



District Update

February 26, 2021

Custodians

A huge thank you to all of our custodial and maintenance crew as well as John Montany for their work during our snow and ice days of the past month. This on top of their commitment to keeping our buildings safe during this pandemic, are reasons to never forget their importance.

NJDOH/BCDOH Update

I am happy to report that some of the changes that we are seeing from a County and State standpoint indicate a positive outlook. Please find below the most up to date change in guidance.

- Individuals who are fully vaccinated and two weeks out from their final dose, will no longer have to quarantine if they are deemed a close contact of an individual who has tested positive for COVID 19.
- The updated CALI report from the NJDOE that we reference as the tiered color coded report has consistently shown progress. Although Bergen County's region, "Northeast" is still Orange, as you can see in the attachment provided, there are only two regions that remain Orange while the rest have shifted back to Yellow. This is a significant shift in the State and hopefully we see our region shift to Yellow very shortly.

- There seems to be some confusion throughout the County regarding the travel restrictions as they relate to schools. There has been talk that with the new CDC guidance, those who travel out of State and are fully vaccinated do not have to quarantine from school when they return to New Jersey. That is factually incorrect and the travel requirements remain in effect regardless of whether the person is fully vaccinated. Therefore, any person traveling must quarantine before returning to school, even if that person is fully vaccinated.

Learning Loss/Summer Programs/Retention

One of the obvious by products of the pandemic and the shift to hybrid instruction in schools is the issue of learning loss. School based committees have met and a district level committee will meet shortly to implement a plan of action as we move in to the spring. Undoubtedly, there will be instances of the need for student retentions to recoup what was lost and those discussions will take place on a case by case basis. However, we also are planning for the implementation of a robust summer program (hopefully in person) that will address such a need for those students who have been struggling and those who may need extra support as they move into the next school year. More information will be provided in the coming weeks regarding what we hope to be an in person summer learning loss and enrichment academic program for student success.

Learning Loss/Retention Game Plan

■ GamePlan

- Building Level Committee Meetings Week of Feb. 22 with Principal, Guidance, SE, Team members in Math & ELA
- District Level Committee Meetings Week of March 1

■ Philosophy

- Learning Loss is real
- Retentions are absolutely necessary
- Judgment is also absolutely necessary
- Not an exact science and should be case by case.
- Must be data driven with both quantitative and qualitative data.
- Frequent Parent communication should be taking place about mastery of skills.

- District assessments and the use of DRA and IXL assessments are critical to provide workable data
- Creation of robust summer learning loss/enrichment program

Student Magic Show

Get ready for “The Extreme Magic of Eric” from NBC’s “America’s Got Talent” virtually in this LIVE and INTERACTIVE Virtual Magic & Illusion Show Experience! Students will see grand illusions from 360-degree views, their minds read through the screen, and even learn the secrets to some tricks!

- Tuesday, March 2nd, 10:00 AM
- The show will be approximately 40 to 45 minutes long
- No picture or videos permitted
- A-Zoom link will be provided to virtual students to log in from home
- In-person students will view the show in their classroom
- Supplies needed if students would like to learn a trick: Deck of cards, 2 rubber bands (size that you would wear around your wrist)

State Assessments

New Jersey applied for a waiver to the federal government. The waiver asks for the option to cancel state assessments. The federal government a few days ago, after NJ submitted the waiver, said that they will no longer consider canceling assessments and that they will be required. New Jersey vehemently disagrees as does most states and therefore they will continue to lobby and at the same time keep the waiver in place to see if the huge backlash that the feds are receiving right now will change their stance. The glimmer of hope is that the feds indicated that they will be “flexible.” Their examples of “flexibility” include assessing students in the summer or early fall instead of this spring, allowing for states to use different forms of assessment to judge proficiency, and shortening the assessments that would be used. Stay tuned.

Vaccine Plan

As noted in a prior communication, we submitted a proposal to expedite vaccinations of all teachers in the 1B category by breaking Bergen County into quadrants and having four to five districts in each quadrant act as host sites for mass teacher vaccinations. This was submitted to the County and although it is being considered, the holdup is that it has to be approved first by the CDC. The issue of adequate refrigeration was discussed but that could easily be rectified with creative thinking. Stay tuned.

Grade 8 End of Year

Dialogue with Grade 8 students:

This year has been anything but normal. Unfortunately it has impacted all of us in many different ways. As educators we try to provide you with normalcy but it is extremely difficult based on the circumstances. However, we can use the pandemic as an excuse for why things are not the same or use it as motivation to get more creative. There is no class more than the Class of 2021 that we feel the need to be as creative as possible so as to provide you with some form of normalcy before you graduate. Therefore, we would like to outline below a few of the changes that we will make to provide as much of an experience for you as possible.

