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PINE VALLEY CENTRAL SCHOOL

South Dayton, NY 14138
District Offices/Elementary School: 7755 Rt. 83
Jr./Sr. High School: 7827 Rt. 83



February 1, 2021

Panthers and Families,

The intent of this letter is to inform you of a change made to my letter dated January 25, 2021 regarding the extended school day and transportation schedules. As well as, to provide an update for high school athletics and to address the upcoming Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences.

Extended School Day and Transportation: Letters regarding the new transportation times were sent out on Monday, January 25. Many of these letters contained drop-off times that were inaccurate. This was the result of an error with our transportation routing software. We realized this error at the end of the school day on January 27.

In realizing this, we began trying to assess those impacted. At minimum, 89 families were impacted with letters that showed the wrong times. The original letters went out later than expected due to a need to satisfy certain contractual requirements in the district. We could not expect families to change their entire schedules in one to two days' time. We are here to serve you and try to ease burdens when and where we can. Therefore, the decision was made to postpone the transition to the new schedule until February 22, 2021.

I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this caused. I hope that we were able to reach you before you began making alternate plans for before and after school childcare based on our new schedule. We are committed to extending the school day and gaining valuable instructional minutes as soon as possible. Below are the outlines for the new schedule included in my original letter.

Extending Elementary School Days: Starting February 22, 2021, a refined plan for dismissal and bus routes will be implemented to provide more instructional time for our elementary students. Students will be dismissed in socially distanced lines by cohort and walked by their teachers to buses. This, and the changes to busing schedules, will allow for each day to be extended by 25 instructional minutes a day. This time will be utilized in classrooms for literacy development. Our new drop-off time at the elementary school will be 7:50 am to 8:05 am with a start time of 8:15 am. Parent pickup at the end of the school day will now take place from 2:45 pm to 3:00 pm, with buses departing at 3:00 pm. This is not a change from current practice. If you are dropping off or picking up your child, please follow the current drop-off/pickup procedures, but at the new times. Lunches and breakfasts will not be impacted by these changes.

Extending High School Days: Starting February 22, 2021, a refined plan for dismissal and bus routes will be implemented to provide more instructional time for our high school students. Students will be dismissed immediately from the classroom to their buses without the use of transition lines. This, and the change to busing will allow for each day to be extended by 40

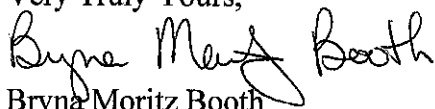
instructional minutes. This time will be utilized for the majority of remote classes to be shifted to in-person and allow students to take part in additional electives. Our new drop-off time at the high school will be from 8:45 am to 8:55 am with a start time of 9:00 am. Dismissal will begin at 1:55 pm with buses departing at 2:00 pm. If you are dropping off or picking up your child (or they are driving) please follow the current drop-off/pickup procedures, but at the new times. Lunches and breakfasts will not be impacted by these changes. High school students are currently being contacted by the Guidance Department regarding their new schedules.

High School Athletics: We received word on January 26, 2021 that both New York State and Chautauqua County Departments of Health have authorized Winter and Spring sports. Moderate-High Risk Winter Sports will start on February 1, 2021 and must follow new guidance sent out by the New York State Public High School Athletic Association. Volleyball and football are able to begin March 22 and run until May 15. Spring Sports are set to start on May 10. We anticipate our football share with Gowanda to continue. Please know that we were given very limited turnaround time with this announcement and will get you information as quickly as possible. Guidance did come out that masks will need to be worn by athletes unless intolerable and spectators are not currently allowed by Section VI. Many questions still need to be answered by the district in order to make this come to fruition. More information will follow shortly from coaches, our Athletic Director and Jr./Sr. High Principal.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: In the current calendar, half days are scheduled for March 17, and March 18, for the Elementary School Parent/Teacher Conferences. In order to gain valuable instructional time and not bus students for only a few hours, these conferences will be in the evening on Thursday, March 25, and in the morning on Friday, March 26. **The 17th and 18th will become full days of school.**

Thank you for your continued support, and please reach out to me with any questions or concerns. Take Care of our Kids, Take Care of our Families, and Take Care of our Team!

Very Truly Yours,



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