

WINDHAM SOUTHWEST SUPERVISORY UNION

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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Stamford Searsburg Halifax Readsboro Twin Valley Unified Union SD

8/27/2021

Greetings WWSU Families, Faculty, Staff, and Community,

Wow, it is so hard to believe that September 1st, the start to our 2021-22 school year, is right around the corner. I am looking forward to working with everyone for a great school year.

As mentioned in my last communication, all students and staff, regardless of vaccine status, will remain masked indoors unless entitled as a matter of law to an exemption. This masking expectation has been approved by each of the WWSU district boards. I also want to share that since my last letter, the Agency of Education (AOE) has recommended that we identify our own additional COVID mitigation strategies to ensure the safety of all students and staff. To this end, I have reviewed the recommended protocols from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Vermont Department of Health (VT DOH), the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE) and the American Pediatric Association regarding how best to ensure the safety of all students and staff, and have used them to create the [WWSU COVID-19 Mitigation and Reopening of Schools Plan Fall 2021](#), with the assistance of the COVID-19 Taskforce (made up of principals, administrators, and nurses).

The Following Guiding Principles Informed the Plan

- The safety and health of all students and staff are our first priority.
- The social and emotional well-being of students and staff is essential.
- Equity of learning opportunities is front and center in everything we do.
- In-person, full time education is our focus.
- Current advice from the CDC, American Pediatric Association, VT DOH and the VT AOE will inform all decision-making.

For your convenience, I also created a [Summary of the COVID-19 Mitigation and Reopening Plan](#)

Thank you for remaining flexible and understanding during these challenging COVID times. I am looking forward to this school year and know that any challenges we face we will be able to face, because we are working together!

Sincerely,

Barbara Anne

Barbara Anne Komons-Montroll, Superintendent