Grade 8 Social - April 23

Typically the Grade 8 Social is held indoors in January. For obvious reasons it could not take place this year. The social will instead take place outdoors on the courtyard on the evening of April 23rd. This will be a themed event with DJ, food and fun.

Washington DC Trip

Unfortunately, but obviously, we will not be able to take this trip this year. The reasons include the pandemic related dangers, the out of state travel restrictions and corresponding quarantine, the immense cost it would be per family because of the lack of fundraising due to the pandemic, and the saddest part of all, the fact that Washington DC is essentially on lockdown and what we looked forward to each year on our visit most likely will not be available to us or any other tourists this year.

Therefore we are in the midst of planning a three day end of the year Class of 2021 Celebration that will take place on the same three days that you would have been in DC.

Class of 2021 Celebration Week

Wednesday, June 2

Class of 2021 trip to Ellis Island

This has become an annual trip in the Fall but with the COVID issues we did not go this past October. Instead we will take this trip on Wednesday, June 2.

Thursday, June 3

Morning - Give Back To Maywood Service Event

The Class of 2021 will take part in community service within the town of Maywood as a means to “give back” to our community. We will work with students and boro officials to devise a plan and decide upon the actual community service concept that will make the biggest impact on our community.

Afternoon - Class of 2021 BBQ

The Class of 2021 will celebrate with the annual Class of 2021 Blast Off BBQ that we usually hold in September. This will take place on the backfield with great food, music and games.

Friday, June 4

Class of 2021 Great Adventure Trip

The Class of 2021 will conclude their celebration week with a day trip to Great Adventure. The goal is to simply have a blast.

MAS Graduation and Celebration - June 17

On June 17th, the MAS Class of 2021 will be the first class in the history of MAS (since 1927) to graduate outdoors. The Graduation ceremony will take place on the MAS backfield and will be followed by the post graduation dance/celebration on the MAS courtyard.

District Health Protocol Reminders

Symptoms

If your child is exhibiting any of the COVID-19 symptoms on the morning health pre screening, please keep the child home and report the information to the school nurse.

Students with COVID-19 symptoms are to remain home until one of these two conditions are met:

At least fourteen calendar days have passed since symptom onset.

They have a negative COVID-19 PCR Test. Rapid tests may no longer be used. Note that an alternative diagnosis will no longer be accepted for a return to school.

Siblings

If a student remains home because he/she is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, any siblings must also remain home until a negative COVID-19 test is confirmed for the symptomatic sibling. The same goes for any other member of the house who may be exhibiting symptoms. In other words, if ANYONE in the house has COVID-19 symptoms, all Maywood students who live in that house should move to remote learning until a negative PCR test is confirmed for the symptomatic family member.

Close Contact

If your child has been determined to be a Close Contact (within 6' for 15 cumulative minutes over a 24-hour period) of someone diagnosed with COVID-19, please keep your child home and notify your child's principal and school nurse.

COVID-19 Tests

If your child goes for a COVID-19 test, whether because of symptoms or not, please share that information directly with both your child's school nurse and the building principal. Students cannot return to school until the negative PCR test result is confirmed.

School Reporting Protocol

Please note that for consistency purposes and a centralized approach to info gathering, all parents should email the following personnel any and all medical/health information relating to their child, COVID testing, close contacts etc.

We ask to email the following people only, and not the classroom teacher, so that nothing gets lost in the shuffle.

Memorial School

Michael Halligan, Principal mhalligan@maywoodschoools.org

Sharon Dunn, School Nurse sdunn@maywoodschoools.org

MAS

Michael Jordan, Principal mjordan@maywoodschoools.org

Keith Timmins, VP ktimmins@maywoodschoools.org

Diana Zuccaro, School Nurse dzuccaro@maywoodschoools.org

MYAA Baseball & MRPGS Softball Registrations

Please see a message below from both the MYAA and MRPGS regarding baseball and softball registrations.

Registration has been ongoing in Maywood for both baseball and softball but the number of children registered to date is very low. For planning purposes for the volunteers who run these sports, please register your son/daughter immediately! We are also seeing a lack of parents signing up to volunteer to coach.

We are optimistic baseball and softball will start on time this year (mid April) with all precautions in place. Travel baseball and travel softball were successful last summer and fall following all the guidelines set forth by the state and town. We are confident we can provide a safe and enjoyable environment for the children this Spring.

If at any time conditions change or you change your mind, we can refund your registration fee. Please take a few moments and register today!

MYAA BASEBALL:

Maywood Baseball Registration can be completed online, please go to

[MYAA Registration](#)

Baseball registration ends this Sunday, February 28th!

Any questions, please email Dave Luongo at playstickball@aol.com.

MRPGS SOFTBALL:

Maywood-Rochelle Park Girls Softball can be completed online, please go to [MRPGS Registration](#)

Registration ends on March 6th!

If you have any questions, please contact us at mrpgssoftball@gmail.com.

Have a great weekend !