Dear Parents and Guardians:

Following a comprehensive planning process, the Central Dauphin School District has determined that our school buildings will reopen their doors for in-person instruction on August 24, 2020.

There can be no doubt that the past few months have been an unprecedented time in our District. From the Governor’s mandated school closure to the implementation of our online distance learning program, we have faced challenges that we have never before experienced.

I am humbled by the way our District has persevered together during this difficult time, uniting as one to create a learning environment of which we can all be proud.

The Commonwealth has now lifted the school closure, and our School Board has approved a Health and Safety Plan for our District. After input from you (parents/ guardians) and staff, and in consultation with medical professionals and our attorneys, we have decided to return to full-time, in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.

We have not opted for a partial reopening with students in classrooms only a few days a week, but instead are moving forward with a 5-day per week in-person instruction for our students. For the safety of our students and staff, the District is striving to adjust its practices to be more consistent with the school safety guidance issued by the CDC and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

While there may be practical constraints that prevent total social distancing at all times during the school day, many adjustments are being made to allow as much separation among students and staff throughout the day as is feasible within our buildings.

The District’s comprehensive health and safety protocols will be in place when our doors reopen. For more details on the protocols, a full copy of the District’s Health and Safety Plan is available on the District website – cdschools.org.

It is the goal for in-person instruction at our schools to be as safe as possible. We understand, however, that some families may still be reluctant to return to the buildings at this time. Because the District appreciates those concerns, we plan to offer families the option to continue learning remotely under a more robust distance learning system that is being upgraded this summer.

We believe that offering families the choice of returning to in-person instruction or continuing with online learning will enable each and every one of our students to get the high-quality education that they deserve.

Although we are very excited about returning to our school buildings, the dynamic nature of the governmental guidance and directives means that things may change quickly, and we may be forced to adapt on short notice. If events occur that force the District to pivot and pursue a new direction, we will let you know as quickly as possible.

We truly appreciate your cooperation as we navigate our way back to school. We will be in touch in the coming weeks regarding the details of our return to school. Until then, we hope that you have a safe and relaxing summer.

More to come (please see short video) – https://video.ibm.com/recorded/127011509
Take care.
Norm