



BRISTOL SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

Together - Growing • Learning • Succeeding

July 17, 2020

Dear Bristol School Families,

I hope this message finds you and your family safe and well.

In my previous correspondence, I mentioned that we were busy planning and preparing for the return to school with in-person learning on September 1st. I envision seeing a majority of our students in school on the first day ready to learn, and even a greater majority of students in attendance, if parents are confident about safety precautions put in place. After taking a quick glance at preliminary survey numbers of the Parent Survey, it appears a majority of parents share a similar vision. However, we must all remember that the situation can change at any given moment, depending on the presence of COVID-19 in our community and school.

The Board of Education and the Bristol School Leadership Team had a meeting on Wednesday, July 8th, primarily held as a roundtable discussion to reflect on the District's 2019-2020 Focus Areas and to discuss re-entry plans. The Reopening Plan will be further discussed in more detail at the upcoming Regular Board Meeting on July 22nd at 7:00 pm. The Administration's goal for the meeting is to place the Board of Education in a position to approve the plan. We know whether the plan receives approval or not, that there will be adjustments because of the fluid situation. While in-person attendance for board meetings has been suspended by the Board of Education, you will still be able to attend virtually. The link to access the meeting will be provided on the agenda.

I believe it is helpful for you to know that Kids Club will be providing its before and after school care during the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Thornton and school officials are working together to ensure success for both his program and the school's overall program. Bristol School is looking forward to continuing its partnership with Kids Club this year.

As mentioned earlier in this letter, the implementation of safety precautions is a huge consideration for many parents as to whether they will send their children to school this year for in-person learning or to keep them home for virtual learning. I thought it would be helpful to share with you just some of the precautions that are part of the plan (not at all inclusive):

- Teachers are currently downsizing their own teaching areas and removing extra furniture to increase social distancing space in classrooms.
- The HVAC system has been checked to make sure it is operating efficiently, along with filters being replaced.

- There will be increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
- Student traffic patterns will be adjusted.
- Social distancing, the washing of hands, and the wearing of masks will be heavily emphasized.
- Lunch will be pre-packaged and delivered to classrooms.
- Fewer students per seat will be allowed on school buses.

Again, these are just some of the examples that I thought would be beneficial to share. The health and safety of the staff and students continue to be at the forefront of all planning. You will know more following the presentation of the reopening plan to the Board on Wednesday.

Lastly, I want to thank you for your patience and support. I especially want to thank you for the feedback you provided via the parent survey. The Board and Administration are listening and your input matters. Our aim is for everyone to continue to work together with shared optimism, enthusiasm, and positive attitudes to inspire continuous growth, learning and success for all--especially for our students. Everything we decide to do or don't do as adults ultimately impacts our students. We need to continue to work together to ensure the best possible opportunities for our staff and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. David R. Milz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D" and "M".

Dr. David R. Milz