

## 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

May 13, 2022

Dear Flemington-Raritan Regional School District Parents and Community Members;

Our District has been monitoring and analyzing significant disparities in elementary school enrollments. We have identified a lack of instructional spaces and resources and must work to address a growing inequity among our elementary schools. In addition, new residential construction in our area is straining certain elementary schools more than others. With the new housing surge, the District can no longer accommodate all students who reside within current catchment areas in their currently assigned school. These factors combined can lead to larger class sizes and hinder our ability to deliver equitable instruction using the same or similar activities and materials in student programs. The District cannot delay. A change in elementary school attendance zones is needed; therefore, redistricting will be implemented for September 2022.

To notify parents of redistricting planning, which includes the critical work of the Superintendent's Equity Ad Committee, I provided redistricting information in the December, January, March and April issues of the Superintendent's newsletter. A link is on the District's website as well. Each redistricting proposal developed by the committee was vetted with a focus on school capacity, anticipated enrollment, housing construction status, student instruction, special education programs, and balancing percentages of economically disadvantaged and English as a Second Language students. As a result of the committee's work, the catchment areas will be changed beginning in the 2022-2023 school to balance enrollment and absorb the impact of new housing.

On Monday, May 23, I will be presenting final plans to the Board of Education at a meeting at J.P. Case Middle School at 7 p.m. A list of all streets that have been reassigned to another school will be posted on the District Redistricting web site, linked <a href="here">here</a>. Parents of affected students will receive a hard copy letter via the U.S. mail. These letters were mailed today, Friday, May 13. Please note, although catchment areas have changed, children enrolled in a specialized program as outlined in an IEP will remain in the school where their designated program is provided. In addition, babysitter requests will be honored on a case-by-case basis.

To ease the transition for affected families, there will be opportunities for families to connect with their new school. Activities may include meet and greet events with the building principal and key staff, parent "question and answer" sessions and school tours. In addition, the District will make every effort to assign redistricted students together in the same homerooms when possible and involve staff from both schools in the placement of students. Discussions will be held at Superintendent "Talk-a-Latte" events and the Superintendent's Equity Ad Hoc Committee will continue their important work.

While I recognize that the transition to a new school in September 2022 represents a considerable change for families, please rest assured that everyone in the District is committed to supporting every student, every day at every opportunity.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kari McGann Superintendent

Kari McGann