

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>



July 1, 2021

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

The summer work in our district is moving forward to prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. As promised, communication will come regularly from my office to our community to keep parents, staff, and faculty updated on our referendum work and school reopening plans. We look forward to a full calendar of events, activities and special moments as we focus on returning to our traditional school schedules.

On Monday, June 28 Governor Murphy shared his plan to drop the statewide mandate that all students and staff wear masks in school. Governor Murphy announced "masking by students will not be mandatory in school buildings unless the district decides to require masking as part of its own protocols." Governor Murphy was clear to share that guidance was based on New Jersey's improvement in COVID-19 data. New Jersey Department of Health provides guidance to schools through the Road Forward Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year. Our reopening plan currently states the following: *The District's plan for mask wearing and social distancing will follow the guidance issued by the Governor's Executive Orders and/or the NJ Department of Healthby the Governor's Executive Orders and/or the NJ Department of Healthby the Road Forward Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year.*

COVID-19 Report:

This week's and last week's COVID-19 report shows our Central West region in the "green." Case rates, percent CLI, and percent positivity rates determine a CALI score of a 1, which indicates a low activity level or in the "green." The Central West region includes Hunterdon, Mercer, and Somerset counties. The <u>Hunterdon County COVID-19</u> <u>Dashboard</u> reports countywide daily increases. The state's COVID-19 Activity Level Index Weekly Reports are all linked <u>here</u>.

We will continue to monitor the data and our decisions using guidance from the CDC and local health department data. We expect to receive updates to the guidance offered through the Road Forward Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year.

Remote Learning:

The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District is planning for full-day, full-time, in-person instruction with all enrolled students, staff, and faculty present. The virtual school option has ended because Executive Order 175 has been rescinded which allowed parents to choose an all-remote option. Due to the public health emergency ending, virtual school will not be an option for students in September 2021. Moreover, there will not be remote learning emergency snow days. The district has planned for traditional snow days for the 2021-2022 school year. Our 2021-2022 district calendar is linked here. As per the Governor, remote learning will only be permitted in the event there is a localized outbreak or other emergencies as directed by the State of New Jersey. We look forward to welcoming back all of our students, faculty, and staff for full, in-person instruction in the fall.

Referendum Update:

Due to ongoing referendum construction, the following schools/offices are closed this summer: Central Office (Superintendent's Office, Curriculum Office, Business Office), Reading-Fleming Intermediate School, Barley Sheaf School, Francis A. Desmares School, and Robert Hunter School. All staff at these locations have been relocated to J.P. Case Middle School. Copper Hill School and J.P. Case Middle School are open Monday through Thursday. All offices are closed on Fridays in the summer.



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>



I hope every family enjoys a safe, healthy, relaxing and fun summer. Our students, staff, faculty, and families have shown amazing resiliency during the pandemic. We can't wait to see our students again when they return to school on September 8 for a traditional school year!

Sincerely,

Koin McGann

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent of Schools