



March 5, 2021

SLSD Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to our students, teachers, support staff, families, building administrators, and anyone else who helped to ensure that the transition to four day in-person instruction this week went smoothly. Since August, the District has increased in-person instructional opportunities for our students while following prevailing risk mitigation strategies associated with COVID-19 from our community health partners here in the Lehigh Valley. This step forward would not be possible without the continued support of the entire Southern Lehigh School District Community. Listed below are weekly updates;

- **Kindergarten Registration** - Kindergarten Registration for the 21-22 school year began on March 1st. All registration documentation needs to be completed by March 31st. In order to obtain access to the Sapphire portal, parents need to complete a brief [Intent to Register Form](#) that can be accessed via that link.
- **Pennsylvania Vaccine Update** - On Wednesday, Governor Wolf and the PA Vaccine Task Force announced an update to the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. All school employees and contractors are now eligible to receive the single-dose Johnson and Johnson COVID-19 vaccine. Over the next several weeks, this allotment will provide enough product to vaccinate all interested Pre-K to 12 school employees. The Commonwealth will be scheduling vaccine doses throughout the regional Intermediate Unit's. The District will not have a say in when staff are scheduled and are working hard to mitigate any potential disruptions that this will cause in the scheduled school day.
- **Rescinded PA Travel Order** - On Monday, Governor Wolf rescinded the [Out-of-State Travel Order](#) enacted in November as part of mitigation updates. As a reminder, there are no longer out-of-state travel restrictions applied to students electing in-person instruction. All students and staff electing to travel should continue to complete [Daily Health Screening](#) prior to leaving for school each day.

Please know that safety in our schools remains our top priority. The District continues to take steps in the right direction, and we remain grateful to our students, faculty, staff and entire community for the role that they continue to play in the maintenance of our ability to offer robust in-person instructional opportunities. We ask that all Spartans continue to partner with us in keeping our schools as safe as possible. Please continue to reinforce the value of the established mitigation strategies that the District has in place; wearing of appropriately fitting face coverings, physical distancing, frequent handwashing, and remaining at home when ill. All of these efforts have served the SLSD well, and will continue to make a positive impact on our school community. Thank you for your continued support.

Kathleen Evison
Superintendent