

RIVERHEAD CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Christine Tona
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Sam M. Schneider
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April 30, 2021

Dear Riverhead Families:

The Nation's fight against the pandemic continues to move in a positive direction, and I am writing to you to share some potential changes to our protocols for Middle School and High School students in the Riverhead Central School District.

Recently, the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) adopted the recommendation of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) that allows for three feet of social distancing. However, the CDC recommendation includes information about the level of positive infection rates in a community. Should the level of community transmission fall below 100 cases per 100,000 residents, we will be able to eliminate the use of face shields for our students in grades 7 - 12. Students and staff must continue to wear cloth masks except when eating meals.

Prior to implementing any change, we believe that it is important to obtain input from community members. Your input is vital to our decision making process. In order to help in the decision making process, please complete the following short survey for each of your children in grades 7 - 12 no later than Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

[Survey: Potential Social Distancing Change for Students in Grades 7 - 12.](#)

I wish to note that should the decision be made to eliminate the use of face shields and the level of community transmission increases again, it is possible that students may have to return to 6 feet of social distancing. Similar to earlier in the school year, returning to 6 feet of social distancing would require a return to the two-cohort model of two days per week of in-person instruction.

Our goal throughout this school year has been to provide the students with in-person instruction as often as possible while always keeping the health and safety of our students and staff at the forefront. With this goal in mind and with community input, we have made positive changes to our instruction plan which have benefited our students. We will continue to keep the community updated regarding any changes.

Thank you in advance for your input and I wish you and your family an enjoyable and healthy spring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Christine Tona'. The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Christine Tona
Interim Superintendent