



# BERLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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June 21, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As this school year comes to a close, I want to thank you for your continued support as we navigated the many challenges of this school year. It has been a different year, for certain, but one that has brought many successes for our students and staff. As I indicated in my remarks to the Class of 2021 at their graduation, there have certainly been many lessons learned about resilience and the power of coming together as a community.

**Planning for the Fall:** At this time, we are awaiting further guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) and the Connecticut State Department of Public Health (DPH) before making any formal announcements about the plans for the fall, including any requirements for continued health and safety precautions, such as universal mask wearing by staff and students. However, as you may know, the DPH and the CSDE do not anticipate the need to mandate, due to public health necessity, continued voluntary remote learning options next year. As a result, the Berlin Public Schools does not intend to offer remote learning as an option for families for next year.

As further guidance is issued, we will be in communication with all families once we have confirmed plans for next year. This communication will also include information about the homeschooling option, which is always available to families who wish to educate their children at home.

**Free Summer Meals:** We are offering free breakfast and lunch all summer! This service is offered to any child 18 and under, and persons 19 and older with a physical or mental disability, as defined by the State, community wide. There are no income eligibility requirements.

From June 28, 2021 through August 13, 2021, there will be a pick up location for grab & go meals at Willard School, 1088 Norton Road, Berlin. Pick up dates & times: Monday (for Mon. and Tues. meals) & Wednesday (for Wed., Thurs., and Friday meals) from 8:00-9:30 a.m.

Parents/guardians can pick up meals without their children present. The program allows for one free breakfast and lunch daily per child.

Additionally, we will be offering breakfast and lunch DAILY to those participating in summer camps (Camp Thundermoon at Willard) or district learning programs (summer school and Summer Academy). Please email Wendy Rawlings, [wrawlings@berlinschools.org](mailto:wrawlings@berlinschools.org) with any questions.

I wish you and your family a safe and healthy summer.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Benigni  
Superintendent of Schools