

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools 50 Court Street, Flemington, New Jersey 08822-1300 Phone: (908) 284-7551 Fax: (908) 284-7656 <u>kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us</u>



November 30, 2020

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

Today, the District received notice of three positive COVID-19 cases in the district. One is a student at Francis A. Desmares School who was last in school on November 23, 2020. One is a student at Reading-Fleming Intermediate School who was last in school on November 24, 2020. One is a teacher at J.P. Case Middle School who was last in school on November 25, 2020.

There has been no recommendation yet from the Department of Health (DOH) to alter our schedule for in-person learning. However, this weekend the District managed an increase of contact tracing and COVID-19 case management in all schools. We have multiple students, staff, and faculty quarantined due to the COVID-19 level "orange- high risk" exclusion criteria. Parents should prepare alternative plans in the event that the DOH or the health and safety protocols advise an individual(s) to quarantine or be excluded from school. 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.

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

Parents, please do not send your child into school if you have given fever-reducing medication or if your child is symptomatic with COVID-19 symptoms. If it is confirmed that a symptomatic child is present in school, the district may need to send an entire classroom of students and the teacher(s) home to quarantine. It is critical that every staff member and student take all precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The Department of Health guidance specifically states that siblings of a student who has symptoms and meets <u>COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria</u> should be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the symptomatic individual tests positive, the sibling will need to also <u>self-quarantine</u>.

The district follows very specific procedures with our partners at the Department of Health and is not able to share any additional identifying information about any positive cases. The DOH or our district nursing staff will contact anyone who has been in close contact with an ill person with quarantine instructions within 24 hours. If a student or an employee is given quarantine instructions, the student or the employee will be required to stay home and quarantine for at least 14 days. For students, this means they may not come to school on in-person instruction days during the quarantine period. The student will have access to our remote instruction program during this time.

COVID-19 has the following symptoms: fever (temperature of 100.4 or greater) or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, a new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. If children experience any of these symptoms, they must stay home from



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 <u>kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us</u>



school. If you have any questions about symptoms or any other concerns for you or your child, please consult your physician.

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.

Wishing you good health,

Koi McGann

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools