



New York State Teachers' Retirement System

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NYSTRS.org

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August 13, 2020

Colleagues,

When we made the shift to our current work arrangement in March, I did not think that over 140 days later, we would not yet be all back together at Corporate Woods. Unfortunately, COVID-19 has proven to be unpredictable. We are in the midst of a marathon, not a sprint to a known finish line. Cases have abated in some areas and increased sharply in others, and I know that many of you are facing evolving situations related to school reopening plans and state health and safety restrictions.

Yet through all of this uncertainty, our more than 430,000 members and beneficiaries have been served without interruption. Despite the continued disruption caused by this virus, our team continues to be effective in their work. This is a testament to each of us being personally accountable for the success of our organization and our commitment to its mission. THANK YOU!!

I am writing today to share the updated plan for reopening Corporate Woods to additional team members. Rather than starting a phased transition back to our office during this still uncertain time, we will continue our current work arrangement until further notice.

I commit to you that you will be given sufficient notice and we will consider personal accommodations before we initiate a phased return to Corporate Woods.

In the meantime, we know there are some team members who are interested in returning to Corporate Woods before a phased reopening is in place. For those of you who feel seeking an exemption to the current work arrangement would be a good option, Administration will distribute an exemption request form and instructions for submission shortly.

Thank you for all that you are doing to support our members and your colleagues. Be safe and enjoy the rest of your summer!

John Cox,
[Signature]