



# Sauquoit Valley Central School District

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May 22, 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

During the past two months we have experienced significant change and disruption to our normal lives both in school and outside of school. I commend our staff on their flexibility and adaptability to a different mode of instruction and different working dynamics in general. I would also like to share my sincere appreciation for what you as parents have done to support the District in the education of our students. Knowing that families are in different places with their own employment circumstances, managing family life in general during the pandemic, and then having to assume a critical role in educating your children, I commend you for your efforts. As the school year is coming to a conclusion, I would like to share some essential information.

On May 21, 2020, Governor Cuomo announced that there will be no in person summer school. There is still no indication what the start of school in September will look; however, we are working on reopening strategies without clear information on what the parameters are to do so. We all will need to be prepared for the reopening of school to potentially look different than our normal operations.

Monday, May 25, 2020, there will be no instruction as we observe Memorial Day. Please take a moment to reflect on those who have served and are serving in our nations military and the sacrifices they have made and are making to preserve our freedom.

On May 26, 2020, we will conduct our Budget Hearing for the 2020-21 budget at 5:00 PM. The meeting will be held remotely; however, you may view the meeting live via a YouTube link located on the District's website. The new budget vote and Board election date is June 9, 2020. There is no in person voting as all voting will be conducted via absentee ballot which will be mailed to registered voters the week of May 25. In order to be counted, absentee ballots must be returned to the school by 5:00 PM on June 9.

Finally, in light of everything that has occurred this year, and following a close review of the school calendar (which included instruction over the April break), we have determined that the school year will officially end on June 16, 2020. Please be aware, however, that further calendar changes may be made if directed by Governor Cuomo through Executive Order or by the New York State Education Department.

Teachers will continue to provide students with remote instruction via digital platform, hard copies of instructional materials or a combination of the two. We will be announcing the last round of student work pick up in the near future.

Daily meals will continue to be available to all children 18 years of age and under through the remainder of the school year.

We encourage all students to continue their learning while school buildings are closed, and for all families to follow the safety guidelines as shared by the State and local departments of health. Providing continuity of learning and distribution of meals for our students remains a priority and should continue uninterrupted. It is imperative that students take their school work, albeit remotely, as serious as if school was still under normal operations.

**The school grounds will remain closed for use until further notice out of respect for social distancing protocols. Your obedience to this directive from County and State officials is expected and appreciated.**

We will continue to provide important information to you as it becomes available. Please check our website regularly at [www.svcasd.org](http://www.svcasd.org) for the latest updates.

We hope you and your families are staying safe and healthy. Have an enjoyable holiday weekend.

Sincerely,



Ronald Wheelock  
Superintendent of Schools