

HARRINGTON PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

June 10, 2020

Good Evening Families,

As we wind down this year, many families are asking about our plans for opening the district for the 2020 - 2021 school year. Over the last several weeks, we have been working on several different options to reopen the school, and we are currently awaiting some promised direction from the New Jersey Department of Education. Since we presently have no formal direction from the NJDOE, we are looking at international, federal, as well as corporate plans to help provide us a sense of direction to the challenges of opening up a large facility. We would also like to thank all of our families for participating in our district survey, which has allowed us to identify critical elements and make the best decisions possible for our children.

As a district, we have started to break down the operation of the school into facilities, curriculum, learning environment, and health and wellness. Even though we have not obtained clear guidance from the State, we have teams examining what changes we need to make to our educational program. A team looking at our current facility, another team is focused on securing the necessary supplies needed to reopen the facility, and a different team is developing a "traditional" school model while concurrently running a virtual program. These teams are working with all aspects of needs within the district. We are beginning to identify solutions that could be possible recommendations to the numerous challenges we are facing.

Below are some of the questions we are reviewing:

- Will a daily health screening need to be in place for all students and staff?
- Will students and staff be required to wear face masks?
- Can we modify our elective programs to enhance, enrich, and support our students through public/private partnerships?
- If social distancing restrictions are in place, will we have to alter student schedules and provide a hybrid model of learning in which students will have both in-house learning as well as a virtual platform?
- If a vaccine is not available in the fall and we have a percentage of students not returning to the district, will we be able to create a secondary learning platform to support all of our families?

We are also mindful that we need to continue to gauge our student's educational progress. We are also using the information from the survey to develop virtual summer programs that focus on a student's academic and social-emotional needs.

The above descriptions are not detailed, but they should provide an overview of the behind-the-scenes work that will provide for a safe and much-needed return to our school. As we have firm guidance that will enable us to finalize our plans, we will share it with the community. It is our mission to continue to be the district we have always been and to live by our motto of "Leading the Way" and we are working hard to honor that proud tradition.

Respectfully,
Dr. Adam D. Fried
Superintendent

MESSAGE FROM THE BERGEN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

Here is the link for the [Bergen County Mental Health and Community Support Resources accessible during COVID-19.](#)

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH VIRTUAL YOUTH TOWN HALL

All New Jersey middle & high school students are invited to participate in a Virtual Youth Town Hall event focused on the response to COVID19. Students will be able to do group activities and share ideas about what the future may hold for them. For more information, see the attached flyer.

[Register HERE!](#)

"Leading the Way"
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