

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

July 31, 2020

Dear Parents:

I hope you are doing well and enjoying time with your family and some summer relaxation. For me, it's finding time to take a daily walk and enjoy the early evening cooler temperatures. This quiet time allows me to recharge, reflect, and plan for all that is required of educators and the needs of our community.

We are requiring our families to formally register their option choice via this form here for parents. Accurately knowing the selection for every child, along with transportation needs, will allow us to formalize our re-entry plans. Once all our families have registered their preference for option one (Virtual Academy Remote Learning Only) or option two (Hybrid with a "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model), we can establish a schedule based on the number of how many students register and request an in-person "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model. All students will be on an early-release schedule each day. This means that schools will operate on a shortened day schedule for in-person and for virtual remote instruction.

Please complete a registration questionnaire for each child in your family that attends Flemington-Raritan Regional School District. The deadline for completing the survey form is Tuesday, August 4 at 5 PM.

The district is working diligently to finalize our re-entry plan in order to have the plan ready for the Board of Education approval on August 6th, 2020. The Superintendent and Board of Education will add an additional Board of Education meeting to the August schedule. Thus, it is critical that all families complete the registration question linked in this letter by 5 p.m. on Tuesday August 4th, 2020. For families that do not register, we will place their children into option 2 hybrid learning.

To assist parents in choosing an option a link to a question and answer document is <u>here</u> to provide answers to frequently asked questions. We will also place the link on our district website. The frequently asked questions document will continue to have questions and answers added.

Option 1: Virtual Academy: Remote Only Learning:

Our completely virtual instruction will be taught by Flemington-Raritan Regional School District teachers and will follow the same district curriculum as used for in-person hybrid instruction. Our virtual learning academy option will consist of students interacting virtually via live instruction several times a week with an FRSD teacher. This will include both live, scheduled classes with an instructor at a set time, as well as student self-paced learning. Students will not be "Zooming" into the classroom to watch instruction delivered by the faculty member delivering instruction during Hybrid learning. Virtual Academy remote instruction will be separated from Hybrid learning instruction and will not happen simultaneously. Assessments, projects, content,

and resources will all be a part of the remote learning plan and will follow the district curriculum and New Jersey Student Learning Standards. In addition to live lessons, teachers will post assignments and will provide feedback to students. Daily attendance will be taken and monitored. Virtual learning students will have the same number of learning hours as students in a hybrid "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model. Students in a virtual learning model will receive feedback in the form of evaluation of learning, just as students in a hybrid learning model. A two-week notification will be needed to accommodate a parent's request to move from one option to another, unless a health accommodation is required.

Option 2: Hybrid with a "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model:

In a hybrid model with a "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model, students will receive a combination of in-person instruction and remote virtual instruction. A group of students, or cohort of students, will be scheduled together in a "Group A" or "Group B." The district will make every effort to schedule families from the same household, living at the same address, to attend school on the same scheduled days in either "Group A" or "Group B." Under the current requirements of the New Jersey Department of Education for social distancing, all students will not be present in our school buildings on the same days. "Group A" and "Group B" will attend school in alternating, separate weeks. The New Jersey Department of Education established parameters as one of the suggested schedules for schools. "Group A" will attend in person one week while the other group, "Group B," participates virtually that week. The following week the group that was attending in person will participate virtually, and the group that was participating virtually will attend in person. Students attending the "Group A" and "Group B" Across Grades Model will attend school alternating between in-person and virtual instruction week by week. A two-week notification will be needed to accommodate a parent's request to move from one option to another, unless a health accommodation is required.

For more information on the hybrid model and the virtual academy please refer to the July 25, 2020 <u>letter</u> to the community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kari McGann

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Superintendent of Schools

Flemington-Raritan Regional School District