

Good evening,

We are writing to provide you with a brief update on our efforts to open school safely this fall and to make you aware of scheduled parent meetings next week on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

First – our planning continues. Since the [letter of 7/19](#), we've continued to meet with staff and community stakeholders to plan for the safe reopening of school. The state released an updated framework for return to school on 7/21: <https://www.maine.gov/doe/framework> and we encourage you to review it. It is our hope to have a finalized plan for our students, parents and community members by August 7th as the State has indicated there will be further guidance late that week. We encourage you to visit our website for more details as we will update it as frequently as possible: <https://www.msad54.org/public>

Parent Meetings:

We will be holding parent meetings to share the draft outline, provide an update on a few state requirements, and to listen and answer questions. The goal here is to ensure all voices are heard as part of the planning process and to answer those questions we have time for. We will take the questions answered in person and those that aren't, and will include those in a Frequently Asked Questions(FAQ) document for parents that we'll have ready for August 7th. We will continue to provide updates on our website until August 7th, and through to the opening of school.

Note: With the exception of Canaan Elementary which is at CES, all meetings will be held at the Skowhegan Area Middle School because of work going on in gymnasiums to prepare for the start of school. We will be limited to 50 in the gymnasium with the opportunity for 50 more in the cafeteria (w/projection). If possible we would encourage all families to try to limit participation in meetings to 1 person - to allow for as many people to join as possible. Questions can be sent to: feedback@msad54.org in advance of the meeting.

Note: We will post a recording of the presentation on the [public website](#) for our families to access anytime.

Tuesday 7/28:

- **CES:** 5:00-6:00 - Parents of students attending Canaan Elementary School will meet at the elementary school gymnasium with spillover into classrooms as needed. RSVP to sswindells@msad54.org as space may be limited here.
- **MSES:** 7:00-8:00 - (HELD AT SAMS) Parents of students attending the Mill Stream School.

Wednesday 7/29: (Broadcast 5:30 – 6:30)

- **NEL/BES:** 4:00-5:00 - (HELD AT SAMS) Parents of students attending the North Elementary School and Bloomfield Elementary School.
- **BES/MCSS:** 5:30-6:30 - (HELD AT SAMS) Parents of students attending the Bloomfield Elementary School and Margaret Chase Smith School.
- **SAMS:** 7:00-8:00 - (HELD AT SAMS) Parents of students attending the Skowhegan Area Middle School.

Thursday 7/30:

- **SAHS/SCTC:** 6:00-7:00 - (HELD AT SAMS) Parents of students attending the Skowhegan Area High School, Skowhegan Area Technical Center and Marti Stevens Learning Center.

If possible we would encourage all families to try to limit participation in meetings to 1 person (if possible) to allow for as many people to join as possible. Questions can be emailed directly to feedback@msad54.org anytime and will be added to the FAQ which will be posted on the website prior to August 7th.

Note: It is our goal to ensure all questions are considered in our planning process - anyone with questions who isn't able to attend the meetings is welcome to email feedback@msad54.org with questions. Questions will be compiled into a FAQ document and will be posted to the [public website](#) as soon as possible.

We thank you for your patience as we all work for a safe return to school. This pandemic is having impacts on all aspects of society, and the impact to our schools and our students is our utmost priority. The rules that the state has shared, although incredibly challenging, are focused on ensuring the safety of our students, staff and communities. We ask that you join us in our effort to bring our kids back to school safely in the fall. Together, we'll provide our students with the most opportunities possible during these unprecedented times.

Thank you,

MSAD 54