

**HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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February 2, 2021

Dear Hyde Park Parents and Guardians,

I hope you have been able to stay warm and dry during this huge storm! I am writing to acknowledge the frustration and upset feelings in our community, caused by the limited availability of additional in-person days for students in the hybrid model.

We understand that the best place for students to learn is in their classroom, with their teachers and peers. Like you, we long for the day when we can all safely return to school every day. Until then, we are committed to listening, learning, and continuously improving our practice.

Guided by these beliefs, the District recently explored ways in which we can more fully utilize our classrooms and potentially allow more students additional in person instruction, while maintaining the social distancing requirements (in classes and on buses).

The number of available seats across classes, grade levels, buses and schools varied. This required us to apply the criteria below to each class understanding that we could not provide additional in-person days for everyone.

Criteria Included:

- Students With Disabilities & 504 Accommodations who are Struggling Academically and/or Making Inconsistent Progress
- Academic Intervention Services Tiers
- Attendance Concerns
- Social/Emotional/Mental Health Concerns
- Work is Not Being Completed at Home and/or Live Instructions are Not Attended due to Limited Support
- Significant Learning Loss from Last School Year
- Not Attending Related Services
- Available Seating on the Bus
- Available Seating in the Classroom
- Students Failing More than Two Classes at FDR

I should also note that in some cases Elementary AIS services needed to be rescheduled to accommodate a student's return for additional in-person days and parents will be notified in those cases.

***The Hyde Park Central School District empowers our community to strive for excellence and embrace the opportunities of our globally connected world.***

Although we are glad to have been able to create this opportunity for some students, it has been heartbreaking not to be able to offer additional in-person days to everyone. Our team is committed to monitoring each classroom and bus to make sure that any available seats are filled as quickly as possible. We are actively exploring additional ways to bring more students in for increased days.

Thank you for all of your support, flexibility, and understanding throughout what has been one of the most challenging school years we have ever faced.

Sincerely,

*Aviva Kafka*

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