



# PORT WASHINGTON-SAUKVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

*We educate all children to reach their greatest potential.*

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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December 1, 2020

Hello PWSSD Families!

Welcome to December and our continued in-person hybrid learning. We want to thank you for encouraging your children to wear masks, follow CDC guidelines, and respond to teachers' direction. Our students' behavior and cooperation have been excellent, which helps continue our in-person learning.

Last week, your principal sent you an email indicating that on November 23<sup>rd</sup>, the School Board made some revisions in the school calendar based on the Administrative Council's recommendations. Beginning January 4<sup>th</sup> through January 8<sup>th</sup>, students will be involved in on-line learning only. This will allow additional time for possible quarantining and a determination of any additional positive cases as a result of the winter holiday break. The health departments continue to caution against having large holiday gatherings because they are concerned about further virus outbreaks during the winter holiday break. Your principal will provide you with details and student expectations for the online learning week. Consequently, having our students participate in online learning from January 4<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> will enable us to further protect the health of students and reduce the amount of contact tracing necessary. Students will return to their current in-person learning on January 11<sup>th</sup>.

The other adjustment in the school calendar is that there will be no school for students on December 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> to provide more time for cleaning to further ensure a healthy learning environment. In addition, there are no substitute teachers available on these two days, resulting in making it even more difficult for teachers to cover for one another if someone is quarantined. The teachers will be using these days to prepare for the online learning on January 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, review learning benchmarks for students' academic progress, and take part in valuable planning and collaboration.

Again, thank you for working cooperatively with our health department, our district contact tracers and school nurse, and supporting the CDC in-school recommendations. The health departments continue to tell us that, because of these efforts, the virus spread is not taking place in school, and school continues to be one of the safest places for students. The Board is hopeful that these calendar changes will continue ensuring in-person learning.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael R. Weber".

Michael R. Weber, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

MRW/hb