



4 September 2020

Dear Avon Public Schools Families:

With our first week of having students return to school complete, I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you, on behalf of all of us at Avon Public Schools and our Board of Education, for your support in making this unique reopening a success. Our entire staff has worked diligently to adjust to our new reality, and also to help our students do the same. We had a wonderful week seeing students engaging in the joy of learning, socializing with friends, and simply being present with us.

We will continue to refine our practices with our students who are learning remotely and troubleshoot any technology issues, making adjustments as necessary. We thank you for your patience as we continue to adapt, and please be in touch with our IT Department at IT@avon.k12.ct.us if you need technical assistance. In addition, as a reminder, there are numerous tutorials for both students and families on our website: [Technology and Learning Resources](#), as well just about any other information you may need related to our reopening: [Reopening Information](#). We are continually updating the site with information, particularly as we often receive [updates from the State Department of Education](#) and Department of Public Health. For example, there have been several "addendums" to the state's reopening plan that all school districts must adhere to, such as the [addendum from the State Dept. of Education regarding face coverings](#).

We know that traffic has been difficult to manage during school arrivals and dismissals, due to the number of families driving their students to and from school. As more students begin to ride buses, we are hopeful that the traffic will dissipate over time. That said, if you are driving students in, please be aware that it may take significantly longer than it has in the past. We are working with both the Avon Police Department and our own security staff to assist in traffic flow. Your understanding and patience is appreciated.

Earlier this morning, prior to the public announcement, the C.I.A.C. communicated two updates. First, Girls Volleyball will be permitted to play indoors, as the C.I.A.C. has accepted the Department of Public Health's guidance that volleyball athletes can play while wearing a face mask. Secondly, the C.I.A.C. has aligned with DPH regarding full contact 11 on 11 football, and as such, football will not be permitted to play in its traditional format. The C.I.A.C. will continue to work with DPH for a low to moderate risk scenario for football for this fall and/or spring. Football practices are permitted to continue under the current C.I.A.C. guidelines for conditioning and sport specific skills (non-contact). Mr. Filon, APS Athletic Director, will be sharing an update with parents/guardians later today, before he and the coaching staff address the student-athletes. All other fall sports are continuing practices under the C.I.A.C. guidelines at this time.

4 September 2020

Page 2

Again, thank you for your continued partnership to help us make the 2020-2021 school year one filled with new opportunities and a renewed sense of hope for the future. As I said in my convocation address to all staff last week, this is a time for us to reimagine what teaching, learning, and schooling as a whole looks like: it is a time to both innovate and provide normalcy for our students and community.

I hope you are able to rest and recharge during the long holiday weekend. Happy Labor Day. We are excited to see your children in school next week.

Sincerely,

Bridget H. Carnemolla

Bridget H. Carnemolla, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Avon Public Schools

Dr. Bridget Heston Carnemolla

Superintendent of Schools

34 Simsbury Road, Avon, CT 06001

860-404-4700