



Plainfield High School

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Christopher L. Bitgood, PhD. Principal

Stacey W. Kelleher, Vice Principal
John W. Cote, Vice Principal

August 16, 2021

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the entire PHS staff, I would like to welcome all of our students back for the 2021-2022 school year. We are incredibly excited to have students back in the building on a full-time basis. The last 18 months have been extremely challenging for everyone as we continue to try and navigate the challenges of COVID. The health and safety of our students and staff remain our number one priority. To address those safety concerns, we will continue to follow the revised guidelines set forth by the CDC, the Northeast Department of Health, and the state of Connecticut. Additionally, for the 2021-2022 school year, Plainfield High School will remain in a 4x4 semester-based instructional model to maintain consistency and minimize any potential quarantining issues. The good news is that many of our student activities, including clubs, athletic seasons, and social activities, have been restored.

- The first day of school for students is **Wednesday, September 1, 2021**. That day will be a **half-day** for **freshmen** and **new students** only, with classes starting at 7:15 and ending at 11:15. Thursday, **September 2**, will be a full day for **ALL** students, with classes running from 7:15 until 1:45.
- This year, PHS will remain in a 4x4 instructional model for the school year. **ALL** students are expected to attend in person every day. There are no separate student cohorts like last year. There is also no remote instruction available unless a student is placed on quarantine.
- The CDC has issued several guidelines to ensure the safety of students and staff. Mask wearing remains the best mitigation strategy to prevent the spread of COVID. Therefore, at this time, **all students and staff are expected to continue to wear a mask at all times during the day, including on the bus, in the school hallways, and while in their classes**. Students will be allowed to take off their masks for lunches while adhering to proper distancing and safety protocols. Students who do not comply with wearing a mask will not be permitted to remain in the building.
- School tours for incoming Freshmen and new students can be arranged on an individual basis by appointment. Please contact the school to arrange a personal tour.
- Informational Packet: The students' opening packets are included with this mailing, and some important forms must be completed and returned. Please take time to review the Student Registration/Information forms; which are enclosed with this letter. If any of your child's information has changed, please complete the necessary sections that require updating. Otherwise, simply fill in the signature of a parent/guardian and the student before returning it is required. The Student Handbook will be provided to each student on the first day of school. It is extremely important that these forms be returned to the block 2 teacher by the week of September 21. Many of these forms are in response to State of Connecticut mandates.

- Discipline responsibilities of the assistant principals for the 2021-2022 school year are: **Mrs. Kelleher – grades 9, 11** **Mr. Cote - grades 10, 12**

We ask for your support in adhering to these policies while we continue to navigate and emergence from these challenging times and return to a more normal educational and social experience for our students. We look forward to having all students attend each and every day and participate in all of the social and extra-curricular activities that make high school such an incredible experience!

Sincerely,



Christopher L. Bitgood, PhD.
Principal