## **Cheektowaga-Sloan Union Free School District**

Mrs. Andrea L. Galenski Superintendent of Schools (716) 891-6402



**Board of Education** 

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August 6, 2021

Dear Cheektowaga-Sloan Families,

I wanted to provide an update regarding the reopening of schools.

We recently learned that neither the Governor's Office nor the New York State Department of Health will be issuing specific guidance for the start of school in September. We were most surprised by this news given what had previously been shared. This update has presented a new set of challenges related to planning for opening.

In the days ahead, we will be talking daily with local health officials, area colleagues, and members of our school community about what protocols the Cheektowaga-Sloan School District will adhere to this fall. We have also been informed that the Erie County Office of Epidemiology is currently reviewing guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the American Academy of Pediatrics. They plan to provide guidance in order to assist school districts in preparing for a safe start to the 2021-2022 school year.

Please know that we understand the frustrations many are experiencing over the current lack of clarity that exists related to masking, physical distancing, COVID testing, and vaccinations. It is very important for me to share that we continue to be committed to providing all students with 5-days of full-time in-person learning each week this year. As we did all last year, please know that our preparations continue to be focused on the health and safety of our school community.

We will be providing additional detail for students, staff, and parents in the very near future and appreciate the patience our families and community has shown throughout the pandemic. We strongly value our partnership that exists between the District and the community and we look forward to welcoming our students back to school in just a few weeks from now.

Sincerely,

Andrea L. Galenski Superintendent of Schools

166 Halstead Avenue · Sloan, New York 14212-2295 · www.cheektowagasloan.org