



EAST RUTHERFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

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June 29, 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

On Friday, June 26, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) released its guidance regarding the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year. According to the information outlined in this guidance document, at this time, schools will be able to open in some capacity for in-person instruction; however, it was noted that each district must develop plans to best meet its needs with the priority being the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff.

School districts will have the flexibility to rearrange schedules and/or offer a hybrid model consisting of a combination of in-person instruction and remote learning to ensure adherence to social distancing requirements. Additionally, districts must be prepared for the possibility of transferring solely to remote learning should the public health situation deem it necessary.

The guidelines outlined include but are not limited to:

- Schools must follow social distancing to the maximum extent possible.
- Faculty, staff, and visitors must wear face coverings.
- Students are encouraged to wear face coverings, but they must be worn if social distancing cannot be maintained.
- All school buildings and buses must continue to adhere to existing, required facilities disinfecting and cleaning procedures.
- If social distancing cannot be maintained on buses, students must wear face coverings.
- Districts must establish screening policies for students and staff.

While the reopening guidelines outlined by Governor Murphy and Dr. Lamont Repollet, Commissioner of the Department of Education has provided a basic framework for districts, we are all now tasked with the development of a plan that best addresses our individual concerns and student needs. The NJDOE guidance will help to inform the plans that we have already been developing for various instructional models and scenarios. I feel fortunate to be part of a collaborative network of educators and Superintendents in Bergen County, where we have been working together to share ideas and discuss possible solutions.

Input from our students, parents, faculty, and staff is of paramount importance and as such we are asking parents/guardians to please complete this [survey](#) by Friday, July 10th, that will assist us in working collaboratively towards the successful, safe, and positive return to school for our entire learning community.

Once we receive the data from the survey, we will convene a committee of key stakeholders to develop a reopening plan that will suit the needs of all of our students. We will share the details of the reopening plans upon completion. We appreciate your ongoing support and please know that the East Rutherford School District will be ready for September 2020. Until then, I hope you will enjoy some well-deserved relaxation this summer!

Sincerely,

Giovanni A. Giancaspro

Superintendent of Schools