

August 13, 2020

Greetings,

I hope this communication finds you well rested and enjoying the summer months. This is my official start of Principal Messages which will be sent out to all students and households on a weekly schedule. In typical this first communication would entail return to school details and specifics, however, this is not a typical year and the details and specifics are still in the development process. I am also very aware of the worries, anxieties and many questions that many of you have about returning to school and the learning process. My hope is that this letter will provide you an update of what we have been doing and what to expect next.

First, As you may already know, Stoneham Public Schools will be operating on a Hybrid schedule this fall. Superintendent Macero and the Stoneham School Committee have provided students and parents a choice for their education platform; Hybrid or Full Remote by Choice. These were presented and approved at the August 6 School Committee meeting, a copy of the presentation can be found [HERE](#). A survey was sent to all SPS households on August 10 allowing students and parents / guardians to choose an educational platform; Hybrid or Full Remote by Choice. The survey can be found [HERE](#). **Surveys must be completed by Monday, August 17.**

To begin the process of preparing for this school year an SHS Task Force Committee was formed. This committee of 28 members composed of Administrators, Department Supervisors and teachers representing all departments began meeting in the first week of July. Early meetings resulted in identifying key areas to be addressed to meet the guidelines and expectations of the three possible educational plans required by DESE; Regular schedule / all students return, Hybrid and Remote. The identified key areas led to the formation of 15 subcommittees:

Schedules
Social Emotional Learning
Student Services; SPED, 504, ESL
Tech Review
Health / Safety
Lunch
Transitions
School Culture
Remote Learning
Building Review
Handbook Review
Policy / procedure
Program of Studies Review
Calendar / Events
Communication

These subcommittees have been and are currently actively working at identifying, developing and planning to ensure a robust, rigorous and supportive learning experience for all students in all possible educational platforms as well as the implementation of COVID safety precautions, requirements and guidelines.

Over the next couple of weeks you can expect specifics and details about students returning to school and all related matters. As I mentioned above, not a typical year, are planning grade level meetings, prior to September 16, so as to distribute chrome books, course schedules, review school updates, changes and expectations and also to walk the building, see their classrooms and become oriented to a school environment that they have not yet experienced. These meetings will all be facilitated with all required safety requirements and guidelines. Again, further information and details will follow soon.

I wish you all a safe, relaxing and enjoyable remainder of summer. As always please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best,
Bryan Lombardi
Principal