



June 29, 2021

SLSD Parents/Guardians and Staff,

Please allow me to take this opportunity to introduce myself, my name is Lawrence (Larry) Mussoline, Ph.D. and I am serving as the Interim Superintendent of the Southern Lehigh School District. My chief job here as Interim Superintendent is to transition the district smoothly to your new superintendent once her/she comes on board. Prior to coming to Southern Lehigh, I served as Superintendent for the Haddonfield Borough School District (NJ) from 2018-2020, Downingtown Area School District from 2009-17, the Wilson School District from 2005-09 and for the Pine Grove Area School District from 1998 – 2005. Prior to my career as a Superintendent, I was a High School Principal for 9 years, an Assistant Principal, and Social Studies Teacher. I look forward to serving the Southern Lehigh School District. Listed below are a few updates to bring you up to speed on Board and district happenings;

- **2021-2022 Health and Safety Plan** - Last night, the Southern Lehigh Board of School Directors approved the 21-22 Health and Safety Plan at the June 28 meeting. This document is effective immediately and is available on the SLSD COVID-19 Website. An overview of the major points appear below;
 - Effective June 28th, masks are no longer required for activities occurring either indoors or outdoors. However, unvaccinated individuals are encouraged to wear a mask to protect themselves.
 - The configuration of classroom furniture will be done in a manner that appropriately promotes in-person instruction and maintains physical distancing to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate.
 - ***PLEASE NOTE*** that the American Rescue Plan Act requires that all Local Education Authorities (LEAs) review the Health and Safety Plan at least every six months and make revisions as appropriate. The SLSD will continue to review any updated CDC recommendations, state orders and/or local data which may result in modifications or updates to the SLSD Health and Safety Plan documents. Modifications will be made in coordination with community health partners and reviewed at public SLSD Board of School Directors Meetings. Click [here](#) to access the Health and Safety Plan approved last night. Click [here](#) for Mr. Ruhf's presentation.
- **Summer 2021 Southern Lehigh Hiring Update** - This year, like many others, the SLSD has been working diligently to fill open positions. The goal of the Southern Lehigh School District remains clear, to review, vet, and fill these positions with the best possible candidates. To date, the SLSD has completed the recruit and hire process for the majority of the existing professional vacancies. There is still much work to be done. In addition to filling routine vacancies, Southern Lehigh is working to fill three building level administrative positions. These searches are in various stages and the Administration is working diligently with divergent stakeholders to ensure that the best possible candidates are secured.

Kathleen T. Evison
Superintendent
5775 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034
PH: 610.282.3121
FAX: 610.282.2444



Kathleen T. Evison
Superintendent
5775 Main Street

Center Valley, PA 18034
PH: 610.282.3121
FAX: 610.282.2444

While the Lehigh Valley continues to see the positive impact of a robust regional COVID-19 vaccination effort, we will continue to monitor the regional COVID-19 case data and engage with our community health partners as we progress the SLSD toward returning to school in the fall as close to pre-pandemic conditions as possible. While we want to start school in the fall as close to 'normal' as possible, please understand that COVID-19 presents itself as a dynamic situation.

I am excited to work with the team here at Southern Lehigh. While we are all saddened by Dr. Evison's departure as the leader of Southern Lehigh, I know we are all excited to welcome the new district leader on board as soon as the Board of Education makes their decision. In the meantime, I am looking forward to the start of the school year and working with you all.

Have a wonderful reminder of the week and a relaxing 4th of July Weekend!

Dr. Larry Mussoline
Interim Superintendent
mussolinel@sbsd.org