



DeRuyter Central School

Home of the Rockets

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March 12, 2021

Dear Community:

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to take the opportunity to update you on some important information. First, I want to remind everyone that Monday, March 15, 2021 is a Remote Day. There will be no transportation for BOCES students. Students will be bringing home their technology today, Friday, March 12, 2021 to have access for Monday. Grades 6-12 will be logging on to their classes period by period as if it were an in-person day. Elementary teachers will be sending home schedules for the day as they will also be doing virtual conferences with our parents.

Our Winter Sports Season is coming to a close this weekend. We are so glad we could offer athletics, even at a limited level. Fall 2 will begin next week with Varsity and Modified Soccer. We will be allowing two spectators for every athlete and will be working with our Athletic Director, Sheri Smith, and the coaches to communicate the process for attending games. Varsity Soccer will have their 1st practice on Tuesday, March 16th. Modified Soccer will begin on March 22nd. Game and practice schedules will be posted in Schedule Galaxy which can be accessed through the app or our website. If you have any questions, reach out to Ms. Smith at smiths@deruytercentral.org.

NYS is required, by federal education regulations, to annually administer assessments in the areas of English, Language Arts (ELA), and Math on a yearly basis to all students in grades 3-8. In addition, students must be tested in Science once in elementary and once in middle school. At this time, we are expecting these assessments to be administered as planned, as the United States Department of Education has indicated that it will not approve waiver requests from states to cancel the assessments this year. As a result, we are preparing to administer these assessments to our students on the following schedule:

- **ELA:**
 - **Grades 6-8** April 20th & April 21st
 - **Grades 3-5** April 22nd & April 23rd
- **Math:**
 - **Grades 3-5** May 4th & May 5th
 - **Grades 6-8** May 6th & May 7th
- **Science Grades 4 and 8:** (*Two part assessment*)
 - Part 1 (Performance Based): May 25th
 - Part 2 (Written): June 7th

(Continued)

The ELA and Math assessments will be administered to students on their Chromebooks, and the Science assessments will be on paper as no computer based test is available. Even though the tests are computer based, students must be in the building to take these assessments. All tests are untimed and will begin at approximately 8:30 am with an estimated end time of 10:00 am each day. We appreciate your help in ensuring that your child gets a good night's sleep and arrives to school, on time, on test days. We will provide breakfast to all 3-8 students the morning of each test. If you have any questions regarding your child's participation in these assessments, please contact your child's principal.

Finally, please reach out to any of us if you have any questions or concerns. I am so proud of everyone involved, who has worked tirelessly to have in-person instruction, every day, for every student PK-12. We are one of the only districts who can say this and the team and community are to be commended for this collaboration. Wearing a mask every minute of every day, and social distancing, can be tedious and frustrating but it is allowing us to have in-person instruction for every child. To consistently sanitize, our building is only open during scheduled practices/events, so unfortunately students cannot stay in the building waiting for their event to begin.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your building principal or myself.

Sincerely,

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