

Dear Red Hook families,

Welcome back to the 2020-21 school year. As you know, this year will be different in so many ways from others. Red Hook Central School District is working collectively to meet these challenges and overcome obstacles. The teachers and staff are eager to welcome students from Pre-K-12 back to school. First remotely, and then in person, students will begin classwork.

Our administrative team has been putting together multiple schedules to meet the diverse needs of all our students, rearranging classrooms, and implementing our health and safety protocols. We are working with the local health department and elected officials to prepare and create a safe environment for our students and staff. Our teaching staff has attended numerous professional development classes on their pedagogy and teaching practices. Our custodial staff continues to address the changing landscape of our classrooms and buildings. I want to thank them for their hard work and commitment.

I've been struck by something in my first few months as Superintendent of this District. This school district, and the Red Hook community, in general, are filled with admirable, kind, and caring people. That is at the core of this community and that will help us get through this year filled with new challenges for everyone. As Maya Angelou beautifully stated, *"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."*

Thank you so much for your patience with this reopening process and for your input. We will continue to make ourselves available to answer questions now and throughout the year. I've included some information regarding sports, technology and nutrition below.

I wish all Red Hook students a successful 2020-21 school year!

Respectfully,

Janet Warden

Sports

This morning the Section IX Athletic Council made the difficult decision to suspend the Fall Interscholastic Athletic season and move it to the spring. Yesterday, the New York State Public High School Athletic Association (NYSPHSAA) officially announced the movement of Football and Volleyball to the spring season. These sports were considered "high risk" by Governor Cuomo and the Department of Health and were not permitted to have any competitions with the current regulations.

This decision also approved November 30th as the start of the winter athletic season. At this time, the regulations for the participation of winter sports have not been released by either the Governor's office, the Department of Health or the NYSPHSAA. The District will provide additional information as it becomes available from these agencies.

We will make decisions on off season workouts in coming weeks for Red Hook. Please contact Tom Cassata, Director of Athletics, Physical Education and Health, at tcassata@rhcsd.org with any questions.

Technology

The district has a limited number of iPads and MacBooks to distribute to students who do not have access to a personal device at home to use for remote learning. We have iPads to issue to K - 5 students in need of a device to allow access to Google Classroom, and MacBooks to issue to students in need of a device in grades 6 - 12 to allow access to Microsoft Teams.

Please email accounthelp@rhcsd.org to request a device. Include your student's name and grade level in your email. You will be contacted by us with the date/time information regarding device pick up. Printed instructions are provided with each device.

Nutrition

Our food service department will be following all CDC, SED and Department of Health safety measures for food handling and personal health and safety by practicing social distancing, the use of masks and gloves and the washing, rinsing, and sanitizing of kitchen workstations and utensils. All meals will be prepared with the utmost of care and safety with minimal handling and processing. This will include the use of individually wrapped service ware and pre-portioned food items. Staying true to our commitment to NY State and the use of local food items where available, Hudson Valley Fresh Milk, Red Barn Produce, Upstate Farms Yogurt, Feather Ridge Farm Eggs, and Slate Food Beef products will be included with all meals.

If you require meals for Curbside Pickup or are in NEED of a delivery, please send the following information to schoolmeals@rhcsd.org

- Child's Name, Address
- Meal Selection; Hot Meal, Salad Meal OR Sandwich Meal.
- School
- Student ID number

Meals will be available **FREE OF CHARGE** through December 31, 2020 every day, Monday through Friday for Curbside Pick-up.

Meal Delivery services are reserved for families in Need. Due to our restrictions and limitations that surround our ability to transport food, families with extreme hardship situations will be considered for home delivery. We will do our very best to accommodate your request, please understand that there are no guarantees associated with meal deliveries. At any time, you may take advantage of our three convenient school building locations for curb side pick-up.

Mill Road Elementary: 10:00am-11:30am. K-2 Bus Circle
Linden Ave Middle School: 9:00am-10:30am Bus Circle

Red Hook Senior High School: 8:00am to 10:30am Main Entrance Bus Circle
Should you have any questions, please email Lawrence Anthony at lanthony@rhcsd.org.

Additional Information

Please contact the buildings/departments below if you have any further questions or issues:

Red Hook High School – Melissa Tarter, Principal’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 15030

Linden Avenue Middle School – Deborah Temple, Principal’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 25030

Mill Road Intermediate School – Lynn Sykes, Principal’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 35010

Mill Road Primary School – JoAnn Johnson, Principal’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 45010

Superintendent’s Office – Elena Maskell, District Clerk/Supt’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 55010

Business Office – Kristie Lukach, Asst. Supt’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 53010

Pupil Personnel Services – Denise Beneway, Director’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 56010

Curriculum & Instruction (Home Schooling) – Kim Verven, Asst. Supt’s Secretary 758-2241
ext. 55210

Technology Department – Michelle Lowney, Director’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 59501

Transportation Department – Lynnette Dow, Director’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 29010

Food Services Department – Jennifer Norris, Director’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 38010

Facilities Department – Margaret Helsley, Director’s Secretary 758-2241 ext. 59010