

WELCOME TO THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR!

IP Staff Start Date: Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Location: Please Report to your Work Site/Program

With the opening of the new school year nearly upon us, we're filled with the usual thoughts. The newness, with so much promise, and all the hope of a fresh fall return to the classrooms. This year, though, I believe we'd all agree, there's much more to it. This year's opening is sure to be like no other any of us has ever experienced.

When all IP faculty and staff report to their sites/programs on Tuesday, September 8, we still have many reasons for optimism. While masks and shields, distance and caution, and a healthy trepidation about the unknown will be along for the ride, we're ready. In fact, as you know, our preparation began long before last school year even finished up. And because of that, we're tried and tested, we have new avenues clearly established, and our reopening approach is solid.

In our buildings, finishing touches are being applied, including new signage that will help guide and remind us each day. Our reopening plan is available, alongside "welcome back" videos on our website, all which arm our faculty, staff and families with reassuring information, and therein, confidence.

As we begin the 2020-2021 school year, some things will never waver. We have a dedicated team that's passionate about what we do, and how we'll accompany our students toward a bright future. And like every fall, I look forward to working with every one of you.

Together, we'll meet new challenges headlong and overcome all obstacles to achieve our goals this school year.

I'll include the following two video links that detail how we've prepared and how we'll proceed. They're also now posted to our BOCES website.

<https://www.btboces.org/SafeReturntoSchool.aspx>

<https://www.btboces.org/BT-BOCESReopeningVideo.aspx>

Best regards,



James Mullins, Assistant Superintendent
Instructional Programs