

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300 Phone: (908) 284-7561 Fax: (908) 284-7656 kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us



November 25, 2020

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents, Faculty, Staff, and Community Members,

The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District remains committed to our in-person program, but parents should be prepared to pivot to all-remote learning if the district cannot continue in-person instruction per NJDOE and/or NJDOH COVID-19 guidance. There has been no recommendation yet from the Department of Health (DOH) to alter our schedule for in-person learning. At this time we expect to be OPEN for students, faculty, and staff on Monday, November 30, 2020. Our school doors will be open to students whose families have selected in-person learning. Parents who have selected all-virtual instruction for their child will continue with all-remote learning.

Schedule Reminder: Here's a glance at the district's upcoming schedule:

Date	Grades	Cohort A	Cohort B
November 30- December 4	K-8	Remote Learning	In-Person
December 7 - December 11	K-8	In-Person	Remote Learning
** School closed for all students and staff on Nov. 26 and 27 for Thanksgiving Break.			

^{***} Parents who selected all-virtual instruction for their child will continue with all-remote learning. ***

The COVID-19 Activity Level Report released by the New Jersey Department of Health reports our region remains in the "orange." However, we have multiple students, staff, and faculty quarantined due to the COVID-19 level "orange-high risk" exclusion criteria. The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District team has been working to proactively prepare for the changes and requirements of the DOH. The "orange" classification for our region necessitates more time for our staff to collaborate with our DOH in tracing potential cases and often results in more quarantine of staff and students. While increased quarantine of students may or may not impact our ability to continue to offer in-person instruction, increased quarantine or exclusion of staff could result in the need to pivot to a fully remote instruction for periods of time if we are unable to sanitize our facilities, support in-person teaching in classrooms, or sustain other critical operations. We may also need to declare unplanned remote learning days to ensure that contact tracing protocols can be completed.

Important for your Planning:

Parents should prepare alternative plans if the DOH or the health and safety protocols advise an individual(s) to quarantine or be excluded from school. If the DOH moves our region from the current "orange" level into the "red" level, our schools will automatically pivot to all-remote learning for all students. Reports are typically released on Thursday afternoons. Due to the changing landscape, we have recently asked our teachers to prepare our students and families to be ready to pivot to an all-remote learning schedule as needed with short notice if necessary. If an all remote learning day schedule is announced, a notification will be sent to all families and staff using our current inclement weather procedures.

Contact Tracing:

Our district must follow the COVID-19 exclusion criteria and work with our local health department to identify and exclude close contacts according to the CDC guidance. In consultation with our local health department and per state recommendations, we are now required to complete contact tracing and exclude individuals reporting COVID-19 symptoms. Close contacts of a symptomatic individual will need to be excluded through 14 days from the date of the last contact, or until the symptomatic individual receives an alternate diagnosis or tests negative for COVID-19. Any student or staff member who experiences symptoms must remain at home. The requirements of the New Jersey

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Department of Health's restrictions while operating under the "orange- high risk" category restrict activities and require preventative and control measures.

Travel: Please contact your child's school principal if your child has been required to quarantine due to exposure or travel out of New Jersey to a state that is on New Jersey's list of quarantined states. The State of New Jersey issues a travel advisory for people traveling to our state or returning to New Jersey after having visited a location with a significant spread of COVID-19. The travel advisory requires a 14-day quarantine period upon returning to New Jersey. For the most up-to-date listing of those locations, please refer to the State's <u>FAQ website</u>.

As your family may consider traveling for Thanksgiving our schools must follow the CDC's guidance to protect others from COVID-19. The State of New Jersey issued a travel advisory for people traveling to our state or returning to New Jersey after having visited a location with a significant spread of COVID-19. The travel advisory requires a 14-day quarantine period upon returning to New Jersey. For the most up-to-date listing of those locations, please refer to the State's FAQ website. The out-of-state travel guidance is outlined by New Jersey's quarantine advisory. The 14-day quarantine applies to travel from certain areas identified as those that have a positive COVID-19 test rate higher than 10 per 100,000 residents or have a 10% or higher positivity rate over a seven-day rolling average for impacted states. To protect our students and staff, we will adhere strictly to the state guidelines. Thus, students who travel to states on the advisory list, or internationally, must stay home for 14 days. Quarantine students in the hybrid instruction model will utilize our remote instruction support during their quarantine. Please contact your child's school principal if your child has been required to quarantine due to exposure or travel out of New Jersey to a state that is on New Jersey's list of quarantined states.

Please continue to make healthy choices that will keep your family and our school community healthy and safe. My best to all of our families and my hope that you are all happy, safe, and healthy. I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Wishing you good health,

Dr. Kari McGann

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Superintendent of Schools