December 16, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

During this difficult time, the Pleasant Valley School District is committed to providing continuity of education, planned instruction, and appropriate, reasonable, flexible, and accessible services for all students while, also ensuring that students stay safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. One method that the District is doing so is through virtual/online/recorded classes, in which children will participate remotely in live or recorded instruction and instructional activities while their school building is closed.

The District has made reasonable efforts to ensure that such virtual instruction is confidential and access is limited to students in the assigned classes. However, some of this instruction may be provided in a group format and when this occurs, students participating in virtual instruction may be able to see other students in the virtual instruction setting. In addition, the District is unable to control who else may be in the room in which students receiving this instruction remotely, including other family members or others who are living with the other students, who may observe such instruction and what other students are in the group remotely.

Therefore, the District expects that all families will review and implement the following guidelines and expectations to ensure the confidentiality rights of all students are protected during instruction and that all students are able to participate fully in instruction. By having your child participate in virtual learning, you are accepting and agreeing to the conditions outlined in this letter.

- Parent shall make every effort to ensure that no one other than the student assigned to participate in the virtual learning can see or hear the virtual instruction, including, where appropriate, the use of headphone and placing the computer or device being used by your child in such a manner that others are not observing the instruction. Parents and students should also be aware of what is behind them and is being observed in their background on screen.

- If parental or other third-party involvement in a virtual class is necessary to enable a student to participate, the individual assisting the student shall not re-disclose any personally identifiable information about any student involved in the virtual activity and shall identify themselves to the instructor at the beginning of the session.

Excellence in Education: A Community Commitment
If the parent’s electronic equipment malfunctions in any way, the planned virtual class will continue as scheduled. Student may view the recorded class at a later date.

The District will be recording most classes and students are advised that they have no reasonable expectation of privacy during class sessions. Copies of the recordings will be available to all students to view or review for 10 days after the class at which time they may be deleted. Parents and students are prohibited from recording classes or copying recordings of classes without prior written permission. The District will record some classes and students will be notified at the start of the session which classes will be recorded. All students will have the ability to review recordings of the classes.

Parent shall have an obligation to ensure that students attend scheduled virtual instruction and activities consistent with the attendance policy and students who fail to do so will be subject to truancy. Students will be obligated to attend virtual instruction in the same way they would be required to attending if attending in person classes. If issues arise that prevent your child from participating in remote instruction, please contact Building Administration to discuss the same.

Students attending the virtual instruction shall be responsible to complete all assignments and assessments assigned by the teacher just as if they attended the class in person.

Students attending virtual instruction are required to comply with the student code of conduct and student handbook at all times that they are attending virtual instruction or participating in virtual instructional activities and assessments, and may be disciplined for the failure to do so in the same way they could be in the school setting.

If you should have any questions or concerns regarding this notice, please contact Building Administration.

Sincerely,

Superintendent of Schools

LJL/kf