

kmcgann@frsd.k12.nj.us



January 10, 2022

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

As I mentioned in my <u>January 3 letter to parents</u> and my <u>January 9 letter to parents</u>, temporary virtual instruction decisions may need to be considered within classrooms, grade levels, or buildings when pressing circumstances occur including the mandatory requirement for schools to complete COVID-19 contact tracing. As the situation warrants, it is possible for some schools to remain open for in-person instruction while other schools operate remotely.

As such, due to COVID-19 contact tracing requirements that need to be completed and staffing challenges due to mandatory quarantine requirements, Reading-Fleming Intermediate School and J.P. Case Middle School will be closed tomorrow, January 11, 2022, for in-person instruction. That means all Reading-Fleming Intermediate School students and J.P. Case Middle School students will log into virtual learning for a full day of remote instruction for tomorrow, January 11, 2022. Reading-Fleming and J.P. Case building administration and/or teachers will follow up with specific information for Reading-Fleming and J.P. Case students.

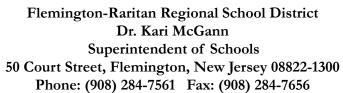
A decision regarding in-person instruction for Reading-Fleming Intermediate School and J.P. Case Middle School for Wednesday, January 12, 2022, will be made and announced by noon tomorrow so that parents can plan accordingly. As Reading-Fleming Intermediate School and J.P. Case Middle School students will participate in remote instruction tomorrow, we will continue to problem-solve to return Grades 5-8 students to in-person learning as quickly as possible.

To clarify, all four elementary schools (Barley Sheaf, Copper Hill, Francis A. Desmares, and Robert Hunter) will be open for in-person instruction tomorrow, January 11, 2022. Grades 5-8 will operate remotely with virtual instruction only. As always, students district-wide who are in quarantine can continue to log into virtual instruction as they normally do.

The District continues to assess our cases and symptomatic close contacts and their potential effect on our ability to offer in-person learning. As you know, the district is prohibited from offering a choice for remote learning as an instructional model since Governor Murphy ended Executive Order 175. Virtual instruction can only be used as a result of a COVID quarantine or COVID closure.

Parents are encouraged to have childcare arrangements in place should a school or the District need to move to temporary virtual instruction as in the case with Reading-Fleming Intermediate School and J.P. Case Middle School. Due to the fluidity of the current public health crisis, this determination may need to be made very quickly as evidenced today. Information will be communicated as quickly as possible if changes are needed.

Please contact your child's school if your child has been exposed to COVID-19 or has symptoms. Parents, if you have given fever-reducing medication or if your child is symptomatic with COVID-19 symptoms, do not send your child to school. If it is confirmed that a symptomatic child is present in school, the district may need to send





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multiple students and the teacher(s) home to quarantine. When children come to school that are sick or exposed at home it creates contact tracing requirements which may hinder our ability to continue to offer in-person learning.

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

Sincerely,
Dr. Kari McGann
Superintendent of Schools