

Rye Neck Schools

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September 20, 2021

Dear Rye Neck Families,

Welcome to our first full week of school! It's hard to believe that today is only our second A day, but our students have acclimated to arrival and dismissal, class and bell schedules, lunch procedures, and having to do homework again. Of course, the best part of our new year is seeing them with friends and hearing them talk about their school day, even if it's the traditionally unsatisfying answer to "How was your day?" ("fine").

In-Person Events

I'm happy to report that efforts have been underway to plan in-person events for our students and families. For example, Dr. Wilson and our high school staff are planning the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony on October 5th. The necessity to provide social distance for adults in the buildings means that we will use both the PAC and the Dining Hall to provide space for parents, but we are taking all opportunities to allow our students to enjoy every celebration of achievement possible. Any special student event that can take place safely in-person will happen with whatever modifications we need to implement.

Safety, of course, is the first thing considered when planning a gathering. Since our Open Houses involve either adult groups moving around in large numbers, adults in classrooms, or both, we had to resort to remote participation. However, we are running clubs, have reopened our MS/HS Library after school, and are planning student photo days, Halloween activities, intramural sports, and celebrations like the NHS Induction.

Weekly COVID Case Update

Instead of sending a letter everytime there is a reported case amongst our student or staff populations, we are posting them on the "2021-22 Rye Neck COVID Cases" section under the COVID tab on our website, ryeneck.org. I will also be summarizing each previous week in my weekly letters to the community, indicating school, grade level, and whether or not there were associated quarantines.

Week of September 13th: no cases were reported

The Westchester County Department of Health reported this morning during our weekly superintendents' meeting that the County infection rate is flattening and is slightly down from the past two weeks. This is certainly good news, but it is also a good time to remind ourselves that improving numbers and continued safety are the products of effort and vigilance. Vaccinations, masks, and distance will serve our children well if we take our precautions seriously and not drop our guard.

Best regards,



Dr. Eric Lutinski
Superintendent of Schools