

April 1, 2021

Dear Summit Academy Parents and Caregivers,

I am happy to share that beginning on Monday, April 12, nine classrooms will move to four days per week of in-person instruction. We are excited about this progress and proceeding with caution as we move additional classrooms to four-days per week in late April. This phased grade level-by-grade level return is happening in accordance with all New York State and CDC guidance.

This good news is tempered with a reminder that we may have to move a classroom to virtual instruction on short notice. Please continue to plan accordingly for this possibility. The health and safety of your child and our staff is our primary concern especially in light of the recent uptick in positive COVID-19 cases in Erie County.

As you know, the best way to protect yourself against COVID-19, is to get vaccinated when it's your turn to do so. Beginning on April 6, all New Yorkers age 16 and up will be eligible for a vaccine. If eligible, I encourage you to get your child vaccinated.

We continue to strongly encourage our staff to get vaccinated. Last week, Rite Aid operated a vaccine clinic for our staff at Summit Central, giving them easy, convenient access to a vaccination. More than 80 staff members took advantage of this opportunity.

We are also strongly cautioning our staff about travel during Spring Break. As a reminder, the CDC has said that travel increases your chances of getting and spreading COVID-19. They are encouraging everyone to stay home and delay travel, even if they are vaccinated.

Although not required, out of consideration for our staff and other program participants who are not yet fully vaccinated, **if you travel, we ask that your child quarantine for three days and get tested for Covid-19 before returning to school.**

Out of concern for everyone's health, we are requiring that our staff incorporate quarantine time into their travel plans unless they are fully vaccinated.

Please continue to do your part to slow the spread of Covid-19 in our community by wearing a mask, maintaining social distance, and washing your hands.

We will continue to keep you informed and appreciate your continued support.

I hope you have an enjoyable Spring Break.

Sincerely,

*Susan*

Susan Whittaker, Ed.D, SBL  
Summit Academy Principal