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July 21, 2020

Tamaqua Area SD Families:

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe, healthy and happy.

As the calendar prepares to turn from July to August, we have been busy making plans and contingencies for the upcoming school year. I wanted to thank all of you who completed our family survey. It provided the school district with data to make informed decisions. Undoubtedly, we will be reaching out to you again in the near future for further information.

After analyzing data from multiple sources and studying various proposals, the decision was made to develop a reopening plan with a full student return for the 2020-21 school year. The unique needs of our school community, with an emphasis on the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff will be the center of our plan.

Some students and/or families have significant issues that make a full return to school undesirable. Let me reassure those individuals that we will have an educational option to meet your needs. In addition to the full return option, families will have the opportunity to receive their daily education through the school district's 100% virtual option. This opportunity will allow our Tamaqua Area curricular experience to be delivered via our online platform. Every effort will be made to provide an authentic in-person educational experience.

I am sure many of you already have questions. The Pennsylvania Department of Education has tasked us to create and submit a Health & Safety Plan. Over the next few weeks, we will build our plan and release

to you various aspects related to cleaning, mitigation, transportation, technology, meals and extracurricular activities. We will work with you to answer questions and increase your level of comfort.

Regardless of whether you choose the full return or virtual option, the success of any plan will be determined by the individuals' level of commitment. Our faculty and staff is dedicated to your child's education. I respectfully ask that you support our efforts to keep all students safe and meet the standards for academic success.

Many decisions will need to be made in the coming weeks. I ask for your patience and understanding as we move through this process. After reviewing procedures, questions will most assuredly surface. Please allow us to answer them and find a solution that works for everyone.

I would like to thank you in advance for the cooperation I have been able to depend upon so heavily over the past few months. Please contact me at [rkinder@tamaqua.k12.pa.us](mailto:rkinder@tamaqua.k12.pa.us) with any questions or concerns. Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Raymond J. Kinder  
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