

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

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April 30, 2021

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

The Flemington-Raritan Regional School District continues to invest our time and energy to enhance the education of our students and keep our decisions in alignment with our motto, "Every student, every day, every opportunity." The pace of our referendum work, staffing, academics, social-emotional support, and the pandemic response has required our Flemington-Raritan Regional School District team to be at the top of their game, adjusting and pivoting to the changing guidance. We are all so happy to have our students back in school and our State beginning to open up more.

We are pleased that Governor Murphy <u>announced</u> this past Monday an increase in gathering limits for outdoor and indoor end-of-year events, effective May 10, 2021. The outdoor gathering limit will increase to 500 persons and the capacity limit for large venues with fixed seating for 1,000 or more people is increased to 50%. The Governor also announced increased limits for indoor catered events, such as proms, to 50% of room capacity and with a maximum of 250 people, and the ability of outdoor and indoor venues to open dance floors at these private catered events. This announcement is wonderful news for our students, families, and communities. An Executive Order from the Governor's office effectuating these changes is forthcoming.

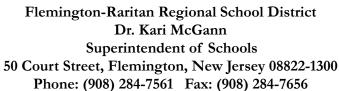
The New Jersey Department of Education released <u>guidance</u> to assist school districts in the planning of end-of-year activities and celebrations that meet applicable New Jersey health and safety standards. New Jersey Department of Education guidance references activities, including but not limited to graduation and promotional ceremonies, student recognition ceremonies, and proms. Our building leaders continue to closely follow guidance and plan end-of-year activities.

Members of the administrative leadership team are working diligently to hire top-notch educators to fill positions that are vacant for fall 2021 to continue to provide high-quality instruction for students. Soon I will be recommending to the Board of Education school and district leadership positions for our district including the Business Administrator, Director of Educational Facilities and Operations, the Building Principal for Francis A. Desmares Elementary School, and the Vice-Principal for Barley Sheaf Elementary School. Interviews for the Business Administrator, the Building Principal for Francis A. Desmares Elementary School, and the Vice-Principal for Barley Sheaf Elementary School concluded this week. Thank you to those who served on the committees and recommended final candidates for positions. It has been an honor to speak with educational colleagues from throughout the State who also find Flemington-Raritan Regional School District to be an exceptional community for teaching and learning.

COVID-19 Update

Our Central West region continues to improve. Each week, the Department of Health provides information on the COVID-19 transmission at the regional level published through the CALI report. I am happy to report that again this week's <u>COVID-19 report</u> shows our Central West region remains in the "yellow." All indicators; case rate, percent CLI, and percent positivity rates decreased. This is great news!

The District received notice of no new positive COVID-19 cases of students and staff members this week. Acurrent count of reported COVID-19 cases is posted on the <u>District website</u>. To find the current count of reported COVID-19 cases visit the district homepage and scroll down to the image of the New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub link. The chart is updated by the end of each day in which a case is reported to the Superintendent.





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My best to all our families for a wonderful weekend. We greatly appreciate our school community's support for our progress this school year. It continues to be my great honor to serve as the Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Superintendent of Schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kari McGann

Kori McGann

Superintendent of Schools