

Dear Liberty,

First and foremost, I hope you are safe and well. At the end of the 2020-21 school year we were all in disbelief of what we endured and accomplished, and we had high hopes for a “normal” 2021-22. We are not quite back to the way things used to be, but we are getting closer, and I am optimistic that we will be taking many steps toward that normalcy we all are hoping for.

Regardless, we have to remember that we collaboratively completed the impossible last year, and I thank our administration, teachers, and staff for your flexibility and unwavering support of our students. Thank you also to thank our custodial, clerical, and food service workers for your hard work throughout the summer, and your efforts to prepare our schools for the start of the new school year.

As you are aware, the district will be taking measures to ensure the safety of our students and staff due to COVID-19 and the Delta variant.

During this summer, we patiently waited for recommended guidance from the New York State Department of Education, the CDC, and Sullivan County’s Department of Public Health Services so we could establish an opening plan. Throughout the planning process, we collaborated with our staff members, other districts, Sullivan County BOCES and the Sullivan County Department of Health. We also listened to our community, and hosted forums and encouraged people to share their thoughts and questions through a dedicated email ([questions@libertyk12.org](mailto:questions@libertyk12.org)). After reviewing all of the input, the district made several key decisions:

- Liberty will provide five days of in-person instruction
- Masks will be worn by all students, staff, and visitors
- There will be no virtual classes, except if a student is deemed high risk
- If a student is deemed high risk and is recommended for virtual classes, the services will be provided by a BOCES.

As we continue on our journey, the district will strive to continuously communicate and collaborate with our school community. In addition to planning for the opening of schools, the administrative team collaborated with our teacher facilitators to create building plans aligned with our District Comprehensive Improvement Plan. The purpose of creating both district and building plans is to enable grade levels and departments to coherently align their respective work to further support our students.

Additionally, the district will implement Classlink’s Single Sign On platform. This will help us organize our instructional applications and ensure that we are using Education Law 2D compliant applications.

Finally, the district is in the process of updating our safety and security measures with an automated notification system.

Our Superintendent's Conference Days are Wednesday, Sept. 1, and Thursday, Sept. 2. Breakfast and lunch will be provided both days. Here's the basic schedule:

- Wednesday, Sept. 1: The day will begin at 8:15 a.m. with our virtual Opening Event, when we welcome new staff, honor our colleagues for their years of service and review our Opening and District Comprehensive Improvement Plans. Please attend from a classroom, office, or other suitable on-campus space.  
Staff will have the afternoon to prepare for the 2021-22 school year and will sign-in at their respective main office.
- Thursday, Sept. 2: This day is set aside to spend time with your building teams. Staff will sign-in at their respective main office.

All Part Time Aides, 1:1 Aides and Monitors are invited to attend the conference days. Please remember to fill in a timesheet.

If you haven't yet done so, please read through the opening plan. It was emailed to staff and is also on the district website. Same as last year, PPE will be available for all staff, and everyone is free to use their own mask or school issued masks.

I am excited to reconnect with everyone and move forward with Liberty Pride!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Patrick Sullivan