

HYDE PARK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear Hyde Park Families and Staff,

Good morning. It has been so wonderful to welcome all elementary students for 4 days per week of in-person instruction this week and we are so excited about expanding soon for the secondary level!

We continue learning about how to support students safely in the pandemic. I am writing to you about what we have learned about setting up classrooms with social distancing at 3'X6'. We have been successful at fitting all students into classrooms with the 3'X6' distancing. However, it is awkward seating in some of our most full classrooms. I have attached photos of 3'X6', 4'X5' and 5'X5' distancing. Please note that 4'X5' and 5'X5' would allow for greater square footage than the 3'X6' arrangement.

Due to differences in class sizes and classroom footage and furniture throughout the district, we have rooms where we are able to have student work spaces at 6'X6', 5'X6', 3'X6', 4'X5' and 5'X5' apart with ample space for viewing instruction. The minimum square footage we are considering at this time is 18 feet per student (3'X6'). In our recent survey, the results for families willing to send their children for in-person instruction whether we are 3'X6' or less were basically the same. This family input helps support making these additional options available to create more accessible learning spaces.

Safety continues to be our top priority, and includes mental as well as physical health. If you have concerns or questions, please reach out to your building administration.

All of this said, we are expecting additional guidance from the New York State Department of Health very soon, which could impact our plans. We remain committed to communicating with all of you as changes occur.

Kindest regards,

Aviva Kafka

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Superintendent

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