Elementary Principal