



August 16, 2021

Dear Albany Leadership Families and Students,

I hope you are all well, that you have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and that you have had the opportunity to spend some quality time with family and friends. I do not need to tell you how significant this opportunity has been amidst the cloud of the pandemic. It's difficult to believe that we are halfway through the month of August, with the first days of the 2021-2022 school year just around the corner, and although we have had high hopes for a "normal" start to this school year, we find ourselves in the unfortunate situation of rising cases in our community once again. The COVID-19 situation continues to change, and New York State has not released any reopening guidance. Thus, we have had to move forward with planning for our reopening and first days of school. As we have since the onset, we will continue to review and follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance and work closely with Albany County Department of Health, as well as other area health departments, as applicable.

Albany Leadership has always prioritized the health and safety of our school community, along with a safe return to fully in-person learning for all students. As such, all classes and students will attend school in-person, and we will continue to maintain three feet of social distance in classrooms whenever possible. We will continue to follow our existing health and safety protocols that have proven effective in preventing the spread of COVID in our school, including thorough and frequent cleaning and disinfecting, temperature checks, and random testing of students and staff. In addition, following CDC guidance, all staff, students, and visitors will be required to wear masks in school and on buses, regardless of vaccination status. The following are exceptions to mask requirements:

- Masks can be removed when individuals are seated and eating or drinking.
- Masks are not required for any outdoor instruction or activities.
- If staff members are working alone in a classroom or office space, they may remove their mask, but must re-mask when moving around the building.

Albany Leadership is still awaiting guidance from the NYS Department of Health (NYSDOH) on further specific health and safety guidelines, as well as regarding interscholastic athletics. We will continue to update our entire school community as soon as we receive and review this information.

It has been an extremely busy summer here at Albany Leadership, as we have been hard at work putting everything in place to ensure that we are ready for a successful new school year. Although this year will come with its challenges, we have much to be excited about and opportunities abound! We are thrilled to welcome our new 6th grade students and staff, as we look forward to filling our 6-12 continuum over the next three years. The pandemic does continue to impact us in many ways, however, including delays for city and county permits,



building materials, and the delivery of our modular classrooms. Although we are hopeful that they will be delivered and installed in the next couple of weeks, we must be responsive and flexible, as we have been throughout this adversity. As a result of the uncertainty associated with these delays, we will be utilizing our gymnasium as temporary 6th grade classroom space, as an interim solution. High school physical education classes will be relocated temporarily utilizing indoor and outdoor areas. Our gymnasium is located on the lower front of our building with its own entrance, which will still allow our 6th graders to be housed separately from the high school. Please reach out if you have any questions or concerns, or to request a tour of the facilities. Important additional information is provided below regarding the return to classes for students.

First Day of School for 6th and 9th Grades - Monday, August 30th

First Day of School for 10th Grade - Tuesday, August 31st

First Day of School for 11th and 12th Grades - Wednesday, September 1st

As a reminder, students should be in full uniform for the first day of classes

School Day Start and End Times:

- **6th Grade - 7:50 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.**
- **9th - 12th Grades - 7:50 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (FLEX - 3:00 - 3:30 p.m.)**

Helpful information, dates, links, and resources are listed below:

New High School Family Orientation – In Person - Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Back to School BBQ and Open House - Thursday, September 23, 2021

[Albany Leadership Website](http://www.albanyleadershiphigh.org) - www.albanyleadershiphigh.org

[2021-2022 School Calendar](#)

[2021-2022 Supply List](#)



[2021-2022 Uniform Information](#)

PowerSchool - PowerSchool is Albany Leadership's student information system. Families and students have access to this secure site to view attendance, grades, and class schedules.

Family ID - FamilyID is a secure registration platform that provides you with an easy, user-friendly way to register for our programs, and helps us to be more administratively efficient and environmentally responsible. When you register through FamilyID, the system keeps track of your information in your FamilyID profile. You enter your information only once for each family member for multiple uses and multiple programs.

Schoology - This platform is a way to stay connected with Albany Leadership. You will receive a log in the first week of school. Once you have logged in, please join the "ALCS Family and Guardians" group. The access code for this group is **MN2W-7NCF-DRX4D**.

We look forward to seeing you and welcoming you back to Albany Leadership for the 2021-2022 school year! As always, thank you for your ongoing support of our school community, and for your patience and understanding as we continue to navigate the circumstances of the pandemic and the safe return to school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cariña D. Cook".

Cariña D. Cook

Principal/CEO