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March 16, 2021

North Syracuse Central School District Staff and Families,

On this day one year ago, I sent a letter to all of you stating that our schools would be closing and we would be communicating a plan for continued learning. I never imagined that the ripple effects of the stone dropped that day would still be felt a year later. I remember the feeling that day...the fear and the uncertainty. We didn't know what was going to happen but we knew that we needed to work together.

Our faculty, students, parents and staff have done an extraordinary job this past year and I am beyond grateful. Every challenge has been met and exceeded despite the unknowns. This year has not been easy for anyone. The extra time, extra work, extra precautions, extra meals, extra care, extra contact, extra cleaning...all the extras...have not gone unnoticed. Thank you to each and every one of you for the extra efforts you've made.

Our families have entrusted their children to us in a pandemic. That level of trust and confidence is both heartening and humbling. Thank you for putting your trust in the NSCSD and for following our safety protocols and being flexible and supporting us this past year.

It feels surreal that one year ago today, we were preparing to shut down and now our schools are preparing to reopen in a greater capacity. We know that we do not yet have all the answers we need, but we are committed to getting our students safely back to school. As we receive additional guidance about barriers, transportation, food service and cleaning, we will provide updates.

Thank you all for your efforts and trust. Stay well and remember that we're brighter together.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Bowles
Superintendent of Schools