



# MEXICO ACADEMY & CENTRAL SCHOOL

*Inspiring Excellence and Leadership in All!*

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## CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

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Sheilla Roth  
*School Business Executive*

Harmony Rice  
*Secretary to the  
Superintendent and  
District Clerk*

July 14, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

Preparations for the reopening of school in September has begun. School districts must follow NYS laws and policies, including CDC guidelines. As you may know, Governor Cuomo has released New York State guidelines for the reopening of public schools. All schools must adhere to the formula released by the Governor for reopening. The Governor has stated the decision on the reopening of public schools will be made by August 7. Our work to complete our reopening plans by the July 31 deadline, set by the Governor, are underway.

We have posted an important survey on our school website for parents with students enrolled in school. This survey must be completed by **Tuesday, July 21**. The information provided will give us guidance and insight as we work on our plans to reopen. Please complete one survey for each child enrolled in our school buildings. Additionally, we will solicit valuable feedback from our staff via a separate survey.

Currently, we are organizing a reopening advisory task force that will include Mexico Academy and Central Schools (MACS) administrators, teachers, and staff from all departments within the district. The advisory task force will also include representation from the Board of Education, parents, students, and community members. We are currently working with a regional advisory task force that combines representation from each of the nine school districts in Oswego County, including CiTi BOCES.

The health and safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance for Mexico Academy and Central Schools. We are aware that whatever decision the governor makes, and how we proceed, concerns will become evident based on the many differing viewpoints of what schools should look like in the fall. For this reason, throughout our advisory task force work, we are planning for the decision that some students and families may not feel safe returning in the fall or cannot return because of medical or environmental circumstances. Should your family fall into this category, please know that your child will remain a MACS student and we will plan for their remote learning.

## **Fall Reopening Plans**

Logistically, schools must start planning on effectively implementing whatever guidance is given in this short time frame, hence, we are considering and planning for these likely scenarios:

1. Schools reopen and have risk mitigation processes/practices in place.
2. Schools reopen and create a plan where students and staff are socially distanced by 6 feet throughout the day.
3. Schools reopen with a hybrid model where students are in the classroom a few days per week and are distance learning on the other days.
4. Schools do not reopen in the fall and we begin the year with remote learning.

Each of these scenarios looks very different and entails a significant amount of detailed planning.

During the planning process, we will be receiving ongoing guidance from Oswego County Director of Public Health, Dr. Jiancheng Huang, to ensure we are implementing the safest practices, where applicable.

We will continue to update everyone when we receive more feedback and guidance from the State. As previously stated, we should have a better understanding on reopening by August 7.

Have a safe and enjoyable remainder of the summer!

Sincerely,

Michael Schiedo, Interim Superintendent