

District Community:

Good evening, I hope all is well with you and your family. I am reaching out with an update as of July 16. In my prior communication I noted that we would be establishing committees to abide by the mandates set forth in the NJDOE's "The Road Back" document. The committees have been created and they are the mandated Pandemic Response Committee as well as the School Based Reopening Committees. Maywood went a step further and created five subcommittees made up of parents, teachers, community members, staff and students. These five committees feed into the two committees just mentioned. These subcommittees are PPE, Physical Plant, Curriculum, Social/Emotional and Scheduling. These committees are focused on ensuring the health and safety of students and staff while creating the best possible instructional environment for our children. The committees are using data and input gained from many sources including but not limited to our family and staff surveys, research data points, collaboration with other county schools and local district administration. This input has proved invaluable and is contributing substantially to our forthcoming recommendations.

The committees will finish their work shortly and the District will be submitting a plan based on the committees' work, the family and staff surveys, BOE input, staff input, adherence to NJDOE guidelines as well as Department of Health and CDC guidelines by July 27th. We then hope to release our approved plan by no later than August 10th but hopefully sooner, based on approval.

This communication and update is intended to provide you with information that is **confirmed** as of today regardless of the final plan. I ask that you review and plan accordingly.

CONFIRMED ITEMS FOR NEW SCHOOL YEAR AS OF JULY 15

Chromebooks

Every child in the District will receive a chromebook and corresponding charger at the beginning of the school year, if not sooner. The District has decided that the true 1:1 model is a necessity seeing that the future is so uncertain as to the in person and at home instructional models. Therefore, we feel it is prudent to make sure that each child has their own device to use and have 24/7. This will also eliminate the issue of cross contamination use in school.

Technology Fee

The 1:1 initiative will require a per child insurance/replacement up front fee of \$35. This fee will offset any related charges that would occur due to damage and/or repair.

LiveStreaming

Based on the schedule that is chosen, the District is considering live streaming all classes. Therefore, regardless of whether the child is home or in person, the class will be live and interactive. This would be accommodated by using GoogleMeet. Therefore, the cohort of students who are home for virtual learning will be taking the class live as if they were in the classroom, having the ability to see the teacher, the smartboard, while also being able to participate, respond and ask questions as if they were in class.

Face Masks

All students will be required to wear a face mask, face shield, gaiter, or cloth covering throughout the school day. We will abide by the CDC and State guidelines regarding times that it may be allowed for the masks not to be worn because of safe social distancing, but we can tell you that regardless of the schedule and timeframes chosen, students are required to bring and wear their own masks to school each day they come in person.

The District will of course have a reserve amount of masks available in school in the off chance that the child forgets the mask or loses it in his/her travels. We indicate this so that you are aware and can plan for the purchase of your child's mask(s) before the beginning of the school year.

Student Screening Prior to School Day

Each morning parents will be provided with a digital google form that will need to be filled out as a means of documenting that your child was screened at home before they came to school. The form will simply be a checkbox validation that your child does not have any of the symptoms that the CDC and the State have indicated would preclude a child from coming to school. The District may also choose to screen children as they arrive at school but this parental form is the first layer of protection each and every day. This form will also be available in paper form for those who choose to fill it out in that format.

Quarantine Designated States

We remind everyone that the first day of school is September 10th. We have been asked by the County to remind parents that if you are planning or will be on vacation in a state that is on the New Jersey "quarantine" list, that your child (student) would have to quarantine for 14 days prior to attending school. In essence, 14 days prior to the start of school is August 27th.

Schedule

As noted in prior communications, the District will enter into the 2020-21 school year in a Phase-In approach. The District will utilize 50% capacity as its benchmark to abide by social distancing requirements for in person instruction. Therefore no more than 50% of the students who are supposed to be in each building will be in attendance at any given time. The final decision as to specific schedules will be finalized in the coming weeks.

They include all of the scenarios listed below. As noted below, regardless of the scenario or combination of scenarios chosen by the district, there will be an in person and virtual component.

Students will be divided into two cohorts, Cohort A and B. The cohorts will remain in place with absolutely no movement from one cohort to the other for a minimum of the first phase of reopening that will extend to a tentative date of October 15th. Therefore a student in cohort A will remain with students in cohort A for the full phase 1 and report to school in person with the same cohort and stay home for remote learning with the same cohort. Siblings / same household children will be placed in the same cohort and consideration will be given when A/B grouping to ELL, Resource Room, Basic Skills and related services.

A final schedule will be released based on the time frame above but we felt it was important to let you know now that regardless of the specifics of what that schedule looks like, students will have altered schedules that will require child care decisions on the part of the families.

Possible Scenario # 1

ALTERED HALF DAY SCHEDULES ROTATION

AM Students (Half of Each Grade Level - COHORT A)

- Attend school from approximately 8:30 to 11:30 am
- Students would be responsible for 1 hour of virtual demonstrated learning/work in the afternoon to abide by the minimum time allotment standards set forth to allow a school day to count.

PM students (Half of Each Grade Level - COHORT B)

- Attend school from approximately 12:30 to 3:30 pm
- Students would be responsible for 1 hour of virtual demonstrated learning/work in the morning prior to afternoon attendance to abide by the minimum time allotment standards.

Possible SCENARIO # 2
ALTERED HALF DAYS WEEKLY

EXAMPLE GRADE 3

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend in person in the morning

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend virtual schooling in afternoon

The following week COHORT B would be in person and COHORT A would be virtual. This would continue to rotate each week

Possible SCENARIO # 3
HYBRID HALF DAYS CONTENT BASED

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend in person in AM for core content classes, while the other 50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend virtually for specials in the AM.

THEN

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend in person in PM for core content classes, while the other 50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend virtually for specials in the PM.

Possible SCENARIO #4

FULL DAY - 2/1/2 DAYS

This scenario focuses on trying to keep 50% of students in the building for a full day for 2/3 days a week on a weekly rotation.

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend in person school on Monday and Tuesday full day while the other 50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend via distance learning on Monday and Tuesday full day.

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend in person school on Thursday and Friday full day while the other 50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend via distance learning on Thursday and Friday full day.

Classes are broadcast via live stream so students at home are taking synchronous classes with those in person.

Wednesday is 100% virtual for District deep cleaning.

Possible SCENARIO # 5

FULL DAY - WEEKLY

This scenario increases the amount of full day, in person instruction on a weekly basis.

50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT A) attend in person school for a week while 50% of 3rd Graders (COHORT B) attend virtual for the same week.

This switches following the completion of the week with COHORT B being in person and COHORT A being virtual beginning the next week.

Classes are broadcast via live stream on GoogleMeet so students at home are taking synchronous classes with those in person.

We thank you for your patience and continued support. Please stay tuned for updates as they become available.

Michael Jordan