



DeRuyter Central School

Home of the Rockets

711 Railroad Street, DeRuyter, NY 13052
Phone: 315-852-3400 Fax: 315-852-9600

Kimberly O'Brien
Director of Curriculum and
Instruction

David M. Brown, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

James Southard
Business Administrator

Stephen Rafferty
6-12 Principal/Director
of Special Education

Jenny Valente
PK-5 Principal/Director
of Special Education

July 21, 2020

Dear DeRuyter Community:

I hope this letter finds you and your family well during the warm months of summer. It is our fervent hope that we can open our doors to our children in the fall and create a system where children thrive. As always, I want this to be a team approach with your voice as part of the planning process.

We received guidance last week from several sources including the New York State Health Department, The Board of Regents, and the New York State Education Department. We have assembled a committee of teachers, staff, community, students, and administration to look at these recommendations and mandates, and formulate an opening process for the fall. We need to have three plans submitted to New York State by Friday July 31st for review with hopeful approval by August 8th. The three plans are: (1) Opening with all students, (2) Opening with some students one day and the remaining students the opposite day (Hybrid), and (3) Creating a plan if we were needed to totally close again (Distance/Remote Learning).

The one large question is whether we can open with all students attending or whether we may need an altered schedule to accommodate students with a 6-foot social distancing requirement. With the distancing rule, we may be required to reduce the number of students and create an alternate day schedule with half the students on each day. We have just received this guidance and will be working these next two weeks to finalize our plan based on science, mandates, and recommendations. Throughout this entire process, please feel free to reach out to any administrator.

Please fill out the [parent survey](#) and help your child with the [student survey](#) to help inform us. We need this information to best create these plans, so please complete the surveys by this Friday, July 24th. Some of you may choose to transport your children, or even choose not to send them at all, and we need accurate numbers to create the opening systems to the best of our abilities. We really hope to get a large response to help inform our decisions. We will continue to put information on the website – see the Reopening Link and continue to check out the site for updates.

As always, thank you for your support and trust. Together, there is nothing we CAN'T do. We are a team! We are Rockets! We are DeRuyter!

Sincerely,

Dr. Brown

Dr. David M. Brown
Superintendent