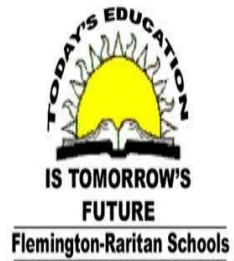


**Flemington-Raritan Regional School District**  
**Dr. Kari McGann**  
**Superintendent of Schools**  
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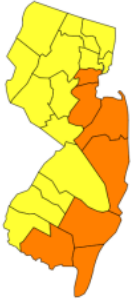


September 13, 2021

Dear Flemington-Raritan Parents and Community,

Thank you for helping to make our first week with students a great experience! Last week I visited all of our schools and rode on one of our school buses on the morning route and was thrilled to see happy students, engaged teachers, and joyful parents. We have all worked very hard to make sure the opening days were positive and welcoming. We appreciate your partnership with us and your trust.

Since March, we have all navigated the tumultuous waters that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to create. Throughout, the health and safety of our students and staff have been our top priority. As we face the start of a new school year, health and safety must remain our top priority. Our Centralwest Region continues to be in the moderate COVID-19 activity level, categorized in the “yellow” as indicated on the [COVID-19 weekly report](#). It is critical that parents continue to monitor their children’s health and keep children home if they are not feeling well and have two or more symptoms.



The continuation of full day in-person instruction and other extracurricular programs, and the continued health of our entire community, require that everyone take precautions. The CDC provides information on the prevention of illness and remaining healthy. You can find more information here:

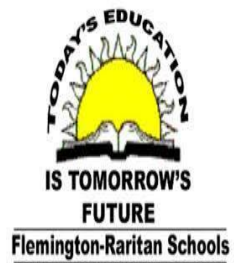
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>.

As shared in the [June 18, 2021 letter to the community](#), current cases of COVID-19 are posted on the District website. Unfortunately, this weekend the district began contact tracing due to positive cases of COVID-19 in some of our schools. Contact tracing continued today with multiple students, staff, and faculty needing to quarantine due to exposure and COVID-19 symptoms. A dashboard of COVID-19 tracking positive cases helps to continue to provide transparency about the status of COVID-19 in our schools. To find the current count of reported COVID-19 cases, visit the district homepage and click on the headline that reads [Current COVID-19 count](#). This chart is updated by the end of the day each day in which a case is reported to the Superintendent.

When our nurses are notified of a positive case of COVID-19 contact tracing begins. We are not able to share any identifying information about any positive cases. Whenever contact tracing determines that your child has been in close contact with an ill person, you will receive quarantine instructions.

It is important to note that a fully vaccinated student (or employee) who is identified as a close contact of an ill person does not need to be quarantined, unless they begin to show symptoms. A person is not considered fully vaccinated until two weeks have passed since the completion of the vaccination course (for example, two weeks

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after a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.) For more information on vaccine eligibility and appointments, please visit the vaccination web page of the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub: <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/vaccine>.

If your child is not fully vaccinated and is a close contact with an ill person, your child may need to stay home from school. The CDC offers exclusions for students who are wearing masks consistently and are socially distanced three-feet apart, however, school nurses through contact-tracing conversations determine whether or not students were wearing masks consistently. There are times when mask-wearing may not be consistent, such as during lunch and snack time.

If your child is quarantined but otherwise healthy, parents will have the option for him/her to participate in class virtually. For more information on quarantine protocols, please see the district's website and the link to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

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, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. If children experience any of these symptoms, it is critical for them to stay home from school. If you have any questions about symptoms, or any other concerns for you or your child, please contact your physician. Our school nurses are also available for consultation and as a partner in your child's health.



**BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHTS**  
Our District is eager to welcome parents back into our schools for annual Back-to-School Night events. It is important to note that only one parent per child may attend Back-to-School Night and masks are mandated indoors per the Governor's Executive Order. Limited parent attendance with a single parent allows each classroom to maintain social distancing and does not overcrowd classrooms with upwards of more than forty adults in a single classroom. Dates and times are listed below:

- September 20 – J.P. Case Middle School, 5:45 p.m.; *Early Dismissal Day for Grades 7 & 8 only*
- September 21 – Reading-Fleming Intermediate School, 6:30 p.m.; *Early Dismissal Day for Grades 5 & 6 only*
- September 23 – Barley Sheaf School, 6 p.m.; Copper Hill School, 5:30 p.m.; Francis A. Desmares School, 6 p.m.; Robert Hunter School, 6 p.m.; *Early Dismissal Day for PreK-Grade 4 only*

Next week our schools are scheduled for Back-to-School nights, otherwise known as Open Houses. Information was published in the September newsletter. You can find that information at the link on the district website [here](#).

When parents are attending Back-to-School nights, safety practices must be upheld. Masks must be worn when in the building. Social distancing must be maintained. We ask that only one parent per child attend Back-to-School Night except for in special circumstances. Please communicate with your building administrators. One parent attending Open House will allow the district to maintain social distancing in classrooms and in the school. Watch for information from your child's building principal regarding practices that are put into place for the evening to protect the safety of all.

With best wishes for your continued safety and good health.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Kari McGann  
Superintendent of Schools