



WEST HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

"Schools Committed to Excellence"

Administrative Offices: 355 Main Street

Mailing address: P.O. Box 26010

West Haven, CT 06516

Telephone: (203) 937-4310

Fax: (203) 937-4315

NEIL C. CAVALLARO

Superintendent of Schools

September 11, 2020

Good afternoon families, students and staff,

As the first week back to school concludes, we reflect on the many successes and few challenges faced in reopening our buildings. The administrators, teachers and staff members have worked harder than ever to make this unique back-to-school experience one that provides a safe and nurturing environment for our students. Their efforts are visible as you walk through our buildings and classrooms.

We are grateful for the work parents and families have done in emphasizing the importance of wearing face coverings, as evidenced by the cooperation of our students in wearing masks safely. We came back to our buildings because we expected our student body to adhere to our new building rules and, as we hoped, they are rising to the challenge. We believe in our students, and they continue to impress us with what they CAN do!

Our teachers and staff have always gone above and beyond their roles, and they have met this call to action by using creative and effective quality instruction and socialization. The efforts of all staff to give West Haven students an opportunity to return to in-person instruction speaks to their commitment to ongoing learning and meeting the needs of the whole child safely.

As we prepare for the weeks ahead, we cannot emphasize enough the importance of our collective efforts to foster continued success. The commitment to safety in our schools is only effective if it is met with a commitment to safety outside our schools. We ask for your cooperation in fostering responsible citizenship by wearing masks, practicing social distancing and partaking in events that are safe and adhere to local regulations. The ability to keep our buildings open for students is a community responsibility and that means we all play an equal role in that effort.

We plan to update you as we meet the changing needs of our school community together. In saying that, we anticipate that there is still much work to do. We encourage you to communicate your concerns with us and provide us with viable solutions. We cannot adequately express our gratitude for your patience as we navigate this process together for the health and safety of our community. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Neil C. Cavallaro

Superintendent of Schools